

P.H. on *the Birches*; Town of New Paltz Town Board
September 18, 2008

Present: Kitty Brown, Ken Wishnick, David Lewis, JaneAnn Williams, and Toni Hokanson

At 7:22 p.m. Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to open the Public Hearing on Planning Board escrow fees. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all ayes votes cast, motion carried.

Paul Brown, Planning Board Chair, stated he is in favor; size requires it. Pre-imbursable expenses we need to look at. It's a new term; the Town should hopefully get money back if the applicant is not approved, instead of losing money. We shouldn't be taking that kind of risk.

Terence Ward, Planning Board member, concurs with Paul Brown it should be considered. The Town shouldn't be giving interest-free loans; an escrow should be taken for larger projects, actually all projects.

At 7:24 p.m. Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

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At 7:24 pm Supervisor Hokanson moved to open Public Hearing on Stormwater district for the Birches. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all ayes votes cast, motion carried.

Dave C. is recommending some fee structure amendments in the stormwater district paperwork—convene to next week. Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to continue the Public Hearing for the Birches on 9/25/2008. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Bob Hagopian requests the Board make a determination subject to minor details to be worked out.

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At 7:29 pm Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to open Public Hearing on Sidewalks district for the Birches. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all ayes votes cast, motion carried.

Margaret Human, speaking as a private citizen, is concerned about walkability that is not in the road and connectivity to Rocky Hill Road. The Town talked of maintenance expenses, lot of money spent on auto but the bikes and pedestrians are treated like second class citizens. The fees and taxes don't cover infrastructure of auto traffic. Subsidize pedestrians and bikes at a lesser rate.

Everette Payne, Town resident, stated everyone wants a bicycle path—you can't walk in NYC anymore; bikes will not take over the country but it is screwing up the country.

Terence explained that we want connectivity as per transportation study.

Councilman Wishnick – before us is creation of a district for pathways. Town would become responsible for maintenance of them, property owners there would pay pro-rated cost.

Supervisor Hokanson asked to form a district.

Josh Honig, Town resident, questioned the cost to taxpayers. Supervisor Hokanson explained it is a cost to homeowners only.

Councilman Wishnick questioned if homeowners would have an option to form own homeowners association in lieu of payments.

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At 7:49 p.m. the meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda: Supervisor Hokanson add Registrar and Salt shed to agenda

Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to accept the agenda as amended. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all ayes votes cast, motion carried.

Presentation by Municipal Building Committee: Carol Roper, co-chair, provided the report.

Number of potential sites were reviewed; analysis provided to the Town Board. A communication breakdown between the Committee and Town Board occurred. Temporary space for police impractical – working on permanent space. Police departments have strict rules for gun and evidence storing—they need to conform. Courts have restrictions also, but the conditions have gotten worse. To move forward hoping to have better communication-referrals should go to the Committee without opinions. Analysis of one property will be done – cost is estimate of \$3 million for buying and renovating.

Public Comment: Karen Downing, Town resident, works for Central Hudson-offers plan for New Paltz traffic. Invited to attend Transportation Committee meeting on September 23rd.

Margaret Human, Town resident, spoke of the comprehensive plan update committee – two Green people applied. Supervisor Hokanson, Ken Wishnick, Paul Brown, Lyle Nolan. Serving – once consultant is selected.

Terence Ward: you're putting the cart before the horse; Comprehensive Plan-moratorium-we need to tell developers what we want.

Ira Margolis, Village resident, offered his opinion that Friday night is as inappropriate as Sunday morning for the Democratic caucus.

Community announcements: Calendar announcements

Old Business:

Stormwater District: Steve Vaccaro: this is a zero cost district; the homeowners would pay.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown to close the public hearing. Seconded by Supervisor Hokanson, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

SEQR: A motion was made by Supervisor Hokanson to accept the short form EAF. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried. Supervisor Hokanson read aloud the SEQR. Councilwoman Brown made a motion to pass the resolution on negative declaration. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Councilman Wishnick made a motion to accept the Stormwater – subject to change in fee schedule. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown authorizing the Town to serve as Lead Agency. Seconded by Councilman Lewis, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Sidewalk District: Councilwoman Brown suggested change – how about grassy strip on each side of the road and another grassy strip –no idea how to maintain. Bob Hagopian: DEC came out with stormwater restrictions, phase 2.

Steve Vaccaro: we tried to conform to and town and Planning Board consideration of bicycle/pedestrian community; Town has right to create sidewalk district anywhere in the Town; this would be similar to the Lent subdivision.

Supervisor Hokanson: need to look at costs vs. benefits.

Councilwoman Brown: thinks roads are way too big for smaller subdivisions.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown to close the Public Hearing. Seconded by Councilman Lewis, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Councilwoman Brown made a motion not accept seasonal gravel path as appropriate. Seconded by Councilman Lewis, four aye votes cast, with a nay vote cast by Councilwoman Brown, who is opposed.

Supervisor Hokanson: as a cul-de-sac this extended path is the best solution for a walkable community that is year-round.

Councilman Wishnick: widening of roadway to include walkway bike path-would like Planning Board to explore more options.

Councilman Wishnick: look at community areas where sidewalks would go – we need to be more strict.

Steve: ask Town Board to make recommendation.

A motion was made by Supervisor Hokanson the Town Board recommend Planning Board consider extended shoulder or no shoulder. Seconded by Councilman Lewis. Councilwoman Brown offered a hostile amendment: PB include walking surface while dec paved area. Supervisor Hokanson ok with that. A motion was made by Supervisor Hokanson, Seconded by Councilman Lewis, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Executive Session: At 9:17 p.m. a motion was made by Supervisor Hokanson to go into Executive Session with Acting Chief Snyder and Lt. Osarczuk for the purpose of hiring, firing, promotion, demotion of a particular individual. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes, motion carried.

At 9:38 p.m. a motion was made by Supervisor Hokanson to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Planning Board Escrow Fees: A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown to accept the short form EAF. Seconded by Councilman Wishnick, all aye votes cast, motion carried. County comments are non-binding. We comply with their non-binding comments. A motion was made by Councilman Lewis. Seconded by Councilman Wishnick, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

RFP for Public Access: Don Kerr, member of committee spoke, reported on four proposals received with none found to be items to pass on. They request a second round - does the Town Board want to review the four or let the applicants know they can be rolled into the new date of November 3rd. ?

PA Committee member Ira Margolis suggested for the committee a meeting on September 22nd, November 3rd is not enough time.

Supervisor Hokanson suggested an informational meeting be set as is often done with RFPs.

Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to authorize the Public Access Committee to re-notice the RFP. Seconded by Councilman Lewis. Councilman Wishnick offered a friendly amendment suggested that we add the committee contact those who applied and indicate what they need to do to strengthen their proposal. Councilwoman Brown not accept that as a motion, all ayes votes cast.

Related: Supervisor Hokanson stated a new tv needs to be purchased for the Supervisor's office.

Councilwoman Brown indicated she may have one.

Liner at Moriello Pool - \$11,800 is low bid – to be shared with the Village. Money taken from B fund or parkland recreation fees – Councilwoman Brown does not agree with that. Councilwoman Brown moved to allocate ½ of \$11,800 for liner, contingent upon Village paying their share. Seconded by Councilman Lewis, all ayes votes cast, motion carried.

Prosecutor for Court – Councilwoman Brown questioned how many state troopers are assigned to give out tickets and how many show up for court. Deputy Supervisor will contact Judge Jon Katz for figures % of what New Paltz receives. Tabled to next week.

Municipal Building Committee – Councilwoman Brown moved to approve the request of the committee. Seconded by Councilman Wishnick, all ayes votes cast, motion carried.

Highway Chipper – last year highway superintendent put chipper in recycling center and they would buy current chipper for \$9,500 and he would buy new one. Recycling coordinator does not want to buy; they use the tab grinder. Highway put old chipper out to bid and bid or go to state bid or unallocated fund balance for new chipper.

Supervisor Hokanson Board approve old chipper to bid, inform highway that income and cost of new chipper, moved by Councilman Lewis and seconded by Councilman Wishnick, all ayes votes cast.

Resolution for Registrar of Vital Statistics: moving the process to the County Clerk's office is not going to save money. Councilwoman Brown made a motion we send a certified copy of the resolution opposing the move of Registrar to the County level from The Town Clerk. Seconded by Councilman Lewis, all ayes votes cast, motion carried.

Community Center Pay Request: sitework – Dave Clouser inspects works before pay request. Councilwoman Williams moved payments to Landworks – find amount \$66,000 out of \$70,000. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all ayes votes cast, motion carried.

Salt Shed: Due to deterioration it needs to be replaced. Town engineer Dave Clouser confirmed this and suggested a steel arch structure as a good deal. Supervisor Hokanson said she would like to confirm with Phil the company is on state bid. Councilwoman Brown moved that the Supervisor authorize the Superintendent to order a steel arch as long as it is consistent with our procurement policy. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all ayes votes cast, motion carried.

Add – Apply for Greenway Community's grant – resolution next week – need to apply tomorrow. Councilwoman Brown recused herself. \$10,000 for Comprehensive Plan. Councilwoman Williams moved to authorize the Supervisor to submit a grant proposal to the Greenway Committee to aid in paying for the update of the Comprehensive Plan. Seconded by Councilman Lewis, all ayes votes cast, motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Councilwoman Brown reported on the following:

..**HPC** reviewing Hampton Inn plan located near Frito Lay; commenting on Jewett Farm Proposal.

..**EnCC** had long agenda – authorize letter to send to Planning Board on Crossroads. (Chlorides coming from Thruway)

..**Greenworks Committee** held a *Go Green Day* at Water Street Market. *Lights Out* was held Saturday night at 8 pm.

Councilman Wishnick's reports:

..**Planning Board** was asked to consider chickens in a residential area – responded favorably – did not specify standards and other pets. Standards put together and sent back to Planning Board. Did not object in principle – for next weeks' agenda.

..**Field of Dreams** – has appointment with new recreation director Chuck Bordino, whose enthusiasm is taking off. Grass is growing on the first field, the second field was graded by Jehovah Witness members; small ball field planned. Concession stand is being pursued. Working with committee on Bridge of Dreams – there is lots of interest.

Prepays:

Councilwoman Williams moved the approval of the prepayment of voucher #85812 in the amount of \$475.00 to the NYSDEC for SPDES Permit for Moriello pool. Seconded by Councilman Wishnick, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Councilwoman Williams moved to pay \$525 to NYS Parks and Recreation for new director Bordino to take certification test for playground certification. Seconded by Councilman Lewis, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Warrants:

Councilwoman Williams moved to pay the warrant for September 2008 in the amount of \$501,446.49. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

At 10:47 p.m. Councilman Wishnick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian Cappillino
Town Clerk

