

Catskill Town Board Committee Meeting
Catskill Town Hall
March 17, 2021 6:30 pm

PRESENT: Dale Finch, Supervisor
 Jared Giordiano, Councilman
 Patrick McCulloch, Councilman
 Dawn Scannapieco, Councilwoman
 Paul Vosburgh, Councilman

Supervisor Finch opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

NEW BUSINESS:

Alanna Navitski of Catskill Wheelhouse presented her idea to the board of using an area at Ricky Cramer Field, a 17 x 32 area, for a children's garden and family workshop. Part of the food grown will be donated to the food pantry. They have applied for a grant and have a garden manager. Councilman McCulloch stated they are also using space at Elliott Field. Alanna has not heard back from the Village but she is hoping to have the two sites. Supervisor Finch voiced his concern regarding how busy the parking is during games. Councilman Giordiano asked about using space at the Little Red Schoolhouse. After discussion, the space at the Little Red Schoolhouse would not be conducive.

Alanna stated the program would be from 9 am to 3 pm Monday through Friday and the family component 9 am to noon on Saturday. Supervisor Finch stated Saturdays are very busy. After confirmation regarding practice times on Saturday, Supervisor Finch will find out when games start.

All were in agreement that this is a great idea and Councilman McCulloch asked for a start date. Ms. Navitski stated mid-May and the family workshops will run mid-May to September. The camp part is 6 weeks between July and August. Supervisor Finch stated we will get back in touch with her to erect a barrier and hope everyone will respect your labors there.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution # 22-2021 on motion of Councilman McCulloch second by Councilman Vosburgh to acknowledge the examination of the justice court records from Sickler, Torchi, Allen & Churchill, CPS's, P.C. Adopted Vote: 5 yes

Resolution # 23-2021 on motion of Councilwoman Scannapieco second by Councilman Giordiano accepting the certiorari proposal between Saumik, LLC and the Town of Catskill. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes

Resolution # 24-2021 on motion of Councilman McCulloch second by Councilwoman Scannapieco amending the employee handbook to include the COVID-19 Vaccination Leave Policy as signed into law by Governor Cuomo (S.2588-A/A.3354-B). Adopted Vote: 5 Yes

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS:

Ricky Cramer Field – Supervisor Finch stated it was a productive meeting with those who use the field. Fencing was discussed as was an estimate for soil and maintenance of the field. To keep all in

accountability regarding maintenance of field a checklist will be used. The change in fence height from 8 feet to 12 feet was discussed. Funding will need to be raised for the difference in cost.

The Highway Department took care of clean-up of dead trees. The bleachers will be replaced. The electrical panel was backed into and the location of the panel will need to be moved.

Senior Center – Supervisor Finch stated as people become vaccinated against COVID, hours will resume at the center. We are not quite ready to re-open. Some maintenance work needs to be done there.

Cemetery – Supervisor Finch stated the building has been painted. There were some limbs down with the storm and highway cut down a tree. Councilman McCulloch stated we will need the county truck for the larger trees. Supervisor Finch would like to replace trees.

The fee schedule for Veterans was discussed and amended. *Resolution # 26-2021 on motion of Councilman McCulloch second by Supervisor Finch to amend the Cemetery Fee schedule with regards to fees for Veterans burials. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes*

Highway – Supervisor Finch stated Highway Superintendent Beers is moving forward with the Bridge NY program. We have until April 15th to submit an application. Per Mr. Beers, first priority is the culvert on Game Farm Rd.

Tannery Bridge – Supervisor Finch was contacted by a concerned resident who asked what the town's plans are this year. Councilman Giordiano stated we should get quotes for a permanent fence. Councilman McCulloch and Scannapieco would like to see it open; no permanent fence. Councilman Vosburgh stated the county is placing a fence on the bridge.

DOT/Hunter – Supervisor Finch stated jersey barriers will be placed before the bridge and no parking on Route 23. They have a good plan in place and we will have to wait and see what the summer brings. North/South Lake will remain at 50% capacity. The shuttle will not happen this year and talks will resume in 2022.

Ambulance – Councilman McCulloch stated the sign needs to be replaced. Supervisor Finch would like to see a solid sign. *Resolution # 25-2021 on motion of Councilman Giordiano second by Councilwoman Scannapieco requesting RFP's for a new sign at the Ambulance Department. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes*

Teleconference – Supervisor Finch stated there was a teleconference with Congressman Delgado and Senator Schumer. Some topics of discussion were CHIPS money, cannabis in NYS.

Brush Dump – Highway Superintendent Beers will open the Five Mile Woods Brush Dump on April 10th. Hours of operation will be Saturdays only 7 am to 3 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Joseph Izzo asked the Supervisor the status of the Ambulance based on the comments in the newspaper. Is the Ambulance being dissolved? Councilwoman Scannapieco stated no. Mr. Izzo stated there is a meeting on the 31st with the County and Greene EMS and asked if the Town will have a role in the meeting. Supervisor Finch stated the issue is Catskill residents are paying \$250,000 into GCEMS and we don't use their service. Mr. Izzo stated we do use but we get back-charged. Supervisor Finch stated we shouldn't be supplementing GCEMS. Mr. Izzo stated the problem with that issue is there is no way the County can remove the Town out of the budget. Each town is

prorated based on the equalization rate. There is no way to have separate line items for EMS and separate allocations in the county budget leaving the town out of the calculation. The county said it can't do it that way. Supervisor Finch disagrees and believes they can but they don't want to. After further discussion in which Mr. Izzo suggested withholding the money the Town pays to the County when collecting taxes, though the town would probably be sued; GCEMS should not be back charging for anything. Supervisor Finch stated discussion started with back charging. The Town will be at the County meeting on the 31st and Supervisor Finch welcomed Mr. Izzo's support at that meeting.

Mr. Izzo asked about the stimulus money the State will pass through to the Towns and to ask Teague and Hinchey to introduce a resolution to allow the money that comes into the State be immediately passed through to the Towns, no waiting period. Supervisor Finch stated the federal money is direct to the County. The Town portion through the State. The bill passed is for Albany to hold onto the money for 60 days.

With no further comment a motion to enter executive session and invite the Town Clerk to discuss contract and employee issues was made by Councilwoman Scannapieco second by Councilman Vosburgh. No other business will be conducted at the end of executive session. Executive session began 8:40 pm.

With no further discussion motion to exit executive session and end the meeting was made by Councilman Giordiano second by Councilwoman Scannapieco. Meeting ended 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Izzo
Town Clerk