

Public Hearing Unsafe Building – Hickory Notch Cabins with Town Board Committee/Budget Meeting  
Catskill Town Hall  
October 18, 2023          6:30 PM

|          |                    |              |
|----------|--------------------|--------------|
| PRESENT: | Dale Finch,        | Supervisor   |
|          | Jared Giordiano,   | Councilman   |
|          | Patrick McCulloch, | Councilman   |
|          | Dawn Scannapieco,  | Councilwoman |
|          | Paul Vosburgh,     | Councilman   |

Supervisor Finch opened the public hearing with the Pledge of Allegiance. He welcomed all to the meeting. He stated this is the second public hearing for the same issue of unsafe buildings. He read the notice from Matt Carlile. There are four structures that are considered unsafe and action needs to be taken. He opened the meeting for public comment.

Juan Granda, owner of the premises, stated he is looking into the issue and will be there on Monday to assess. Mr. Garcia stated he spoke with Matt and is talking with his partner to take down the buildings. Supervisor Finch stated we need to see progress within 20 days. Mr. Granda stated you will and he has a map of the structures which have the issues.

Councilman Vosburgh stated two of the four buildings are unrepairable. Mr. Granda stated those will be demoed. Supervisor Finch would like the main structure secured to eliminate squatters or transient persons entering. This will help protect the fire department if they need to enter the building. Mr. Granda stated all other houses on the property are secured.

Supervisor Finch told Mr. Granda the board is taking this issue seriously. He stated the town will act if nothing is done at our next meeting which is November 7<sup>th</sup>.

With no further comment a motion to adjourn the public hearing was made by Councilman Giordiano second by Councilwoman Scannapieco. Meeting ended 6:39 pm.

*The Town Board Committee Meeting and Budget Workshop Meeting reconvened 6:40 pm.*

Sheila Pedersen of the Silver Linings Senior Club was present to discuss their request for funding of day trips for the seniors. She stated all the senior centers in the county receive a subsidy from their municipalities for trips. She is asking the board to budget \$4,000 for four trips. Most seniors are on a fixed income, pay taxes and a percentage live on food stamps. She is hoping the board will look kindly towards this proposal.

Councilman McCulloch asked if the other municipalities have a separate senior center and Ms. Pedersen answered yes. Mr. Graham stated Cocksackie subsidizes their club and Athens has several bus trips and luncheons subsidized also.

Supervisor Finch stated he will contact the Supervisor in Cocksackie to see how it is funded. Discussion about how to fund whether it be through the senior center or have a governing board separate from the town to fund through. The town has a lot of non-profits so how would we begin or end requests is of concern.

Supervisor Finch reaffirmed she was only looking for funding for the cost of transportation. Ms. Pederson said yes. Supervisor Finch asked if anyone had any further comments. Ms. Pedersen thanked the board for their time and consideration.

IT – Shawn Conklin and Clayton Van Kleeck were present to review IT services for the coming year. They are all the same services effectively at a flat rate. Each quote was reviewed. Quote 2678 was to replace the server which was discussed last year. This would be purchased directly from Dell with OGS contract pricing. Quote 2680 also discussed last year is cloud security for email protection. Mr. Van Kleeck stated this is super important.

Mr. Conklin submitted a list of the town's primary assets and identified five key systems which would need replacement. The options were discussed with also replacing monitors.

There was discussion about replacing the phone system at the ambulance building and cemetery office. Supervisor Finch thanked them for coming and presenting the information to the board. Mr. Van Kleeck stated he appreciated our business.

Supervisor Finch reviewed the remainder of the budget.

Senior Center – if the board were to fund senior programs, it would be done through the center and Jamie would run it.

Code – Supervisor Finch reviewed Matt's proposed salary and where he is in the step program. Ms. Bulich stated he is going from a 7 to an 8. Councilman Giordiano stated his increase should be the same as everyone else. Ms. Bulich stated the proposed salary increase is 10.6%. Councilman McCulloch did not support. Councilman Giordiano stated no. Supervisor Finch spoke of the HR study and in previous years the Assessor and Code salary were on the same level. The workload is larger and this is where the job is valued in the marketplace. Councilman McCulloch stated he would have this raise and then another with the step. Councilwoman Scannapieco stated her concern is if the job is bigger, then we should hire another person. Supervisor Finch stated we may need another FT person. Councilman Giordiano stated to put a line in for PT.

Supervisor Finch stated Matt was not hired at the grade level as we didn't have it then. He does a lot of work for the town. Councilman McCulloch stated all our employees do a lot of work for the town. He believes the job with someone with experience equals to where it is. The salary is commensurate with experience.

Councilwoman Scannapieco asked if the study was done with other towns in Greene County. Supervisor Finch stated no. Councilwoman Scannapieco stated this is his third year and our Assessor has many more years.

After further discussion, Councilmen McCulloch and Giordiano were opposed to moving the CEO to a grade 8 step 1. Councilman Vosburgh approved, Councilwoman Scannapieco approved, Supervisor Finch approved. Vote 3 Yes 2 No, carried.

Supervisor Finch stated we will need to look at purchasing a second vehicle for the code office. Training was increased to \$1,200.

Assessor – Councilman McCulloch stated the ask is \$46,900. Ms. Bulich stated this is because she will start full-time and it factors in her buyout. After discussion, \$13,000 was removed to contingency and wage changed to \$40,400.

Supervisor Finch stated the contract with the Village of Catskill for fire protection increased 2%. He then asked Kirsten to run the numbers to see where the board stood regarding the tax cap.

RESOLUTION:

Resolution # 96-2023 Adopting the Greene County Hazard Mitigation and Resiliency Plan on motion of Councilman McCulloch second by Councilman Vosburgh. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes

Resolution # 97-2023 Change in Employment Status Patrick Darling from FT Seasonal to PT Laborer effective November 6, 2023 at a rate of pay of \$21.00 per hours on motion of Councilman Giordiano second by Councilwoman Scannapieco. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes

Resolution # 98-2023 Change in Employment Status of Andrew Scirico from PT EMT to FT EMT effective November 5, 2023 at the rate of pay outlined in the collective bargaining agreement on motion of Councilman McCulloch second by Councilwoman Scannapieco. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes

Resolution # 99-2023 authoring the Supervisor sign the Just Compensation determination for two real property acquisitions in the total amount of \$2,200.00 for the Game Farm Road over Kiskatom Brook Tributary PIN 1762.04 on motion of Councilman Giordiano second by Councilman Vosburgh. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes

Resolution # 100-103/2023 authorizing the Supervisor sign the quotes from Webjogger for replacement of the server with funds being used from ARPA monies, cloud security, monthly managed expense, and replacement of five (5) desktop PCs with monitors and stands with the purchase of those units with funds being used from the current budget on motion of Councilman Giordiano second by Councilman McCulloch. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes

Resolution # 104-2023 effective January 1, 2024 increasing the stipend for members of the Planning and Zoning Boards for meetings, site visits and training as follows: \$100 for each Chair and \$75 for each Member on motion of Councilman Giordiano second by Councilwoman Scannapieco. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes

*Ms. Bulich reentered the meeting and reviewed the changes made to the tentative budget. Supervisor Finch would like to stay under the tax cap and asked if there was any further comment. The tax levy limit is \$50,000 under. Resolution # 105-2023 on motion of Councilman Giordiano second by Councilman McCulloch adopting the 2024 Tentative Budget as the 2024 Preliminary Budget and scheduling a public hearing on said budget for Tuesday, November 7, 2023 at 6:30 pm at Town Hall. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes*

*All thanked Ms. Bulich for her work on the budget. With no further comment a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman McCulloch second by Councilwoman Scannapieco. Meeting ended 9:22 pm*

*Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth Izzo, Town Clerk*

