

Catskill Town Board Committee Meeting

March 18, 2015

The Town Board of the Town of Catskill held their Committee Meeting on March 18, 2015 at 6:30 pm at Catskill Town Hall. The meeting was opened with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance. The following members were present:

Joseph Leggio, Supervisor
Robert Antonelli, Councilman
Pat Walsh, Councilman
Jared Giordiano, Councilman
Absent: Gary Carlson, Councilman
Also Attending: Michael Smith, Town Attorney

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

The Supervisor thanked all for coming. The first order of business is the proposed local law for the elimination of the elected position of highway superintendent and subsequent appointed position of highway superintendent. The Supervisor read the proposed local law and asked for a motion to schedule a public hearing and special meeting. *Resolution #28-2015 with motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Walsh to schedule a public hearing for proposed local law #3-2015 for April 14, 2015 at 6:00 pm at Catskill Town Hall with a special meeting immediately to follow. Adopted 4 Yes 1 Absent (Carlson)*

The license agreement for use of the Ricky Cramer Field was reviewed. This would be for anyone wishing to utilize the field: school district, Little League, American Legion etc.

The PILOT agreement with Autumn Grove was discussed. It expires this year and there has been no increase from 2010-2015. A letter was sent to Catskill Mountain Housing to discuss an adjustment. Councilman Antonelli will be the contact person.

A memo was received from the Town Attorney regarding setting up a meeting with Solomon & Solomon regarding bad debt and how to handle payments. Parameters will need to be set. Councilman Antonelli stated the parameters need to be consistent. A meeting will be scheduled.

An email was received from a tenant of Meadow Woods. He has lived there for four years and the septic has not been in service for the last two, repairs have not been great, there is a roach problem, there is a flea/tick problem due to cats, the well is too close to the septic, and you cannot escape the mold issue. It comes through the paint. Councilman Giordiano asked where DEC is. Supervisor Leggio stated contact has been made with DEC and DOH and they state they are in a legal process. There is a public hearing scheduled for April 7th.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Town Attorney spoke regarding the ALS contract. He reviewed the contract for 2015 and he has an issue with the fee provision (article 2), payments required to be made by the TOC for services. The formula does not set forth a monetary amount as it is based on usage and credit/debits. He asked George if he is involved in review of the fees. George has not reviewed the invoices sent to the comptroller. He is unsure how payment can be made if George is not involved in the review of invoices.

Councilman Giordiano stated we will not have to worry about it in a couple months. Supervisor Leggio mentioned the meeting with the County and GCEMS a couple weeks ago and the assumption is if the TOC doesn't opt in, the program is in jeopardy; however, the mountaintop doesn't want in either. The ambulance should be separated out of the town budget so we have a true cost. We should have a review done. The town subsidizes the ambulance service but not sure to what degree and we will be better able to make a judgment with the county system if we know the numbers.

Councilman Giordiano stated the problem is will the level of service stay the same. Supervisor Leggio stated everybody is on the same page; we are all teetering. Councilman Giordiano stated he is elected by the residents of the TOC and not Greene County. Councilman Walsh stated we need to know what the ambulance department costs us. Councilman Antonelli stated the ALS plan may not be the one we want as he prefers the county do the whole thing but we need to get an accounting of what we really have. Supervisor Leggio stated we need to know our assets if we decide to sell out and we will also need to know what happens if GCEMS folds. Do we start from scratch again?

Joseph Izzo stated it is a monetary decision and the numbers are easy to get. You need to look at 2014's actual revenue and actual expenses which you will know what they are. Then you look at the fringe benefits of the budget, worker's comp, FICO etc and take that number to actual expenses and you will have a number fairly reasonable to what the difference is from revenues to expenses. Then you look at the GCEMS contract cost and the capital cost of the equipment, which you will be purchasing back ambulances you have already paid for, and then there is the building. You also need to take into consideration they are using the county equalization rate. Ours is 56% as we are not at 100% assessment. The town residents will pay more using the county equalization rate. Then the real horror is what happens in three to four years if the county says they cannot afford to do this any longer and the towns are left. The TOC has the best ambulance now but we scrambled to get here. All the factors need to be looked at but the overriding factor is the unknown. You don't need to hire a consultant to do the numbers as it can be done in-house. It comes down to what the board thinks is best.

CONTUINING BUSINESS:

Hunt Treadwell from Delaware Engineering gave the board an update on the easements. Supervisor Leggio stated we need to set up a committee and go door to door on a Saturday. Mr. Treadwell stated everything else is moving along well.

Mr. Smith asked about the survey of the sewer line being transferred from the county to the town. Supervisor Leggio stated he will reach out to Alan.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Joseph Lepp approached the board regarding using the Senior Center for a fundraiser for his Eagle Scout project. He is building a recycling center for Matthew 25. The fundraiser would be a spaghetti dinner on April 11th. *Resolution #29-2015 with motion by Councilman Giordiano second by Councilman Antonelli to waive the fee for a spaghetti dinner fundraiser sponsored by Joseph Lepp for his Eagle Scout Project. Adopted 4 Yes 1 Absent (Carlson)*

Councilman Antonelli stated to contact Liz and we will get together to show him the Senior Center.

Joseph Izzo asked if the board thought about the Memorial Day Parade. Supervisor Leggio stated the school will have a marching band this year but we need to set up a committee and the board would love it if you were to take charge of it. Mr. Izzo stated he would.

With no further business a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Giordiano. Meeting ended 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Izzo
Town Clerk