

Catskill Town Board Committee Meeting  
Catskill Town Hall  
December 18, 2013 6:30 pm

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

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

### **CONTINUED BUSINESS:**

Mike Budris of Delaware Engineering gave a brief update on the Leeds Sewer Project. He stated there have been two artifacts discovered; one at Wildwing Park and the other at Austin Acres. He doesn't believe these will present a significant difficulty.

He stated the survey and field has been completed. They are being combined with the aerial survey and we should have a report the first of the year. He is still working on prices for the soil borings as they are trying to be as economical as possible. He will have more information about the archeological and survey at the next meeting. The next step after that will be to work on the sewer lines.

### **PRESENTATION:**

Paul Brown of Evo-World gave a presentation on biomass boilers. The technology has been around in Europe for the last 25 to 30 years. It is now in the U.S being produced in Troy, NY. The boilers use wood chips or pellets as a renewable sustainable energy. They are self sufficient boilers which are extremely sufficient. They decrease heating costs by 60%. He understands the Town is not looking into boilers now but at some point we will. He stated roughly, for a 2500 foot house, the cost is between \$500 and \$600 a year to heat. Currently, Athens Elementary has a pellet boiler.

### **RESOLUTIONS:**

139-2013 Motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Walsh to encumber monies from the B-Fund in the amount of \$3.500. Adopted: 4 Yes

140-2013 Motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Carlson to schedule the Organizational meeting for January 7, 2014 at 6:00 pm. Adopted: 4 Yes

- 141-2013 Motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Walsh to Reappoint Margie Garafalo to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term beginning January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2018. Adopted: 4 Yes
- 142-2013 Motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Carlson to reappoint Harry Sacco to the Planning Board for a term beginning January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2019. Adopted: 4 Yes

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Supervisor Leggio stated there is a proposal to replace the cameras at the Senior Center. Councilman Carlson asked what was wrong with the ones we have now. Supervisor Leggio stated he does not know. Councilman Antonelli stated the cameras we have are the first ones we ever installed. We will need to change them eventually and we will need to have night vision as if there is a problem the picture can't be viewed at night. Supervisor Leggio stated this will be discussed at the next meeting.

Supervisor Leggio stated we have a job description for the ALS Coordinator that George put together. He asked us after our review to approve it. There will be a stipend to perform the function/duty of ALS Coordinator. This is a requirement of the State and we now have the job description to go ahead with it. *Motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Walsh to accept the job description for the ALS Coordinator and the Side Letter for Agreement with UPSEU. Adopted: 4 Yes*

Supervisor Leggio mentioned the cameras for the fuel pumps at the Highway Garage. A quote has been received to install cameras on the pole next to the pump. The Highway Department would also like to have a camera in front of their building to monitor the gates and one in the shop where the equipment is kept.

Councilman Antonelli stated a lot more people will be going out there as the County can go and get gas. This is a second reason to have the cameras. Councilman Carlson feels it is a double edge sword. He stated there are reasons to put the cameras there and reasons not to. He stated it is a big amount of money for a system we may not need.

Supervisor Leggio stated it is not about spending money but in the last three years we have half of our fuel unaccounted for. Granted it could be sloppy bookkeeping etc. but...Councilman Carlson stated the system we put in will keep track of where our fuel is going. Supervisor Leggio stated we will try this system for six months and see how it is going and readdress. Councilman Carlson accepted that as did Councilman Antonelli and Walsh.

Supervisor Leggio stated there is a memo from John Cashin that the doublewide on West Main Street was removed. A memo to Code will be sent to make sure it was dismantled.

He received a memo from Code regarding Church St, Eddie Wilkins property. They received only one quote. Councilman Antonelli stated we need another. He stated to have another bid or wait to the weather clears.

Supervisor Leggio stated the property on Landon Avenue has been cleaned up.

Supervisor Leggio stated the Code Enforcement Office requested to have the Town pay for the membership to NYSBOC. *Motion by Councilman Walsh second by Councilman Carlson to pay \$140 annual membership to NYSBOC for the four Code Enforcement Officers. Adopted: Vote 4 Yes*

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Larry Federman stated he heard rumors that the people who own the apartment building attached to the Senior Center wish to purchase the Center. Supervisor Leggio stated there is no truth to this rumor and he is unsure who started it. The Town Board didn't. He stated we are not closing the Senior Center. He stated there is a committee being formed which will have a member by each senior group, the Town Board, Village Board, the Community Center and three people from the general public to look at a better way to provide services to the Senior Center and Community Center.

He stated the Senior Center Director made a recommendation to the Town Board to change the hours to 9 am to 3 pm as no one uses the building from 8 am to 4 pm. People usually come in from 10 am to 2 pm so upon her recommendation the hours will change from 9 am to 3 pm.

Councilman Antonelli stated it is not for sale. There has never been any discussion by the Town Board to sell. We, Joe Leggio, Joe Izzo, and I worked our butts off to get the Center. There is less tax money coming in and the cost is \$250,000 for the Senior Center and the Community Center to operate. The payroll is \$80,000 for two people at the Senior Center. The rumors keep coming out of there are not true. They are trying to paint our board as enemies of the seniors. The seniors never should have been involved with what happened up there between the board and the employees.

Mr. Federman asked about hydro racking waste water. He stated it is a no brainer. It is a health issue. The State will not help us. They have trucks that can spread waste brine. DEC is not going to help us. They are not concerned about our wells. Even if we say we are not going to use it on Town roads, the State can use it on State roads. Westchester County banned it on

all roads. He would like the County to ban it. He would like a time frame or a commitment to move forward. Companies are making it available in solid form. The State of PA banned use of the product.

Supervisor Leggio stated he doesn't disagree with what you are saying. We all have wells. Councilman Carlson stated this was brought to our attention two to three months ago and we are being rushed at. He looked at the websites, which were environmentally pro, and agrees on the hazardous material. He doesn't want to enact legislation that does not have any backbone. He asked what there end game is. To force the county hand with a majority of towns on board which would in turn force the state by counties jumping on board?

Mr. Federman stated the end game is for the State to outlaw the practice. It was presented to the county who said they were going to wait to see what the state does. We are presenting to other towns to get that progression to go to the county so it will pass at their level.

Supervisor Leggio stated if we are going to do a law it needs teeth. It will be addressed at the first of the year when Michael returns from vacation. Mr. Federman stated the sample law from Westchester County has teeth. Councilman Carlson stated before we get there we need to have consensus of the board.

Supervisor Leggio stated the Highway Department has seasonal employees for snowplowing and a resolution is needed. *Motion by Councilman Carlson second by Councilman Antonelli to have the Highway Superintendent hire part-time seasonal employees for snow plowing at a rate of pay of \$25 per hour. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes*

Supervisor Leggio stated the Highway Superintendent hired Justin Menealos and we need a resolution. *Motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Walsh to hire Justin Menealos as a temporary full-time position for the interim absence of Keith Ruckh, with no hospitalization or other benefits at a rate of pay \$16.95. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes*

Supervisor Leggio stated we need a resolution to enter into a contract with Webjogger for IT services. *Motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Walsh to authorize the Supervisor sign the proposal with Webjogger for IT services for the Town of Catskill at a rate of \$1,925 per month. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes*

Supervisor Leggio stated we need a resolution for the Senior Citizen & Disabled Tax Exemption. The County is recommending the tax exemption stay the same as last year. *Motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Walsh that the maximum income limit be set at \$22,500 with full sliding scale for the year 2014. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes*

Supervisor Leggio stated we need to schedule a public hearing for an unsafe building upon recommendation of the Code Enforcement Office. *Motion by Councilman Walsh second by Councilman Carlson to set a public hearing for an unsafe building for property owned by Thomas Powers, 514 Cauterskill Rd., Catskill, NY for 6:00 pm on January 15<sup>th</sup> at Town Hall. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes*

Supervisor Leggio stated we need to schedule a public hearing for an unsafe building upon recommendation of the Code Enforcement Office. *Motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Walsh to set a public hearing for an unsafe building for property owned by Catskill Resort Properties LLC located at 3462 Route 23A, Catskill, NY for 6:15 pm on January 15<sup>th</sup> at Town Hall. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes*

Supervisor Leggio asked for a motion to enter into executive session to discuss personal issues. Motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Walsh. Executive session started 8:10 pm.

With no further business a motion to exit executive session and end the meeting was made by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Walsh. Meeting ended 9 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Izzo  
Town Clerk