

Town Board Committee Meeting
Leeds Fire House
October 17, 2012 6:50 pm

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

Supervisor Leggio moved directly from the budget workshop meeting into the committee meeting. He stated there was a meeting with the engineer yesterday for the Leeds sewer project to bring the Village President up to speed. Ms. Bianconi is present tonight and he asked her to give a brief update.

Ms. Bianconi stated the idea is to tie into the Village's wastewater system at the county sewer line near the old hospital. She stated six months ago the town applied for a funding grant. She stated outside help will be needed to have this project make sense economically. It is very expensive and it is a long and costly process. They are currently looking for outside funding through conventional funding mechanisms. She stated the meeting last night was a technical discussion of the town having pipes and pump stations installed to then tie into the Village's system and to determine how much space the Village's system can take for the additional flow and also the upgrades needed to that system to take on that additional flow. She stated there will be a technical discussion and then a public policy discussion. The town will form a sewer district and the town and village will have an agreement which will be specific in nature and then to see how the project can be afforded. The next step will be a letter to all property owners inviting them to a meeting to see what the boundaries will be for the district.

An audience member asked if it would be mandatory to hook into the system. Ms. Bianconi stated that will be a decision by the Town Board. Rules and regulations will be adopted. She stated if the sewer is on the street the people on the border should connect as it will be much less expensive to connect when the project is done. She stated this project will not sneak up on people. It is a very public process.

Mr. Seeley stated this is an investment in our future. He stated a shovel ready site is the way to go and everyone's property values will increase. He stated even if you do not connect it will still bring a value to your property. Mr. Kozloski stated that the Village will need to make sure there is room in the system for future development of the Village.

Councilman Lennon stated if the Town of Catskill wants to be shovel ready and places pipe what impact would that have for grants. Ms. Bianconi stated Rcap did a financial survey by going door to door and through mailings in Leeds and it showed need. Funding agencies look for need

and environmental issues. Since we have both it makes us compelling by a financial perspective. If we place pipe up from the county line through the Route 23 corridor it will make us less attractive as programs are aimed at residential and not corporate. The best way is to package the entire thing.

Mr. Seeley stated the town will need a water district and a sewer district and if we can get that done right away. Supervisor Leggio stated he sent letters to the Towns of Athens and Cairo as Mr. Izzo stated there may be some County interest if more than one town is interested in forming a sewer district. He received a call from Mr. Banta, the Supervisor of Cairo, who expressed an interest in meeting with everyone to discuss it, as did the Supervisor of Athens. A meeting will be scheduled. The purpose of providing a sewer service is to provide a better quality of life for the residents of Leeds. It is a win-win situation.

An audience member asked about a cost sharing consortium. Ms. Bianconi stated this is why we are discussing this now; to see who will be involved from the get go. There is a lot of focus on this area. Bridge inspectors inspecting the bridge also inspect the stream to see if there is effluent.

Supervisor Leggio moved on to the Town's GIS system. The County was to move forward with theirs however they have not. We need to renew our contract with Clough Harbor to put the zoning on our website. The board will discuss for next board meeting.

Supervisor Leggio stated to get the equipment running in the ambulance building will cost \$5,800. He stated he and Pat met with Johnson Controls and they can fix and after we can maintain a service contract. They are under State bid. A motion to spend the \$5,800 to fix the system at the ambulance building was made by Councilman Walsh and seconded by Councilman Lennon. Vote: 5 Yes 0 No Motion Accepted.

Supervisor Leggio opened the meeting for public comment. Werner Knudsen read a letter to the board regarding the parking lot at the Senior Center. They appreciate the repairs and look forward to their completion. He also addressed the door at the rear of the building stating it is very heavy and people using wheelchairs or walkers are not able to use without assistance. They are requesting the board look into purchasing a new automatic door. Councilman Antonelli agreed and it will be looked into.

Joel Fallik approached the board. He stated he is a conceptual designer and he moved his Winnebago to Foster Road. His neighbor has called the Code Office on him and they stated he needs to move. He has worked 23 years on one project and has 4 patents to cure cancer, diabetes, etc. He needs one more month and then can move. He asked the board to intervene with Code. Supervisor Leggio asked if he is on his property. Mr. Fallik stated no but there is no

problem with his landlord. Supervisor Leggio will contact Code tomorrow and look into it and asked Mr. Fallik to leave his number with the Town Clerk.

Seth Buell approached the board. He contacted the Code office on this issue five months ago. He and his father are present to express their concern. They presented the tax code of the property along with pictures. They state the Winnebago is not registered or inspected. The pictures were taken from the road and the son's driveway.

They stated the property classification is vacant. It is not vacant now and the property owner is not being taxed as such. The violation date is from May 10th. Mr. Cashin stated on September 25th a violation was mailed to Mr. Stetkewicz but there were no violations filed. They want to know where this is going. They were informed in May there is a chemical toilet but Mr. Fallik uses the Town's bathroom and Mr. Stetkewicz's property. They have been misinformed on violations and the bathroom. On the 15th Mr. Stetkewicz spoke with Mr. Cashin indicating he was allowing Mr. Fallik to stay until the end of summer. Mr. Cashin informed Mr. Stetkewicz of the temporary mobile homes law and gave the definition of a junk vehicle. Mr. Buell stated it was towed from Wolf's to Foster Rd. He stated in the notice of violation he had five days to correct not five months. On June 21st Mr. Cashin urged Mr. Stetkewicz to help Mr. Fallik find another place to live. Mr. Fallik ignored Mr. Stetkewicz's requests to move. On September 20th he disconnected the power but he didn't move. There has been misinformation given to Mr. Cashin. He stated on September 21st Mr. Fallik spoke with Mr. Cashin and the RV was to be removed and the date came and went. On September 22nd the Code office indicated the RV was junk and Mr. Cashin sent Mr. Fallik to the Department of Aging & Social Services because his need for housing. He is asking the board to support the articles in place and direct Mr. Cashin to have Mr. Fallik leave. Another neighbor stated there is no running water and it is not a good situation.

Supervisor Leggio asked Mr. Fallik if he told Mr. Cashin on October 2nd he would be out in three days. Mr. Fallik stated no. He asked if Mr. Stetkewicz stated that. Mr. Fallik was not sure. Supervisor Leggio stated the Town spends an awful amount of time and effort supporting the quality of life for the residents of Catskill. He will speak with the Code Office tomorrow morning and they will act on this. Mr. Fallik stated he needs time to make contacts as he just received patents.

Supervisor Leggio presented a memo from Ed Ferratto to schedule two public hearings for properties in violation of the unsafe buildings law and junk law. Motion by Councilman Lennon and seconded by Councilman Walsh to schedule a public hearing for Karen Roberts at 6:00 pm and Antonio Pecora at 6:15 pm on November 14th. Voted: 5 Yes 0 No Motion Accepted.

Supervisor Leggio stated we need to schedule training for workplace violence prevention/sexual harassment. Elected officials will be included in this training session. There will be two sessions over two days and each session will be an hour and a half. Motion by Councilman Lennon and seconded by Councilman Walsh to schedule with date and time yet to be determined. Voted: 5 Yes 0 No Motion Accepted.

Councilman Lennon stated the 284 form needs to be signed as well as the two easements for access for the Kaaterskill/Mill Lane projects. He also stated the culvert work on Route 23A is ongoing. Mills Lane and Kaaterskill are scheduled to start this week. Woodstock retaining wall will have to wait until next year as DEC did not issue an extension of the permit.

Supervisor Leggio stated he spoke with Rich Praetorius to have one lane over the bridge open in the winter but we will need to see if it will affect funding for the project first.

With no further business a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Carlson and seconded by Councilman Antonelli. Meeting ended 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Izzo
Town Clerk