

**Special Joint Town/Village Board Meeting**  
**Special Town Board Meeting**  
**September 4, 2014**  
**7:30 p.m.**

**Present:** Supervisor Susan Zimet, Deputy Supervisor Jeff Logan, Councilman Dan Torres, Councilman Kevin Barry. **Absent:** Councilwoman Jean Gallucci.

**Present:** Mayor Jason West, Deputy Mayor Rebecca Rotzler, Trustee Ariana Basco.

**Absent:** Trustee Sally Rhodes, Trustee Thomas Rocco.

At 7:40 p.m. a motion was made by Town Councilman Logan to open the meeting with the pledge and dedicate it to the memory of Jay LeFevre. Seconded by Councilman Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried. A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Rotzler to open the meeting with the pledge. Seconded by Mayor West, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Agenda:**

A motion was made by Councilman Torres to adopt the agenda. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Mayor West to adopt the agenda. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rotzler, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Announcements:**

Supervisor Zimet announced that she received notice via email from attorney George Rodenhausen that the Court of Appeals denied the appeal to challenge the decision in the Wetlands lawsuit. Supervisor Zimet noted that the Wetlands Law was upheld, setting a standard for local home rule.

**Public Comments:**

Village resident Amy Cohen voiced concern over transparency issues in both the Village and Town. Much of her focus was on the issue of cable access, channel 23 and the accessibility and availability of town and village board meetings/videos to the public in a timely manner. She asked the board to review the public access calendar, and offered her assistance wherever needed.

Ira Margolis asked if the franchise fee for Time Warner Cable was approved by Mayor West.

Kitty Brown expressed appreciation that NY Rising was on the agenda since the Mill Brook Project/ Tributary 13/ Rail Trail Bridge were vital to alleviate the flooding situation. She urged the Village Board to adopt a law similar to the Town Wetlands Law.

Village resident Jon Cohen voiced his displeasure with cable access channel 23 and the availability of board meetings to be seen by the public, especially the handicapped. Wants to file a FOIL for the cable channel 23 programming records involving Bob Fagan.

Bob Hughes thanked everyone who has been working on the Wetlands Law for the past 10 years. He suggested the Joint Town & Village Boards consider 100 ft buffer for Tributary 13, which runs from town, through village and then through town again. Also, the Wetlands Law/Home Rule should extend to the Village.

Don Kerr feels as though things are falling through the cracks with public access programming. He indicated that no one is running it.

**Mill Brook Preserve Plan Presentation:**

CWOSP Chairman Marty Irwin opened the presentation and noted that in addition to the printed version available to members of the board, the presentation/plan in its entirety has been posted on the website and a copy submitted to the DEC.

Also present were CWOSP members Tom O'Dowd, Seth McKee, Marion Dubois, Doug McBride and Cara Lee

Chairman Irwin indicated that this is CWOSP's plan for the creation and management of the Mill Brook Preserve, a land preserve within both the Town and Village. The Mill Brook has been the

focus of a small group of people since 2003. He stated that the plan is a result of years of input from the public and landowners. The Plan will be used as a guide going forward to look at phases of development of the Preserve, including recreational uses. He suggested that the Town and Village Boards review the plan and adopt it to set the stage for Mill Brook Preserve to be a priority of CWOSP and strengthen requests for additional funding to move it forward.

Seth McKee indicated that the Mill Brook Preserve is an area of land that includes Tributary 13, as well as feeder streams and wetlands in the area. It runs roughly from the area of Shivertown Road north to N. Putt Corners to the east of Henry W. DuBois Road to the south and Route 32 on the western side. It's an undeveloped area of woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat, and accessible to residents in walking distance. The whole area is roughly 400 acres, with the Preserve being proposed on about 300 of those acres.

Cara Lee spoke, describing the maps and defined the "Wetlands Complex" that exists in the area of the proposed preserve, explaining that it helps to slow down flooding and purify the water. She said that this area is a "Stepping Stone Habitat" and that "buffer areas" are critical.

Seth McKee, Michael Zierler and Chairman Irwin outlined specific and overall plan recommendations within and outside the proposed preserve boundaries, and possible next steps.

A motion was made by Trustee Basco to accept the report on behalf of the Village. Seconded by Mayor West, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Jeff Logan to accept the report on behalf of the Town. Seconded by Councilman Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Supervisor Zimet stated that the Mill Book Preserve Plan in its entirety has been uploaded and is available on the Town website. She suggested that the Joint Town & Village Board put the Mill Book Preserve Plan on the agenda for the next joint meeting to officially consider the option of the proposed plan. A motion was made by Trustee Basco to put the Mill Brook Preserve Plan on the agenda for the next joint meeting. Seconded by Mayor West, all aye votes cast motion carried. A motion was made by Councilman Logan to put the Mill Brook Preserve Plan on the agenda for the next joint meeting. Seconded by Councilman Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

### **NY RISING**

Supervisor Zimet invited Bill Blankenship to the table to speak to the board and state his function in the process. Mr. Blankenship explained that his company acts in the capacity of a resource to the local government. His company was hired by the state to facilitate moving forward on the Rail-Trail Bridge Project. The money is provided via a federal grant implemented through the State. The grant, with the Town and Village working together as a community, totals \$6 million. His role will be to provide support throughout the process, including surveys, laws and financial management/recordkeeping.

Mayor West stated that since the State and Federal governments want one entity for the Joint Town and Village recordkeeping, his suggestion is that the Village should do it. He indicated that Mark Lauer, who has written grants for the Village, will speak with Mr. Blankenship and draft a proposal for the Town and Village. He noted that there is a corollary grant available to cover administrative costs. Supervisor Zimet indicated she wants Lori Dubord, Hudson Valley Representative for NY Rising, and Mr. Blankenship to speak with both Village and Town Boards.

She also discussed concern regarding the community impact of repair to the Rte. 299 Bridge, which also includes the bike path. Supervisor Zimet called for a volunteer from the Village and community to serve with her on a subcommittee that will consider how to handle such an impact. Mayor West volunteered to serve temporarily.

Mr. Blankenship acknowledged that the implementation of a plan that coordinates the projects (Rail Trail Bridge, Bike Path and Rte. 299 Bridge), can be done quickly.

Deputy Rotzler asked where one can view the plans. Julie Robbins, Co-Chair of Hudson Valley NY Rising Committee, clarified that plans can be viewed on the State's Storm Recovery website, under "Regions" - Ulster County Communities/ New Paltz Projects.

### **Joint Town/ Village Comprehensive Plan:**

Mayor West said his suggestion is to have a board to narrow the proposals down from six to three, and then interview those three in person. After brief discussion, it was agreed that the

Town and Village would have a Joint Meeting, at the Village Hall on September 17, 2014 at 7:30pm

At 9:07 p.m. a motion was made by Mayor West to close the Joint Town & Village meeting. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rotzler, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Town Board Meeting:**

Called to order at 9:08 p.m. Also present were Town Building Inspector Stacy Delarede and Superintendent of Highways & Buildings and Grounds Chris Marx.

**Agenda:** +Prepays, Leprechaun Bus for Youth Center, Salvaging of Police Vehicle, Event Approval-Shawankgunk Adventures.

Deputy Supervisor Logan made a motion to accept the agenda as amended. Seconded by Councilman Barry, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Budget Modification:**

A motion was made by Councilman Torres to approve the following budget modification:

Increase line DBB5110.2 General Repairs/Equipment \$10,440.00

Decrease line DBB5140.4 Misc. Brush & Weeds \$ 2,800.00

Decrease line DBB5110.4 General Repairs \$ 7,640.00

To account for the additional cost of the purchase of a Skid Steer, originally budgeted for \$40,000, actual cost is \$52,640. Additional savings came from trailer purchased under budget. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Prepay Leprechaun Bus for the Youth Center:**

This is for the Six Flags trip. They need the check before the next meeting.

A motion was made by Councilman Logan to approve the prepayment in the amount of \$1,400.

Seconded by Councilman Torres, all ayes cast, motion carried.

**Salvaging of Police Vehicle:**

When HBO was here filming "Girls", they crashed into one of the Police Vehicles. The highest bid to salvage that was submitted was for \$1,000.

A motion was made by Councilman Logan to accept the bid for \$1,000 and to remove this vehicle from the Town's Insurance and from the Police Department. Seconded by Councilman Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Event Approval- Shawangunk Adventures:**

20 mile run from Minnewaska to Rosendale. Lieutenant Lucchesi approved, roads will be open but no police protection is required. Start Time and Date- Sunday, September 21st at 7:30 a.m.

A motion was made by Councilman Barry to approve this event. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Town Hall Mold/Building Plans:**

Supervisor Zimet made an announcement to the public regarding the presence of mold found in the Town Hall Building. She acknowledged the dedication of Town employees who work in the building, as well as the need for urgency in finding a solution to the problem of relocation. Supervisor Zimet said relocation is being considered anyway due to some other issues with the building, including lack of proper access to the handicapped.

She invited the employees to make statements concerning the health issues that have arisen. Kelly O'Donnell, Arlene Weber, Lynn Karge and Rachel Moreau described symptoms, ranging from mild to severe, including respiratory issues, headaches, lethargy, rashes, breathing problems in addition testifying to the physical presence of black mold "all over" the basement. Supervisor Zimet described some of her own symptoms as well as some of those who work in the Town Clerk's office.

Building Inspector Stacy Delarede commented that although the official reports are not in yet, she cannot recommend what the board should decide to do. She said the building is old, has no air movement and has what she called "sick building syndrome."

Supervisor Zimet thanked the employees for coming to the meeting.

At 9:35 p.m. a motion was made by Councilman Torres to go into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing contract negotiations for a potential building. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried. She invited both Building Inspector Delarede and Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds Chris Marx to join the Board.

At 10:45 p.m. a motion was made by Councilman Logan to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Councilman Barry, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

At 10:46 a motion was made by Councilman Torres to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diann Lee  
Deputy Town Clerk