

Town of New Paltz Town Board Meeting
August 20, 2009

Present: Kitty Brown, JaneAnn Williams, Dave Lewis, and Supervisor Hokanson

Public Hearing - Christ

Supervisor Hokanson moved to open the Public Hearing Christ storm water district. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried. Sub-division in planning process now required stormwater district be formed for large sub-divisions to be paid by residents within. Annual payments will be over 10 years – used for maintenance on storm water devices. (Schreibers lane) Councilwoman Brown questioned if neighbors were notified.

Supervisor Hokanson responded that she did not know only affects new lots.

Bob Hagopian said they were noticed for Planning Board Public Hearing.

Supervisor Hokanson moved to close Public Hearing on Christ storm water district. Seconded by Councilman Lewis, 3 Aye vote; one Nay vote from Councilwoman Brown, in the event in error on neighborhood notification and the public hearing must be reopened. Motion passed.

Public Hearing: Local Law adopting new flood plain maps/changes to “flood damage prevention”

Supervisor Hokanson moved to open the public Hearing. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes.

2 years ago new maps and code draft for building in flood plain. The property owners were notified. Getting flood insurance problematic if not addressed. Allowed for any new housing units had to have access outside of flood plain. This is adoption of new flood plain maps and regulations this is directive from DEC.

Carolyn Paulsen – favors study since there are more regular floods than years ago.

Deb Abrams questioned how does this affect farmer trailers. Supervisor Hokanson responded good question and she would write down for zoning change.

Supervisor Hokanson moved to close public hearing of flood plan map and changes, seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast.

Public Hearing: Moratorium on building within a flood plain

Local Law adopting m moratorium on building within flood plain

Supervisor Hokanson moved to open the Public Hearing. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes.

Carolyn Paulson – ditto from the last public hearing.

Deb Abrams people with flag pole lots – egress is outside flood plain – but lot is inside lot of people affected.

Supervisor Hokanson spoke of comments from County. Law for 6 months with 2 -3month extensions.

County says change 6 months to 90 days or super majority has to vote not to change.

Supervisor Hokanson moved to close the public Hearing on Local law adopting a moratorium on building within a flood plain. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lewis, all aye votes cast.

Public Hearing: Signs Local Law

At 7:40 pm Supervisor Hokanson moved to open the public hearing on amendments to sign law.

Comments taken, no action taken, County comments are forthcoming. This motion was seconded by Councilman Lewis, all aye votes

Comments

Vici Danskin – sign law adopted with a 6 year amortization period owner recoups cost of investment before making changes.

Changes had to fall under new regulations during the 6 year plan. Building Dept told not to enforce end of 6 year plan. Amendments have been drafted for new law. Farm and Farmstand signs at Thruway are being drafted in. Implementation would be 2 years – Vici – flies in face of law adopted after years of discomfort. Vici said more larger signs do not eliminate clutter, etc. Some revisions are inappropriate. She would hate to see Town become as disfigured as Village has become.

Cara Lee, Village resident, and part of committee studying signs, said some changes made reflect the needs of the business community. Directional signs sometimes are necessary to help those businesses. Issue is internally lit signs – feels they will diminish character of the community. Uniform only of internal lit signs does not add to character. Does not help economy. Upward pointing lights worse than downward pointing signs. Banned internal lit signs prevalent in Dutchess County, Ulster County Gardiner, Woodstock, Hamlet of Wallkill. Kingston city has partial ban. Allowing will distract – we are on the verge of adopting the Comprehensive Plan – wait until it is in place – it is being addressed in comprehensive plan.

Marion DuBois, village resident, stated this is an art community – the *Chase* sign in the Village is a sign we do not want.

Everette Payne questioned on how many illuminated signs there are in New Paltz.

Craig Shankles from PDQ: compare to Europe – mostly walkers – Town versus Village – speed limits vary, foot traffic more prevalent in one; he is not against good design – look at some internally lit signs- they are attractive (BOCES, Kossover). Referred to hard lined real estate stores set back from road, they rely on impulse buying- they pull in as result of reading sign. Internally lit sign studies say it is not true that you have light leakage. Dennis Doyle has been part of meeting process for last three years.

Carol Roper from business point of view questioned if were less expensive.

Craig responded less expensive LED 1/100 of amount of energy – more efficient and effective.

Vici spoke her concern about Dennis Doyle being involved – slippery slope helping with design when you are regulator.

Ira Margoles agrees with Craig the needs to be directory signs to tell him what is there.

David Ness, tenant of Pasquale’s new building, complained that people cannot find him. Sign law on books was unfair.

Linda Donovan, Town resident, is not in favor of directory signs – there needs to be consistency without logos with homogeneous print- not changing off premise and historic designated signs.

Dan Cangelosi stated signs are inside store window – people fly by.

Ira Margolis feels there should be equality re: signs; no one is zipping thru.

Fred VanNostrand added he thought logos important for signs.

Marian DuBois stated that Cherry Hill needs a directory sign that needs to be uniformed.

Barbara Mc Nenney questioned how to keep the directory looking appropriate and not gaudy. She suggested a graphic contest for art students.

Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to continue a public hearing to the first meeting in September, the 17th at 7 p.m. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, and motion carried.

At 8:45 p.m. Supervisor Hokanson moved to go into Executive Session to discuss the hiring firing promotion or demotion of individual. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

At 9:28 p.m. Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Agenda

YMCA moved to next meeting. Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to adopt the amended agenda. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Public Comment

Everette Payne, Town Resident, stated that at the rib fest event human waste resurfaced as it did 20 years ago. He stressed that something should be done, citing it as dangerous.

Fred Van Nostrand Town resident, questioned about new person taking notes. He questioned the hiring and if money was coming out of taxpayers’ money. He went on to say that at dump has gotten worse.

The PA system is in at the Community Center but there is still no stove.

Councilman Lewis responded that big expenses and they are pacing out the costs.

Fred Van Nostrand complained wasting money building it questioned no alarm. Town is spending money we do not have. Employees working at the landfill are not checking incoming cars.

Community Announcements:

Skate Park opened at Youth Center – middle school and high school students only.

Memorial Service for PD canine Zeus is to be held on August 24th at 3 p.m. at the County Fairgrounds.

Ulster County Agriculture Society thanked to Police Dept and Fire Dept for assisting with County Fair traffic.

Old Business

Christ Storm water District. – Already declared lead agency. Doing SEQR – Supervisor Hokanson moved to accept short form SEQR, seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes. Read aloud Supervisor Hokanson moved to pass resolution and negative declaration for proposed storm water district, seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes. Supervisor Hokanson moved to authorized storm district, seconded by Councilwoman Williams. Councilwoman Brown voted aye unless attorney says the board goofed with neighbor notification. Councilwoman Williams, Councilman Lewis and Supervisor Hokanson voted aye.

Local Law adopting new flood plain maps/changes to “flood damage prevention”:

Supervisor Hokanson noted the Town is lead agency and that the Town fulfilled EAF prepared.

Supervisor Hokanson moved to accept negative declaration and sign the resolution. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried. No county impact.

Local Law adopting moratorium on building within flood plain: County said to reduce time period – 3 month with 2 – 3 month extensions. SEQR done, Supervisor Hokanson moved to adopt short form

SEQR. Seconded by Councilman Lewis, all aye votes cast, motion carried. Supervisor Hokanson moved to pass resolution and negative declaration. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried. Supervisor Hokanson moved to pass moratorium as amended. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Signs local law: Councilwoman Brown needs to understand size. Councilwoman Williams suggested Clouser and photo shop. Interior illumination makes as being green, plan to get rid of spotlights where internally illuminated signs are. Supervisor Hokanson showed examples of signs. Councilwoman Brown questions time on till midnight. Too late unless open for business; signs should be lit until 1 hour after closing.

New Business:

PATV Revisions to mission statement/committee goals and program policy document: Don Kerr's proposed changes are mostly elementary. Councilwoman Brown moved the Town Board to accept revisions to PATV. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Turkey Trot: Supervisor Hokanson moved to approve Turkey Trot for 2009. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

The Forest Ride: tabled - police need more time. Councilwoman Brown suggested a form for events going thru New Paltz that are not residents. Supervisor Hokanson said should have application and fee.

UC Civil Air Patrol – request to hold training at Fairgrounds (Field of Dreams). Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to approve use. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Essential Services: This is a revision – Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to declare the Town lead agency and set a Public Hearing for Essential Services on September 24th at 7:15 p.m. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

350.org: 10/24 global effort to start lowering (international day of unified action) Councilwoman Brown made a motion to adopt resolution the Town of New Paltz supports. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Comprehensive Plan (Supervisor Hokanson): plan to review comments on survey.

Wetlands: Supervisor Hokanson and Attorney Dave Gordon working on steps to be taken.

Councilwoman Williams suggested a flat budget. Councilman Lewis suggested that each department make a 3% reduction. Councilwoman Brown suggested getting opinions from Town employees on how to reduce costs and suggested using an anonymous suggestion box.

Councilwoman Brown offered thanks to Councilwoman Williams for a new way to present the new budget.

Warrants:

Councilwoman Williams made a motion to authorize the Supervisor to pay \$560,872.85 for July warrants. Seconded by Councilman Lewis, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Prepay:

Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to pay voucher #89592 in the amount of \$123.00 to Tri Star Mechanical, to pay for the repair of the refrigerator at town hall. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

At 10:43 p.m. Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian Cappillino
Town Clerk