



VILLAGE & TOWN OF NEW PALTZ  
Regular Joint Meeting of Wednesday, February 8th, 2017  
Village Hall -- 7:00 PM  
**MINUTES**

**Present:** Mayor Tim Rogers, Deputy Mayor Rebecca Rotzler, Trustee Dennis Young, Trustee Tom Rocco, Trustee Don Kerr; Supervisor Neil Bettez; Deputy Supervisor Dan Torres; Councilperson Marty Irwin; Councilperson Julie Seyfert-Lillis;

**Absent:** Town Councilperson Jeff Logan;

**Also Present:** About 15 members of the public; members of the press; Alex Wojcik, Deputy Clerk

**Call to Order** -- Mayor Rogers called the Village part of the February 8, 2017 Joint Village and Town of New Paltz Board meeting to order at 7:00 PM; Trustee Rocco seconded; all voted Aye

*~The Joint agenda was paused until the Town Board had a quorum; the Village Board opened their regular February 8, 2017 meeting in the meantime.~*

Deputy Supervisor Torres called the Town part of the February 8, 2017 Joint Village and Town of New Paltz Board meeting to order at 7:33 PM; Councilperson Seyfert-Lillis seconded; all voted Aye.

**Administrative Business**

**Approval of the Agenda** -- The Village Board added the following items to the Joint Agenda: Fire Department Update; "Hardening of Sewage" project; Shade Tree Items from the Village Board Agenda. The Town Board added the authorization of a Town Bookkeeping matter to the agenda as well.

**1. SUNY Impact Aid Letter** -- If signed, JPG versions of signatures to be sent to Brockport

Trustee Kerr motioned to approve the Village's participation in the letter; Mayor Rogers seconded; all Aye

Deputy Supervisor Torres motioned the same for the Town; Supervisor Bettez seconded; all Aye

**2. Feral Cat Registry Resolution** (circulated 2/6/17, formally added to agenda 2/8/17)

Trustee Young presented the resolution and read proposed edits out loud; it would have to be edited to be a policy rather than a law. The intent is to require cat rescuers to call the Clerks in order to avoid inadvertently rescuing people's pets. Both Boards discussed the logistics of the proposed policy.

Trustee Young moved to adopt the Feral Cat Registry Policy with the amendments as discussed; Deputy Mayor Rotzler seconded; all Village Trustees voted Aye (5-0)

Councilperson Seyfert-Lillis moved to adopt the Feral Cat Registry Policy as above; Councilperson Irwin seconded. Discussion: which Clerk will be the primary point of contact? Town Board decided to pass the policy with the understanding that cat rescuers register in the Village, and they can amend it again at a later date if necessary. Deputy Supervisor Torres called the question; all Town Boardmembers voted Aye (4-0)

Trustee Young amended the Village's previous motion to state "Village" and to strike "Town;" Deputy Mayor Rotzler seconded; all Village Trustees voted Aye (5-0)

**3. Memorial Tree for Judy "Aunt Judy" Jackson: Sunday, February 26 2017, 12:00 PM, Hasbrouck Park** -- Mayor Rogers presented the proposal: the idea is to commemorate a prominent New Paltz figure for Black History Month. The project is being organized in conjunction with the Shade Tree Commission; there will be a plaque.

Trustee Rocco motioned to approve the Aunt Judy memorial tree planting and event for the Village; Deputy Mayor Rotzler seconded; all Village Trustees voted Aye (5-0)

Councilperson Irwin motioned to approve the Aunt Judy memorial tree planting and event for the Town; Deputy Supervisor Torres seconded; all Town Councilmembers voted Aye (4-0)

**4. Fire House project** -- Mayor Rogers provided some updates on the NY RISING project.

**5. Hardening of Sewage Project** -- Mayor Rogers provided a brief update; the Boards discussed wetlands and other matters pursuant to the NY RISING project.

*~Councilperson Seyfert-Lillis left the meeting at 7:52 PM~*

**6. Shade Tree Commission** -- *Supervisor Bettez took his Supervisor hat off to participate in the discussion as a member of the Shade Tree Commission*

- A. **Proposed changes to Chapter 191-3 of the Village Code** so that the Head of the Building Dept or his/her designee or Superintendent of the Dept of Public Works or his/her designee may authorize the removal or pruning of a tree severely damaged and causing an immediate danger -- Trustee Kerr motioned to set a public hearing for the next viable meeting as per above; Deputy Mayor Rotzler seconded; all Village Trustees voted Aye **(5-0)**
- B. **Tree Service licensing** -- Trustee Kerr introduced the topic; the Board discussed. Deputy Clerk will solicit input from the Building Department, Department of Public Works, etc. and the STC will finalize the work.
- C. **Discussion regarding the group's makeup and membership** -- Trustee Kerr provided some background on the topic. While STC works on changing the law as per above, they can work on the idea of creating a "Senior Member" position.

**7. Town item Authorizing Bookkeeping** -- Supervisor Bettez motioned to approve; Deputy Supervisor Torres seconded. All Town Councilpeople present voted Aye **(3-0)**

**March Joint Meeting:** Deputy Supervisor Torres suggested rescheduling the March Joint meeting. The Ulster County Legislature is on the Village agenda for March 22, so it might be ideal to forfeit the Town-hosted Joint meeting that month in lieu of getting everyone in one place the night of March 22. Mayor Rogers suggested the Ulster County Legislature should visit separate Village and Town meetings instead.

**Pool Update:** Supervisor Bettez stated that the Town has prepaid a deposit to fix the pool, and asked Senator Bonacic for assistance with the pool liner; we are now in-line to receive that funding.

**Adjournment** -- Deputy Supervisor Torres motioned to adjourn the Town part of the February 8, 2017 Joint Village and Town meeting at 8:12 PM; Councilperson Irwin seconded; all Town voted Aye. *The Village Board meeting continued its regular agenda.*

Respectfully submitted by:

Alex Wojcik, Deputy Clerk