

Town Board Workshop Meeting
September 19, 2013
7:30 p.m.

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

At 7:44 p.m. a motion was made by Councilman Logan to open the meeting with the pledge. Seconded by Councilwoman Gallucci, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Agenda: + Update on DEP discussion, + Update on Park Point
A motion was made by Councilman Barr to accept the agenda as amended. Seconded by Councilwoman Gallucci, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Public Input:

Steve Greenfield wants to know what is being negotiated relative to Park Point. The terms of the negotiation would have to be a public matter. He also indicated that he felt the Government Efficiency Committee should be renamed. He commented on some of the ideas that were discussed at the committee's meeting on September 16th.

Ira Margolis indicated that if Park Point were granted a PILOT, it would be a major disaster.

Councilmen Barry and Logan wanted to make it clear that the Town Board is not in favor of a PILOT.

Waring Lane/Lent Drive Dedication:

Supervisor Zimet explained that this problem exists because Woodland Ponds was built on Village land that was developed under Village density criteria, but surrounded by Town land. Highway Superintendent Chris Marx explained that to date, the criteria for the road have been met. However, there's an issue with an easement/right of way, relative to lot #3. The Town owns land, a retention pond, behind this lot and the only access to it is through this easement. The property owner of lot #3 has built his driveway and monument across the easement. Superintendent Marx is suggesting holding \$10,000 in escrow to put a road in for access to the land. The easement itself was recorded in 2005. To limit the Town's liability against problems with the bike lane, the striping needs to be redone to eliminate the bike lane and create wider shoulders on both sides of the street.

Dan and MaryAnn Winfield spoke against taking the gate down. They indicated that many of the residents have felt safer without the traffic from Woodland Ponds. Mr. Winfield also indicated that the speed limit should be reduced to 15 mph.

Supervisor Zimet indicated that the gate was only temporary and not a legal solution to this problem. The residents have been asking for the road to be dedicated, which would allow the school buses to pick up kids, police would be able to issue tickets to speeders, and the Town would be able to plow the road during snow storms. Her hope is that the Town and Woodland Ponds can work together to come up with a solution that everyone can agree to. She suggested Woodland Ponds implement a policy that would prohibit their employees and delivery vehicles from using the connector road to Lent Drive and Waring Lane. The Town will continue working to solve this problem, although the connector road is a village road.

Update on status of grant applications:

Victor Cornelius was present to discuss where the Town stands in terms of its grant application for FEMA funds. Congress passed the Super Storm Sandy Appropriation, which gave NYS \$35 billion to help with infrastructure issues. Enabling legislation allowed the Hudson Valley to get \$7.4 Billion. The funds must be committed within 2 years or it will be lost. The first round of funding is a FEMA Hazard Mitigation Request. The process began with the submission of a letter of intent, which was to list project we wanted to tackle that were Sandy, Irene or Lee related; or have to do with the improvement of hardening of infrastructure with a view toward the potential of another serious weather event. FEMA reviewed the initial letter of intent and is now requesting a formal application for funding, from the Town, a level that 90% of other communities have not yet reached. There are 3 projects in the Town that were submitted for 75% grant funding are, 1) Mitigation of Sewer 6 issues, 2) Extension and looping of the water

supply for North and South Putt Corners Road and Route 32, 3) Cherry Hill Water Line relocation. The total cost for these projects is over \$4 million. Mr. Cornelius indicated that he hopes to have the other 25% funded by a HUD disaster relief request. The projects must be tactfully or physically engaged in FEMA approved Hazard Mitigation Plan, either from this community or the County.

Building Inspector Stacy Delarede indicated that Mr. Cornelius will meet and speak with Art Snyder from the County to determine if it's more beneficial to be part of the County's plan or to have our own.

Elting Memorial Library Petition for Increased Funding:

Richard Heyl de Ortiz was present to discuss the proposition. He explained that the Library is an Association Library, which makes it a public library. Their main method of funding is through a referendum. The first time this was done was in 2009. Their newest petition was filed with the Town Clerk. Taxpayer funding makes up about 72% of their overall funding. This is on the lower end compared to other libraries in the Hudson Valley. The library's goals are to use the increased funding to expand their hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays, provide 3 close to full-time employees with health insurance through Healthy New York, and for overall maintenance of the building. Other sources of revenue include the library fair, fundraisers, library fines, overdue fines and personal donations.

The 2012 Budget was \$446,000, 2013 is \$458,000.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to approve the question being placed on the ballot and voted on at the next general election, "Shall the annual contribution of the Town of New Paltz provided in its budget for the operating budget of the Elting Memorial Library, a free association library located in New Paltz, New York, be increased by \$75,000 annually to the sum of \$396,000 annually". Seconded by Supervisor Zimet, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to approve the Resolution and Notice of Determination of Non Significance-Negative Declaration Re: Elting Memorial Library Ballot Proposition for 2013. WHEREAS, the Town Board of New Paltz has compared the proposed action as described in the Environmental Assessment Form Parts One and Two with the list of criteria set forth in 6 NYCRR 617.12 and determined that the application proposed is a Type II Action and as such the Town Board has no further responsibilities under the Act. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Accessory Apartments:

Town Building Inspector Stacy Delarede worked with Councilman Barry to propose further revised changes to Chapter 140-17 Accessory Apartments. Language was changed regarding the issuance of Certificates of Occupancy, which will provide and ensure that the property must be owner occupied for the accessory apartment to be legal and not lose its special use permit. This will be done by including this language in bold print on the C.O.

The verbiage will be changed to "...used as a single family residence for seven or more years prior to the date that the application is made for the accessory apartment", based on the concerns expressed by Councilwoman Gallucci.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to set the Public Hearing on Accessory Apartments for October 24th at 7 p.m. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Stacy indicated that she is working on the Photovoltaic and EV Grants. She will try to have more information next week.

Update on DEP discussion:

Supervisor indicated that the DEP made a presentation on the exploration of finding groundwater in the Town and Village to create a water source that would give the Town and Village better water that is less treated at a cheaper cost, solve the problem of a back up system and give the Town more water.

Update on Park Point:

The Town Board feels that everyone should pay his or her fair share of taxes. The Town Board has sent letters to the Planning Board, the SUNY Foundation, and the Ulster County IDA outlining their questions and concerns about the project. The Board has not heard from the applicant directly. Councilwoman Brown suggested writing a letter to Tom George from Wilmorite indicating what the Town feels the taxable value of the project is and what should be paid.

ZBA Training:

ZBA Chair Linda Donovan is requesting the Town Board grant her and the Planning Board Chair Mike Calimano the authority to approve training opportunities without prior authorization by the Town Board. The NYS Comptroller requires that all training be approved by the Board first. A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown to pre-approve funding for training for PB and ZBA members to meet their annual minimum requirements. Seconded by Councilman Barry, all aye votes cast, Councilwoman Gallucci voted no. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Barry to rescind the prior approved motion, Seconded by Supervisor Zimet, all aye votes cast, motion carried. The process will remain the same.

Water Bill dispute:

A resident on Old Route 299 has written to the Town Board requesting a five-year period to pay off a high bill that resulted from neglecting to repair a broken meter for three years.

Superintendent Marx explained that the blame falls on both the prior B&G Supervisor and the homeowners for not responding to the official notices left on their door.

A motion was made by Councilman Logan to allow these customers to pay over a six-month period without incurring any penalties during that time, and to be excluded for November's relevying process. Seconded by Supervisor Zimet for discussion. All aye votes cast, motion carried. The Town Clerk will notify these customers.

Appointment:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown to appoint Laura deNey to the EnCB for a term of 3-years to expire 12/15. Seconded by Councilwoman Gallucci, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Warrant:

A motion was made by Councilman Barry to approve the September Warrant in the amount of \$835,467.19. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Acceptance of Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to accept the minutes of **August 22, 2013** as written. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Barry to accept the minutes of **August 27, 2013** as written. Seconded by Councilwoman Gallucci, all aye votes cast. Councilman Logan and Councilwoman Brown abstained due to their absence from the meeting. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Barry to accept the minutes of **September 6, 2013** as written. Seconded by Councilwoman Gallucci, all aye votes cast. Councilman Logan and Councilwoman Brown abstained due to their absence from the meeting. Motion carried.

At 11:25 p.m. a motion was made by Councilman Logan to go into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing and making personnel appointments. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

At 12:15 a.m. a motion was made by Councilman Logan to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Barry to hire Devin Figueroa to fill the part-time position of Municipal Worker I at the Recycling Center, to be paid at a rate of \$14.61 as per the Union Contract. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast. Councilman Logan and Councilwoman Gallucci abstained. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to hire Rachel Moreau to fill the part-time assistant to the bookkeeper position, to be paid at a rate of \$12/hr. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to authorize hiring Mary Ann Tozzi on a temporary basis as the crossing guard, to be paid at a rate of \$12/hr. Seconded by Supervisor Zimet, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to authorize the bookkeeper to pay Mary Ann Tozzi on a biweekly basis, as a 1099 contractor. Seconded by Supervisor Zimet, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to authorize the bookkeeper to attend the Office of the Comptroller Introduction to Municipal Accounting I Training to be held in Auburn, NY on September 23-26. Seconded by Councilman Barry, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown to terminate Kevin Boudreau from the Recycling center for failure to report to work. Seconded by Councilwoman Gallucci, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Logan to rehire Brogan O'Donnell as the Recycling Center Intern through December 31, 2013, to be paid at a rate of \$9/hr. and not to exceed \$1500. Seconded by Councilwoman Gallucci, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

At 12:30 a.m. a motion was made by Councilman Barry to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosanna Mazzaccari
Town Clerk