

Public Hearing-Time Warner Cable Contract/Workshop Meeting
January 17, 2013
7:15 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Susan Zimet, Councilwoman Jean Gallucci, Councilwoman Kitty Brown, Councilman Kevin Barry.

Absent: Councilman Jeff Logan.

At 7:20 p.m. a motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to open the continuation of the Public Hearing on the Time Warner Cable contract. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Public Comment:

Don Kerr spoke in favor of the ratification of the new franchise agreement. He thanked all those involved in the negotiations including Supervisor Zimet, Councilwoman Brown, Councilman Barry, Dave Lent, Andrea Russo, Randall Leverette and Toni Hokanson. It was quite an endeavor and has the full support of the Public Access Committee.

At 7:22 p.m. a motion was made by Councilman Barry to close the public hearing. Seconded by Councilwoman Gallucci, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

At 7:25 p.m. Councilman Logan arrived.

At 7:30 p.m. a motion was made by Councilman Logan to open the Workshop meeting with the pledge. Seconded by Councilman Barry, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Agenda- Add the following: Tree Planting Resolution, Attendance at Association of Towns Conference, Reclassification of Recreation Director, Authorize Supervisor to sign Time Warner Contract, Park Point Letter to Planning Board & RFP, Discussion of Edmunds System for Building Department.

A motion was made by Councilman Logan to adopt the agenda as amended. Seconded by Councilman Barry, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Public Comment:

Ray Lunati nominated Councilman Barry for Deputy Supervisor. Indicated that the Town should send a letter to the County encouraging *no* tax relief. Mentioned letter in paper regarding sidewalks, written by two high school students, one lives in Gardiner. Believes people on the border of New Paltz and Gardiner should secede to New Paltz because we could use the money, they use our services too. Pleased to see Central Hudson is helping the Wallkill River not to flood. Was surprised to see Mohonk as the landmark for New Paltz on Google, should be Huguenot Street and College.

Announcements:

*The Ulster County Transportation Council has accepted the joint municipal grant application with the Village to conduct a Safe Route to School Action Plan for the NP Central School District.

*Nicholas Zapatowski who previously got permission from Town Board to build dugouts at Clearwater Field for Eagle Scouts, has completed the project. Wrote to the Town Board and thanked them for the opportunity.

Presentation by Al Wegener on the Scenic Byway:

The Shawangunk Mountains Regional Partnership is an Intermunicipal partnership of the Towns of Crawford, Gardiner, Marbletown, Montgomery, New Paltz, Rochester, Rosendale, Shawangunk, Wawarsing and the Villages of Ellenville and New Paltz. The purpose of the Guide is to present ideas, which will help the Planning Boards to accommodate development and still preserve the scenic beauty of the Shawangunk Mountains Region. The guide is not a set of rules, regulations or standards, simply conceptual. It is meant to help Planning Boards visualize the impact that a development may have on the scenic resources, with hopes of lessening the impact.

Councilman Logan asked if this plan can be incorporated into the Town's Master Plan to help guide in current zoning.

Al Wegener indicated that George Lithco has ideas on how to use this in the Town and to refer it to the Planning Board. He also indicated that this guide was paid for through a grant from the Federal Highway Administration and the NYS Department of Economic Development.

Councilman Barry indicated that while these are great ideas, he would be interested in a model visual for the community that's affordable and more realistic. We need to come up with a way to raise revenue from plans like this.

Al Wegener indicated that it would be difficult to do that when the partnership is made up of 11 Towns that are all very different.

Councilwoman Brown indicated that this is the scenic vistas component of Planning and in that sense we don't have a regional design for that. She also believes that every acre of open space is the best tax value that we can get because it doesn't cost us anything.

A motion was made by Councilman Logan to accept the Scenic Resources in the Shawangunk Mountains Region Presentation as presented and to forward to the Town Planning Board for review. Seconded by Councilwoman Gallucci. All aye votes cast, Councilman Barry voted no because he feels that this policy is being driven by a non-tax paying organization. Motion carried.

Tree Planting Resolution:

Al Wegener- The Town can invest in doing things that have a public benefit by planting trees along Main Street, beyond the right of way. Important to have the State recognize this as well. This resolution enables the Association of Towns Resolutions Committee to consider and decide if they will recommend this to their membership at the February Conference, but it starts here. The AOT can then take the lead and start to lobby with the NYS Legislature and Governor. This will release federal funds to the state for use of street trees.

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF NEW PALTZ BOARD

IN SUPPORT OF MUNICIPAL TREE PLANTINGS OUTSIDE THE RIGHT OF WAY

WHEREAS, trees planted in the right-of-way are likely to conflict with utility lines, resulting in increased costs to counties, towns and villages, power outages, and disfigurement of the street trees; and

WHEREAS, soil volume within the right-of-way is often inadequate to support healthy street trees, resulting in vulnerability to insects and diseases and limiting growth to less than full mature size; and

WHEREAS, trees subject to disfigurement to accommodate utility lines and trees with inadequate soil volume to support healthy growth are less able to withstand the stresses of climate variability, particularly intense storms, resulting in hazardous conditions on roads; and

WHEREAS, trees planted within the right of way interfere with road maintenance operations; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Association of Town Superintendents of Highways actively discourages the planting of trees within the right of way; and

WHEREAS, some municipalities in the State now prohibit planting of trees within the right of way; and

WHEREAS, the United States Forest Service estimates that for a planting cost of \$250-600, which includes 3-years of maintenance, trees return over \$90,000 of direct benefits over the lifetime of the tree; and

WHEREAS, street trees provide increased safety for motorized traffic and pedestrians, reduce urban traffic speeds, lengthen pavement life, lessen road rage, and create safer and more pleasant walking environments; and

WHEREAS, street trees impart 12% higher income for businesses located on tree-scaped streets and add value to adjacent homes businesses and, in turn, the tax base; and

WHEREAS, street trees reduce storm water runoff and flooding potential; and

WHEREAS, street trees provide rain, sun, heat, and skin protection, reduce harms from tailpipe emissions, and lower pollutants; and

WHEREAS, street help shape and preserve community character, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of New Paltz calls upon the New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo, as well as the State Legislature, to authorize municipal street tree planting outside of the right of way.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to adopt the Resolution of the Town of New Paltz Board in Support of Municipal Tree Plantings Outside the Right of Way. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Recycling:

Coordinator Laura Petite discussed the recently passed legislation by the County relative to Flow Control. The County would require certain recyclables and garbage to be weighed at the County facility, increasing their revenue, but disposed of at the Town's facility. This would create a negative impact on the Town's revenue.

Laura also announced a new program starting January 26th from 10-1 p.m. where you can bring broken garden tools to the recycling center and someone will demonstrate how to fix them.

Sewer Line Easement-Millbrook Terrace:

Councilman Barry recused himself from the discussion and vote due to the fact that Roger and Lillian Spool are his clients. The sewer line was approved to be installed and hooked up in 2005. Still has not been done. Spools now have a prospective buyer. Joe Moriello is requesting an extension of two years on behalf of the Spools.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to approve the extension of two years to complete the installation of the line. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried. Councilman Barry recused himself.

Appointment:

A motion was made by Councilman Barry to appoint Peter Kaufman to the Bike-Ped Committee for a term of 5 years to expire 12/31/17. Seconded by Councilwoman Gallucci, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Reclassification of Recreation Director:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to lay off the position of full-time recreation director and replace it with a part-time recreation director position at an annual salary of \$18,000 to be filled by Chuck Bordino. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Time Warner Cable Contract:

A motion was made by Councilman Barry to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Time Warner Cable Franchise Renewal Agreement. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried. Highlights of this Agreement include 1 free month to seniors who pay on time for 12 consecutive months. In addition to the attendance of a General Manager from Time Warner to a public session of the Town, once a year. As well as a convenient location that is accessible for the payment of bills for at least 20 hours per week.

A motion was made by Councilman Barry to schedule a meeting with a General Manager from Time Warner, as per the agreement, at the first Town Board meeting in March of each year. Seconded by Councilwoman Gallucci, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Association of Towns Conference:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to authorize the attendance of 4 Town Board members to the AOT conference in the amount of \$1,425. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Park Point RFP:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown to authorize the Supervisor to authorize Dave Clouser to prepare an RFP to hire an independent consultant to review and evaluate the Fiscal Impacts of Park Point. Seconded by Councilman Barry, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Park Point Letter to Planning Board:

The Planning Board has closed the Public Hearing but will accept comments until January 31st. The Town Board discussed making revisions to the comments prepared by George Lithco. Councilwoman Brown indicated that she does not want the comments to contain language that sounds like the Town has accepted a PILOT, but does want language that agrees to a conservation easement on any land that is not shown as being built on. She would also like a visual simulation of what the project would look like from the mountain. The Chief indicated that this project would require four more officers to the Department. Councilmen Logan and Barry will work on the revisions with input from all Board members and determine the costs associated with additional police officers.

Edmunds System for Building Department:

Stacy Delerede expressed interest in the Town purchasing software from Edmunds specifically for the Building Department's functions. This would aid in tracking escrow accounts and would be integrated with the bookkeeping system. The cost is around \$23,000. Councilman Barry requested a demo and more information before proceeding.

Minutes:

Tabled until next week.

Warrant:

A motion was made by Councilman Logan to authorize the Supervisor to pay the January Warrant in the amount of \$245,717.39 for 2012 and \$134,308.37 for 2013, for a total of \$380,075.76. Seconded by Councilman Barry, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Supervisor Zimet indicated that the Labor attorney would be coming next week to discuss more contract negotiations.

At 10:45 p.m. a motion was made by Councilman Barry to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilwoman Gallucci, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosanna Mazzaccari
Town Clerk