

Monthly Town Board Committee Meeting
Catskill Town Hall
July 16, 2008 6:30PM

Attendance:	Peter Markou,	Supervisor
	Lewis O'Connor,	Councilman
	Patrick Walsh,	Councilman
	Michael Smith,	Councilman
	Elizabeth Izzo,	Town Clerk

Absent:	Robert Antonelli,	Councilman
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Supervisor Markou opened the meeting with a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Supervisor thanked everyone for coming, especially on such a hot night.

The proposed resolutions were reviewed by the Board.

RESOLUTION # 90-2008 INCREASE MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT

Councilman Lewis O'Connor, offered the following for consideration and adoption.

WHEREAS, The Town Board of the Town of Catskill, had established a mileage reimbursement policy at .505 cents/mile, at the January 2nd, 2008 Reorganization meeting, and

WHEREAS, the cost of fuel oil has spiraled upward, and

WHEREAS, the State of New York has increased mileage reimbursement to .585 cents/mile, to reflect such cost increases, so

THEREFORE, WE, the Catskill Town Board do hereby increase the Town's mileage reimbursement to .585 cents/mile, for use of personal vehicles on Town Business.

Councilman Patrick Walsh, seconded this motion.

Ayes 4, Nays 0, Absent 1, (Antonelli). Motion Carried

RESOLUTION # 91-2008 GO TO BID FOR NEW SIDEWALKS SURROUNDING
THE AMBULANCE BUILDING.

Councilman Patrick Walsh, offered the following for consideration and adoption,

WHEREAS, the construction/renovations to the Ambulance building is near completion, and

WHEREAS, the Catskill Town Board wishes to have proper sidewalks installed around said structure, for the safety of the community, so

THEREFORE, WE, the Catskill Town Board, hereby authorize the Town Supervisor to solicit bids for the sidewalk at the Ambulance building.

Councilman Michael Smith seconded this motion.

Ayes 4, Nays 0, Absent 1, (Antonelli). Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION # 92-2008 AUTHORIZE ATTENDANCE AT EMS EXPO
CONFERENCE (Leibowitz & Seyforth)

Councilman Michael Smith, offered the following for consideration and adoption,

WHEREAS, there is a 3 day EMS Expo Conference, to be held in Las Vegas, NV, on October 13-15, 2008, and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that attendance at said Expo will be of benefit to the Catskill Ambulance Service, so

THEREFORE, WE, the Catskill Town Board, hereby authorize the attendance of Ambulance Administrator Matthew Leibowitz and Operations Supervisor Kathleen Seyforth, to attend the EMS Expo Conference, at an expense of \$1,650.00/per person.

Councilman Patrick Walsh, seconded this motion.

Ayes 4, Nays 0, Absent 1, (Antonelli). Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION # 93-2008 SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED
LOCAL LAW SUBDIVISION CHANGES.

Councilman Lewis O'Connor, offered the following for consideration and adoption,

WHEREAS, the Town of Catskill has a Local Law regulating Sub-divisions in the Town of Catskill, adopted in January, 2007, and

WHEREAS, the Town's Planning Board has determined that some recurring issues, within said Local Law have created some problems, and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board has submitted to the Town Board, a document summarizing proposed changes the the Local Law, which will remedy aforementioned issues, so

THEREFORE, WE, the Catskill Town Board will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, August 5th, 2008, at 5:30PM, at Catskill Town Hall, to hear comments and concerns regarding proposed changes to the Sub-division Law.

Councilman Michael Smith seconded this motion.

Ayes 4, Nays 0, Absent 1, (Antonelli). Motion Carried

New Business:

Supervisor Markou brought up the issue regarding Lundy's property with junk strewn about. He said that the Town Highway Supt. Alfie Beers, and Code Officer Linda Speckman were out to inspect the affected property. Supt. Beers stated that it would be too dangerous to clean up this site and suggested burying site with dirt, and then try to determine who actually owns the affected property, as well as who is placing junk there illegally. The Supervisor said that the Board needed to decide how to proceed.

Councilman O'Connor questioned if it was legal to bury the accumulated junk. He then stated, that if it was, he agreed with Supt. Beers, that it would be the safest and cheapest way to handle the problem, especially since the taxpayers would be paying the bill.

Dan Howard, Chair of the Town Planning Board suggested that the property in question may contain wetlands, and that the Town would need DEC permits before proceeding with any site covering. This issue would be clarified with Code Officer Speckman before authorizing the Highway Dept. to move forward.

Supervisor Markou asked Board members if they wished to speak.

Councilman Walsh mentioned Mr. Philps, at which time the Supervisor asked Mr. Philps to come forward and address the Board.

Richard Philps introduced himself as the historian for the Village of Catskill, stating that he has been involved in a number of projects in the Village; has written a well-received book, and done a walking tour brochure for the Village. Mr. Philps belongs to the State Historical Society, and is a registered historian. Since our former historian, Betty Larsen has been ill, and unable to continue the role, Mr. Philps would like to assume the position, saying that it would be of benefit to the Town and himself. He feels that there is a wealth of information on hand that should be made available to individuals doing legitimate research. Mr. Philps mentioned going to schools, as many Town students can learn more about where they live.

Councilman Smith remarked that the Village has a specific identity. We are representatives of the Town, but I don't believe that we have an identity that relates to the Town, but believe that Richard will cast that identity which doesn't exist now, in terms of whom we are, as a Town, and how we identify ourselves.

Councilman Smith also stated that there is no salary for the position of historian, that this is an endeavor assumed by someone who is very committed to finding more history of an area, and feels that Mr. Philps will do that very well.

Mr. Philps expects that postage and conference fees will be paid for by the Town.

Supervisor Markou thanked Mr. Philps, saying that the time was right, with renovations to the Little Red Schoolhouse, having submitted grants to Parks and Historical to renovate the inside, which may prove a useful repository for our historical documents for the Town of Catskill.

The Supervisor remarked that he would like to wait on the appointment of the historian until the regular Board meeting with all members present, especially since Councilman Antonelli has such an interest in the Little Red Schoolhouse.

Councilman O'Connor spoke about the sidewalks in front of the Ambulance building, that more specs will be received from Praetorius, and the RFP's. If the amounts are over \$20,000.00, then the more formal bidding process will be used, but he doesn't feel that it will go over.

Supervisor Markou said that all the bids would have to be in writing and Councilman O'Connor concurred.

The Supervisor asked if any of the public wished to address the Board.

Robert Cushell asked if the proposed changes to the Sub-Division Regulations were written, and how would one get a copy. He was informed to direct the request to the Town Clerk.

There being no further business, the Supervisor asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion made by Councilman O'Connor seconded by Councilman Smith. All voted in the affirmative, with the meeting adjourned at 6:53PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth C. Izzo
Catskill Town Clerk