

Town Board Committee Meeting

April 16, 2014

The Town Board of the Town of Catskill held their Committee Meeting on April 16, 2014 at 6:30 pm at Catskill Town Hall. The meeting was opened with a moment of silent prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. The following members were present:

Joseph Leggio, Supervisor
Robert Antonelli, Councilman
Gary Carlson, Councilman
Jared Giordiano, Councilman

Absent: Pat Walsh, Councilman
Also Attending: Michael Smith, Town Attorney

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Sterritt approached the board regarding his family's property on Hamburg Road. The Strait family contacted him to buy his property and made him an offer. Supervisor Leggio stated this building has been declared unsafe. If the point is to sell, contact Mr. Cashin and if there is a binder or a legal agreement and a plan to do something, we can work with the issue.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Mike Budris of Delaware Engineering presented the first draft of the sewer district boundary. The next step is to develop how to conduct the sewer billing. There will be a review by the State Comptroller. The contract for the rock boring was done today. That work will proceed the first week in May. He met with the VOC to tour the facility last week. There will be an improvement needed to the pump station at Allen Street. There will also be a need to help with the sewer separation work. The next step will be the map plan report for the Town to review.

Councilman Antonelli stated he would like to see the agreement with the Village before we move any further. He has always stated we need a Plan B in case this doesn't work out with the Village.

Supervisor Leggio stated there are a couple of folks asking about hooking up who live on McGovern Lane and asked Mr. Budris to come up with a rough idea of the cost if they want to tie into the system. Mr. Budris stated we would need an agreement with the Town of Athens and the cost would be borne on the potential district. It wouldn't be included in everything else.

NEW BUSINESS

Supervisor Leggio stated we received four quotes for an exterminating service for the Ambulance and Senior Center buildings. Councilman Antonelli wished to give to the business in Catskill though he is not sure if four visits a year is enough. Councilman Giordiano stated he liked the one with the emergency visits for bees etc. Councilman Carlson agrees giving the bid to Midstate. He stated the man is meticulous in his work.

Resolution #38-2014 with motion made by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Carlson to award the bid for exterminating service to Midstate Pest Control in the amount of \$1,180. Adopted 4 Yes 1 Absent (Walsh)

Councilman Antonelli brought about the lease agreement for the Senior Center. Everyone has reviewed and he would like the board to vote on it. Supervisor Leggio asked how this would affect Weight Watchers. Ms. Smith stated the board made, for profit organizations, a per-use charged as opposed to a monthly charge. Councilman Giordiano stated we can have a separate agreement with Weight Watchers.

Resolution #39-2014 with motion made by Councilman Giordiano second by Councilman Antonelli to adopt the Rules & Regulations; Rental Use Policy; Lease Agreement for the Washington Irving Senior Center. Adopted 4 Yes 1 Absent (Walsh)

Supervisor Leggio stated we need a resolution to adopt Local Law 2 of 2014 amending senior citizen exemptions to include authorizing the assessor accept late renewal file after the taxable status date up to the day of grievance in cases of extreme medical emergencies.

Resolution #40-2014 with motion made by Councilman Giordiano second by Councilman Antonelli to adopt Local Law 2 of 2014. Adopted 4 Yes 1 Absent (Walsh)

Councilman Antonelli discussed the purchase of a scrubber for the floors at the Senior Center and Ambulance Building. There were three quotes received with EA Morris being the lowest. His recommendation is to accept the quote from EA Morris.

Resolution #41-2014 with motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Giordiano to accept the quote from EA Morris for a Genie APS Automatic Scrubber in an amount not to exceed \$3,400. Adopted 4 Yes 1 Absent (Walsh)

Councilman Antonelli stated he received prices for a John Deere tractor for the Cemetery. This is needed to landscape, rake and rotary till for the ball field. He also has a quote for the purchase of a snow blower that can be removed from the machine. This would enable them to blow the snow off the sidewalks down Jefferson Heights.

Councilman Carlson stated doesn't believe spending money for a private organization that utilizes the town ball field as a necessary expense. He believes that we have good workers hired and we utilize a push shovel so we don't need a snow blower. It seems an excessive amount of money.

Councilman Antonelli stated to remove the snow blower and have the rake and tiller.

Councilman Carlson asked if there was a need for the tiller. Councilman Antonelli stated it is needed to aerate the ball field. Supervisor Leggio stated there is municipal sharing. The Village uses the sweeper for town roads. If we purchase it can be utilized in the Village and Town and the rake can be used in the Cemetery though the primary purpose is for the ball field.

Resolution #42-2014 with motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Giordiano to accept the quote from Keil Equipment for the landscape rake and rotary tiller in the amount of \$4,518.49. Adopted 3 Yes 1 Nay (Carlson) 1 Absent (Walsh)

Supervisor Leggio asked Mr. Smith about the perpetual funds and where we stand. Mr. Smith stated another email was sent with no response. He will be writing a letter to the AG.

Councilman Giordiano made a motion with a second by Councilman Carlson to make Justin Menealos a full-time MEO. Supervisor Leggio stated it would be a tie vote and in light of that, it is a mute issue. He believes it should be brought up at the next meeting as issues are being addressed as we speak. Councilman Antonelli stated there is nothing against Mr. Menealos as he has heard he is a good worker but until the problems at the Highway Department are straightened out, he can't vote in favor.

Resolution #43-3014 with motion by Councilman Giordiano second by Councilman Carlson to make Justin Menealos a full-time MEO. Failed 2 Yes 2 No (Antonelli/Leggio) 1 Absent (Walsh)

Supervisor Leggio stated he reviewed the bills. Numerous issues were brought to the town's attention and need to be addressed. The purchase orders need to have the State or County bid numbers on them. The items came through without and he shouldn't have signed the checks but the vendors had supplied the equipment and they should get paid.

Councilman Giordiano stated he doesn't believe not hiring employees as punishment.

Councilman Carlson stated we can't play games with our employees. The issues we have are with the Highway Superintendent and it should never trickle down to the employees. He doesn't want them to feel as if we do not have their backs. It is strictly an administrative problem with another elected official.

Supervisor Leggio stated the gentleman is working as we speak; he is just not classified as full time. He wants to hold off on it for the next couple of weeks. We are all elected officials and need to sit down face to face. The communication channel opened two weeks ago.

Councilman Giordiano wished to make a motion to close Town Hall everyday from noon to 12:30 for a mandatory lunch time. Councilman Carlson stated to close from 11:30 to noon to accommodate the public who use their lunch hour for town business. He concurs there should be a dedicated time. Councilman Antonelli stated he has no issue with either time. Supervisor Leggio agreed to closing 11:30 to noon.

Resolution #44-2014 with motion by Councilman Giordiano second by Councilman Antonelli to close Town Hall for lunch from 11:30 am to noon. Adopted 4 Yes 1 Absent (Walsh)

Councilman Giordiano wants to reinstitute the use of the biometric Time Clocks at Town Hall since they are used at the Ambulance and Highway. He would like this to be effective June 1st. Supervisor Leggio stated if they are going to be used down here then they need to be used out at the Highway too and a memo will be sent effective immediately the time clock will be used and the punch clock will be removed.

Resolution #45-2014 with motion by Councilman Giordiano second by Councilman Antonelli to reinstitute the use of the Biometric Time Clocks for all employees at Town Hall effective June 1, 2014. Adopted 4 Yes 1 Absent (Walsh)

Supervisor Leggio asked if there was any further comment. Councilman Giordiano asked about employee reviews. He would like the board to start reviewing annually. Supervisor Leggio stated that hasn't been done in the last year. Councilman Antonelli stated we used to have employee evaluations. The Department Head would evaluate but he doesn't believe that system works. He recommends the department head meetings instead. Councilman Giordiano stated he is looking for higher accountability.

With no further comment a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Giordiano second by Councilman Carlson. Meeting ended 7:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Izzo
Town Clerk