

TOWN BOARD MONTHLY MEETING

February 3, 2015

The Town Board of the Town of Catskill held their monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 3, 2015 at 6:30 pm at Town Hall. The meeting was opened with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance. The following members were present:

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

Also Attending: Michael Richardson, Human Resource
Michael Smith, Town Attorney

Supervisor Leggio asked for a motion to enter into executive session to discuss a personnel issue. Motion made by Councilman Giordiano second by Councilman Antonelli. Executive session began 6:32 pm.

Motion to exit executive session and continue the meeting was made by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Carlson. Regular meeting resumed 6:55 pm.

MINUTES:

Organizational Meeting	1/6/15	Motion: C. A Second: C. W Vote Adopted 5 Yes
Public Hearing #1-2015	1/6/15	Motion: C. A Second: C. C Vote Adopted 5 Yes
TB Monthly Meeting	1/6/15	Motion: C.A Second: C.G Vote Adopted 5 Yes
TB Committee Meeting	1/21/15	Motion: C. A Second: C. W Vote Adopted 5 Yes
Dept Head Meeting	1/30/15	Motion: C. A Second: C.C Vote Adopted 5 Yes

DEPARTMENT REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE:

Code Enforcement: Memo from Ed Ferratto asking to have a public hearing set for an unsafe structure located at 25 S. Jefferson.

Code Enforcement Office Monthly Report.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Sponsor Packet for Cat'n Around Catskill 2015

Dept of Army Permit Application by Scenic Hudson Land Trust to discharge 3 cubic yards of stone fill into a max 100 square feet wetland to facilitate the upgrade of an existing kiosk in the TOC.

Memo from Greene County Administrator regarding a resolution No. 61-10 authorizing the County to Assist Towns and Villages located in Greene County to minimize costs incurred under local unsafe buildings law authorizing demolition. Before the demolition of a building the town needs to file a copy of the notice to repair and consult with the administrator prior to incurring costs of demolition.

NYS Dept of Public Service asking the towns assistance in informing energy consumers of an energy modernization initiative which will transform the way electricity is distributed and used in NYS.

NYSDEC lead agency coordination for CSX Transportation; any interest on the town wishing to assume lead agency for the Catskill to Coxsackie Second Mainline Track Project.

Copy of letter sent to Kathleen Burgess, Secretary to the Public Service Commission of State of New York, from Whitman Osterman & Hanna for the application of NY Transmission owners pursuant to article VII for authority to construct and operate electric transmission facilities in multiple counties in NYS.

Copy of letter sent to Kathleen Burgess, Secretary to the Commission, Public Service, from North America Transmission regarding the application for a certificate of environmental capability for an alternating current transmission upgrade project New Scotland to Leeds to Pleasant Valley.

Copy of letter from Next Era Energy to TOC regarding their application for a certificate of environmental compatibility and public need pursuant to article VII of the Public Service Law for the Marcy to Pleasant Valley Project.

Copy of letter from Central Hudson to Kathleen Burgess, regarding their application of NY transmission owners pursuant to article VII for authority to construct and operate electric transmission facilities in multiple counties in NYS.

Copy of letter from DLA Piper to Kathleen Burgess regarding application from NextEra Technology Transmission New York Inc for a certificate of environmental compatibility and public need pursuant to article VII of the PSL for the Marcy/Edic to Pleasant Valley Project.

Letter from Central Hudson regarding emergency contact list for One-Call system prior to any excavation and related activities on public and private property known in the Hudson Valley as the Dig Safely program.

Letter from NYMIR regarding creating a safety committee for our facilities.

COUNTY RESOLUTIONS:

Res 24-15 Approving Reimbursement to Comm Colleges
(Catskill's share \$39.94)

Res 26-15 Authorizing obtaining and furnishing of election related materials
and services.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

Alan Tavenner of Delaware Engineering for the Leeds/JH Sewer District gave a progress report to the board. He spoke of issues with rights of way, a meeting scheduled with Central Hudson regarding a gas line to Leeds, fifteen easements have been submitted, the town attorney has a draft of the pump station easements, the sewer use law is being worked on and the grinder pumps if bought through the project, which would become part of the district, would cost \$150,000. He stated he will be at the board's next meeting with a list of people who we will need to get in touch with regarding the easement paperwork.

Rene VanSchaack of the IDA stated they are still looking at two areas in the TOC, one being the cement plants and the other the Route 23B corridor for possible projects. Money has been budgeted. He stated Holcim has been sold to Peckham and the plant has been demolished. He has been meeting with Peckham and there is some interest of a water dependent land base. He stated the rail structure is the most significant in the county at that site. He stated the rail is critical as companies look for rail accessibility.

The Route 23B corridor, as the TOC has been working on establishing a sewer line, we will be here to try to establish economic development there. He would like to see a hospitality or high end retail in that area. A traffic study will be done but we will need to stay away from major traffic improvements. The second piece will be a marketing strategy with the county economic development to see what sectors are looking for what. Ownership issues will also need to be

addressed as some people have unrealistic expectations of their property's value. Zoning issues may need to be addressed.

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS

The rental agreement with the County for use of the Senior Center states exclusive use of the kitchen. There have been no prior issues when this hasn't been in the contract. It is a stumbling block on the county's end. Councilman Antonelli stated to convey to the County Attorney that the board does not want exclusive use of the kitchen in the contract. Councilman Walsh agreed.

Supervisor Leggio asked John Cashin, Code Enforcement Officer, to give his presentation. Mr. Cashin stated there are four items the code office is looking into. The first would be to enact a local law to collect fines imposed by the court. Once the fine is enacted, you need to pay the fine within 30 days. If it is not paid within 30 days, it doubles and is relieved. The second item would be to pass a resolution to adjust the fee schedule; raise the permit fee for a deck to \$50, lower a site plan fee to \$100, and to have a fee for building without a permit to be double the amount of the permit with a cap to be determined by the board. The fourth would be to enact a local law about grass cutting, brush and weeds with a more simple notification process to contact the property owner.

Councilman Antonelli stated we are not in the business of maintaining private property. Michael Smith stated the basis is the Village Law. Supervisor Leggio stated the first step is an order to remedy notice. They have eight days to answer and then 30 days to clean up. If they get a building permit then the violation is canceled and the permit is valued for one year. The issue is we want the stuff cleaned up and the process isn't speeding it up. If we do anything we want to make sure it works.

Mr. Smith stated the proposition is separate and apart by being more aggressive with the implementation of the junk law. Joe is looking at a fast, efficient method to either get the homeowner to clean up or the Town that will not take 120 days. We need to look at the junk law and see how it is written that allows a delay and what we can do to reduce the time from the first notice and then have an effective remedy.

Supervisor Leggio stated the board will review and will discuss at a Department Head meeting on February 13th at 8:30 am.

Supervisor Leggio then stated we need a resolution to enter into a professional service agreement with Laberge Group relative to the referendum to a public vote for changing the highway superintendent from elected to appointed. *Resolution #13-2015 with motion by Councilman*

Antonelli second by Councilman Walsh authorizing the supervisor sign the professional service agreement with Laberge Group. Adopted 4 Yes 1 Absent (Carlson)

Supervisor Leggio stated we need a resolution for the temporary working foreman position. Two candidates applied those being Ronald Hotaling and Richard Ballard. *Resolution #14-2015 with motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Giordiano appointing Ronald "Apple" Hotaling to position of Working Foreman effective immediately. Adopted 4 Yes 1 Absent (Carlson)*

Supervisor Leggio asked if there was any public comment. He asked if the board had any comments. With no further business a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Walsh and Giordiano. Meeting ended 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Izzo
Town Clerk