
Town of New Paltz Town Board Meeting
March 18, 2010

Present: Jane Ann Williams, Kitty Brown, Jeff Logan, David Lewis, Toni Hokanson.

Agenda: add Wood burning stoves not ready; spring clean up; Recreation dream building and school district letter. Councilwoman Williams commented that fire district space was turned down by the Village, Supervisor suggested discussing anyway. Councilman Logan would like to add HVME, and Comprehensive Plan meeting coverage. Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to accept the agenda as amended. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Public Comment:

Rob Weiman, Plutarch Road resident, has a concern regarding the temporary moratorium in flood areas. He asked that the renewal as written be avoided. This includes Plutarch Road which does not flood - his request is to remove from law the building on Plutarch Road.

Community Announcements: Comprehensive plan meetings will be held on Friday and Saturday at the Community Center. Collection of Household waste – at the Ulster County RRA on April 17th at 999 Flatbush Rd. Call ahead at 336-3366 - \$7 fee per carload. Household waste only. 4/18 Reformed Church holding a Green Fair Panel 4/25 3pm-6 at Mohonk – 256-2726 U.S. Census – fill out by 4/1 as required by law. Census takers will visit residences that have not mailed back paperwork. Important for federal aid- infrastructure depends on it.

Agenda Items:

MOU Moriello Park: not changed from joint meeting. The language change #1 on page 2. Supervisor Hokanson is pursuing Joint meeting 3/29-31 work with Village. Councilwoman Brown wants to see language change. Councilman Logan requested that the pool become Village property. Supervisor Hokanson is not in favor of giving up land, she suggested waiting for shared service grant that may result in consolidation. 100% burden of running the pool is the Town's. She is not in favor to give up parkland. Councilman Logan commented budget expenditure would be theirs. Supervisor Hokanson responded that the Village could charge Town residents as non New Paltz residents. Councilwoman Brown added that 3 levels could exist; Village, Town and out of district. Supervisor Hokanson fears that fees would go up if Village took over. More Town families use the pool over Village families. Village has construction fund. Capital improvements are 50/50 for Town and Village according to Supervisor Hokanson. Councilman Logan added last year we had help from the Highway for the parking lot. Supervisor Hokanson said we have to remove behavior expectations of Village. The question is, are we going to continue running the pool. Councilman Logan suggested using the highway crew, questioned what the engineer cost for top parking lot. Supervisor Hokanson responded that she does not have estimate but could get it for next week's meeting. Village residents watching encourage Village to pay for part of parking lot.

Wetlands Law: need to make official referral to New Paltz Planning Board and EnCB. The law has been to the County for informal review. Supervisor Hokanson and Dave Clouser reviewed comments with Dennis Doyle and changes resulted. Councilwoman Brown made a motion to send to Planning Board and EnCB for review and comments. Seconded by Councilman Lewis, all aye votes, motion carried. Councilman Logan questioned SEQR.

Comprehensive Plan: Interns were discussed – on vacation this week. Can be covered by TV but may set up camera for one meeting.

School District Letter: Councilwoman Brown drafted a letter for school board district to include cost of DARE Officer in their budget. If no go, Councilwoman Brown would recommend cost of officer be separate line in budget to be voted on. \$36.28 - \$290.24 does not include police car costs. Supervisor had no vehicle cost on hand. \$17,401.40 out of 50 million school budget. Councilwoman Brown moved to authorize supervisor to send to school district with Jeff's table. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Resolution in support of Farmland Protection Program: Town would like this to stay in State's budget. Councilwoman Brown moved to pass the resolution. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried. Supervisor added letter will be adopted as New Paltz.

Recycling fee for SUNY New Paltz students: question is would they recycle more if they pay a lesser fee? Councilwoman Brown made a motion to reduce the fee to \$10 for Town SUNY residents by showing student Id and living in the town and village. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Additional office space for NFPD: Supervisor offered space to County Health Department and get rental space. Councilwoman Brown suggested checking on OSHA requirements for fire department and then talks to Village. Supervisor added that the Police Dept. wanted a room for storage at their current location. Councilwoman Brown they need to vacate current space. Supervisor is reluctant to totally give up some space on dispatcher side. Councilwoman Brown sees it as a mistake for 2 spaces to be used for storage. Supervisor responded that she needed to talk to Chief Snyder and invite him on discussion if needed. The Fire chief withdrew request for space this morning. She suggested that this go on the agenda for the Joint Meeting. A discussion ensued. Councilwoman Brown thinks the Town should honor fire department request. Supervisor will talk to the Village first.

Resolution to oppose the closing of NYS Parks: short sided to lose sales tax generated from visitors who buy locally. Councilwoman Brown moved to authorize the Supervisor to send resolution letter on behalf of Town Board. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Letter in support of Shawangunk Mountain Scenic Byway Grant: Scenic Byway is applying for grant to do a feasible study for having busing to ridge (MInnewaska and Preserve). Needs to transportation – related. Councilwoman Williams moved approval of letter in support of Shawangunk Mountain Scenic Byway. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Tree Donation at Community Center: Jake Schoonmaker would like to donate a tree in memory of a friend. He would hire Mark Maseo to recommend a tree and to plant it. Councilman Lewis made a motion to accept a tree donation for the Community Center. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams all aye votes cast, motion carried. Councilman Logan added that he did not see any tree activity and bench at Woodland Pond. Supervisor Hokanson assured him it would happen soon.

2010 Spring Cleanup: To be held from April 24 to May8th and again on Memorial Day weekend as recommended by Laura Pettit, Recycling Coordinator. Multiple parcel owners bring in more stuff. 1 coupon per property, parcel; 2 ½ yards in 1 haul will be a requirement. Yard debris is separate. Roadside pickup limited to brush and for Senior Citizens. Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to accept Laura’s recommendation on spring cleanup procedures. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Dream of Recreation Building – an indoor recreation facility on Clearwater Road is Rec Director Chuck Bordino’s dream. The leagues support this idea. Surveying to ensure septic is necessary, the \$4500 is estimated by Dave Clouser. Councilman Logan does not see this is a complete need, costs are increasing. Councilwoman Brown agrees with Councilman Logan. She sees a fundamental flaw in the way recreation is funded in NYS: need to amend that part of State law to use the recreation fees. She suggested talking to other Supervisors to change law. Councilman Lewis agrees with Councilman Logan, he feels town should be reducing costs. Councilwoman Williams would not be so negative about this – need recreation facilities but time is not good now; but would not criticize Chuck. Councilman Logan apologizes if critical but summer recreation changed from \$60 to \$90. Supervisor said she heard the message “not at this time”. Councilwoman Brown added she was upset that the engineer undertook a preliminary study without Town Board’s knowledge. This horse is dead.

HVME: Councilwoman Brown suggested they should come next week. \$800 monthly rent is in arrears amounting to around \$10,000 or over. Plan calls for 6 hours days. Councilman Logan is looking for a business plan, and he feels some of this waste was generated outside of NYS. The Supervisor responded the Town has a grant for using reuse center. HVME will continue to provide arts, education and building materials. Did they meet building codes before they closed? The Building Inspector told them what they needed to fix before reopening. Do they have their own insurance? The Supervisor said she would check with the Building Inspector regarding recent visits and current concerns. She discussed non-usable items with a HVME Board member. Councilman Logan stated the MTA bus located there was never part of the deal – not designed for storage. The van can be sold for scrap steal.

BAR re appointment: Councilwoman Williams made a motion to re-appoint Charlotte Carr to a five- year term on the BAR. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried. Interviews will be next week before the meeting. Assessment concerns we are trying to stay 100% all the time; if not the state looks at under assessment and set differential rate, to be paid on school taxes. Portion of sales tax received from county also give the Town more money. Total re-val done recently with the help from Real Property office. Mistakes can be made so people with increases should try to see Lorry before April 8th. Check for the accuracy of your property. Ask for your comparables, make an appointment, review them, look at neighborhood and look at rates. Councilwoman Brown would appreciate to get the monthly sales report for past two months.

Councilman Lewis spoke on MRI trailer at Family Practice – ZBA approved fencing – need to get a Planning Board permit, can be in 90 days. There are plans of moving contents into building and getting rid of trailer.

Councilwoman Brown asked for Pattern for Progress comments were due yesterday. The definition of segmentation needs to be clearer. Should go to DEC and Councilwoman Brown offered to write letter.

Committee Reports:

Councilwoman Brown: HPC presentation – historic going up to 1929; they are working with Carol Johnson of the Heidgard Haviland Collection at Elting Library to correct faulty data.

Supervisor: LOOP BUS – very well used --ridership rising every month. Traffic prevents their 30 minute loops at certain times of the day. UCAT wanted to make 1 hour loops – Supervisor Hokanson and president of College said NO change. Changes will be two one -hour loops in the afternoon; no more Southside and Pencil Hill runs; one-way Campus Street will be eliminated. May be getting Saturday expansion from 11 – 6; will be one- hour loops. Changes are due to begin May 1st.

Councilwoman Williams: Bicycle- Pedestrian Committee met jointly with the Transportation Committee earlier this week, it was a good meeting. Bike month is May; they are doing the *Ride to Eat, Eat to Ride* program again. They discussed Comprehensive Plan implementation as it applies to them. Discussion held on sidewalks, however most are located in the Village.

Councilman Lewis: Police Commission – use of tasers prohibited pending autopsy studies. The Commission wants to use autopsy results of a recent incident in a nearby town to determine if the cause of death was taser or drug related.

Councilwoman Brown: shared a Village notice on a Public Hearing, asking if we can cut back on ours to save on legal fees. Supervisor Hokanson discussed with the attorney – that sample was inadequate for our needs – we need to find something in the middle.

Councilwoman Brown wants to bring up RFP – new quotes for municipal health insurance. Supervisor Hokanson responded that dental changes were done in fall. Councilwoman Brown claims the County switched reps – substantial savings. Police contract discussion. Councilwoman Brown asked if new hires contribute to their health care. Supervisor responded no; cannot go back; will be brought forward to every contract. Town budget in excel? Councilwoman Williams is pursuing.

Warrant:

Councilman Logan made a motion to authorize the supervisor to pay March warrant in the amount of \$396,122.77. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Supervisor Hokanson made a motion authorizing the Town Board to modify the 2010 budget as follows: to increase the budget \$1,000 due to grant awarded to the Police Department for the RAD Program from Walmart. This is not a reimbursable or matching grant, just money for the program. This money has been received. AAA9803577 Police – RAD Grant, AAA522312040 Police – Contractual Expense. This motion was seconded by Councilman Logan and all aye votes cast.

Supervisor Hokanson moved to modify 2010 budget – video wetlands should have been in reserve from unappropriate fund balance into wetlands protection in amount of \$12,500. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to pass resolution authorizing the Supervisor to modify the 2009 budget to increase the budget due to a reimbursable grant awarded for the Community Center for \$90,000 take from line AAA9803576 grant –Community Center ESDC to AAA522715045 Community Center –Contractual Expense. This money has been received and the grant closed. Motion seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Supervisor Hokanson made a motion requesting the Town Board to pass a resolution to authorize her, the Supervisor to set up the following reserves from money that was budgeted but will not be spent until 2010. 2009 payroll and budget for \$15,000 each for a total reserve of \$30,000 for the purchase of new payroll and accounting computer software and/or hardware. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Sue Stegen, Treasurer of the Community Improvement Team via email is requesting the Town Board to pass a resolution authorizing the Supervisor to set up the following reserves from money that was not budgeted for and received in 2009 for future use by the Community Improvement Team in the amount of \$488 (received as a result of the 2009 Garden Tour). Supervisor Hokanson made this motion. Motion seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

John Orfitelli, Chairperson of the Historic Preservation Committee request to set up the following reserve in the amount of \$3085.00 from money that was budgeted in 2009 and not expended for future use by the Historic Preservation Committee is being put off until the next meeting.

Prepayments:

Supervisor Hokanso moved to approve the prepayment of purchase order # 91365 for \$4000 to Peter J. Smith & Co. for the Comprehensive plan payment. This motion was seconded by Councilman Lewis. Councilwoman Brown is willing to pay for the SEQR work but not \$4000, as she is not happy with their work. She claims they were to review the former Master Plan and tell the Board what needs changing Supervisor Hokanson disagreed with Councilwoman Brown feelings of expectations of the consultant. Vote is No from Councilwoman Brown, all others cast aye votes, motion carried.

Ira Margolis: offered to correct misunderstanding – police chief – not for use – 2 members of ERT not for entire force. Councilman Logan responded not proper time to discuss

Supervisor Hokanson: *Greenworks* Committee advocating motion sensor light switches- installed in our bathrooms.

At 10:40 p.m. Councilwoman Brown made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian Cappillino
Town Clerk

