

Catskill Town Board Committee Meeting
Kiskatom Fire House
March 20, 2013 6:30 pm

Attendance: Joseph Leggio, Supervisor; Pat Walsh, Councilman, Gary Carlson, Councilman;
Elizabeth Izzo, Town Clerk

Absent: Robert Antonelli, Councilman

Supervisor Leggio opened the meeting with a moment of silent prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Introduced was Jeff Flack of Greene County Water and Soil giving an update on the flood buyout program as a result of Hurricane Irene. Supervisor Leggio stated the board is more focused on the liability end and no out of pocket expenses. The properties are to be transferred to the Town and then we are to maintain and Councilman Carlson asked to what extent.

Mr. Flack stated FEMA pays 75% and the homeowner pays 25% for the conditioned structures and demolition. The County is the applicant with a stipulation they come out whole in the end. Due diligence is done to protect those town's interests in the program. Once there is a closing on the property the property has to be demolished within 90 days. The County's position is to help out as much as it can but you cannot use taxpayer money for private individuals so the County is doing the administration to centralize it. They received the award letter last week. So far Catskill has three properties appraised with nine properties in the program. Each landowner will need to make a choice as to whether to accept the buyout or not. All are aware they will be responsible for 25% of the cost and they have all agreed to the first step to see if the numbers work for their mortgage etc. If it doesn't work financially they have 30 days to get a second appraisal. If there is huge disparity, a third appraisal will be done and the mean of all three appraisals will be used. If they decide to rebuild instead everything will need to be up to code, for example, since in a floodplain, elevation of the building will need to be two feet. The costs to rebuild could be substantial.

The MOA outlines the responsibilities. The County does not want to be in the position of possessing property and maintaining it. The requirements of the town owning this property is that it has to remain a green space and every three years photos need to be taken to assure FEMA it has not been developed. Councilman Carlson stated the Town would retain the property in perpetuity. Mr. Flack stated there can be requests for trails or fishing access or an open pavilion on the space but those requests need to be authorized by FEMA. The Town's obligation is to hold title and inspection every three years.

Supervisor Leggio asked if anyone had any questions. He stated the board read the MOA and we just wanted a heads up. Mr. Flack stated nine properties applied and this is a first time for this program in Greene County. Schoharie County has had this program and they have found that a third of applicants go through the entire process.

Supervisor Leggio asked for a motion to sign the MOA. Motion made by Councilman Walsh and seconded by Councilman Carlson. Vote: 3 Yes 1 Absent (Antonelli) Motion carried.

Supervisor Leggio asked about the plantings along the creek. Mr. Flack stated some were stacked last fall. He walked the banks after the storm last week and the lines stayed pretty well. On the one end of Maple Lane it is starting to aggregate.

Supervisor Leggio mentioned the Kaaterskill Wall. He stated Rich sent in drawings to John Casey and was to send off to the other involved agencies. He received an email they will be reviewed by the end of the week. He stated he is not sure why DEC didn't tell us last year they wanted the project redesigned. Mr. Flack stated there was a communication breakdown. He stated as long as Rich ran the calculations they should sign off. Supervisor Leggio stated we could have used the last five months to do what was needed instead of jumping through hoops now. Mr. Flack stated he is happy to contact DEC and Army Corps. He stated they were all in agreement if the calculations Rich was to do they would sign off.

Supervisor Leggio mentioned correspondence from the Council of the Arts regarding their Sprout Program. The Town has given \$1,000 every year to this program and a resolution can be done at the next meeting.

He mentioned the change in the workplace violence prevention for the Town. The only change is to include elected officials in the wording. It will be passed at the next meeting. Councilman Walsh and Carlson stated it is a good idea to include elected officials.

Supervisor Leggio mentioned the EFC grant and that a person needs to be the MWBE-EEO designated officer. It will be himself. He asked for a resolution. Motion made by Councilman Carlson and seconded by Councilman Walsh to designate Supervisor Leggio as the officer for the MBO (Minority & Women's Business Enterprise Officer). Vote: 3 Yes 1 Absent (Antonelli) Motion carried.

Supervisor Leggio stated we received a letter from Hose Co. #1 (Catskill Fire Company) they will be hosting the Greene County Volunteer Fireman's Association Convention this year, September 3-7 and asked for a \$2,000 donation to support the convention. Supervisor Leggio stated it is in the budget. Motion made by Councilman Walsh and seconded by Councilman

Carlson to give \$2,000 in support of the convention. Vote: 3 Yes 1 Absent (Antonelli) Motion carried.

Supervisor Leggio stated the Ambulance Administrator George June is recommending the following employees for promotion from EMT to EMT-Advanced: John Greco, Karlis Medins, David March and Wendy Hejnal. Motion from Councilman Carlson approving the recommendation for all to be promoted to EMT-Advanced seconded by Councilman Walsh. Vote: 3 Yes 1 Absent (Antonelli) Motion accepted.

Supervisor Leggio mentioned an email from Greene County Economic Development in regards to the Greene County CDBG-GR Disaster Recovery Assistance. It will be given to the attorney for review.

Supervisor Leggio mentioned a memo from John Cashin in regards to a proposed permit fee for individuals who are constructing buildings etc without a permit is charged. Councilman Walsh stated to review and address at the next meeting. Councilman Carlson stated to have legal review and address at next meeting.

Supervisor Leggio asked for a motion to name a private road in regards to the public hearing held earlier. Motion made by Councilman Walsh and seconded by Councilman Carlson to name the road Volosk Road as per the request of the property owner. Vote: 3 Ayes 1 Absent (Antonelli) Motion carried.

Supervisor Leggio opened the meeting up for public comment. Mr. Beers, Highway Superintendent, presented the board with two estimates to have the roof repaired/replaced and the 284 road maintenance agreement. He stated we need to talk about the pole barn and the bridge on Penn Ave near Schneck's. Supervisor Leggio stated he hasn't seen the paperwork yet. Mr. Beers stated the bridge is in worse shape, there is a 20 foot span. Supervisor Leggio asked for quotes. Mr. Beers stated he would like an engineer to look at it but isn't sure who the board would like to use. Supervisor Leggio asked to schedule a meeting for next Friday at 8 am to go over. The time was good for all.

Supervisor Leggio asked if there was any other comment. Nikki Loffredo asked for an update on the proposed pocket park on Kaaterskill Avenue. Supervisor Leggio stated there are no updates. No further discussion has been done on this. There is question as to whether the Town owns the property. It was mentioned that maybe there may be access to fishing but there would be no benches or picnic areas. There are boulders in place so people couldn't park and as far as the town is concerned this is on the back burner.

With no further comment a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Walsh and seconded by Councilman Carlson. Meeting ended 6:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Izzo
Town Clerk