

TOWN BOARD MONTHLY MEETING

March 3, 2015

The Town Board of the Town of Catskill held their monthly board meeting on Tuesday, March 3, 2015 at Catskill Town Hall at 6:30 pm. 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

Absent: Jared Giordiano, Councilman

Also Attending: Michael Smith, Town Attorney; John Cashin, COE

MINUTES TO BE ACCEPTED:

02/03/2015	Town Board Monthly Meeting	Motion: Antonelli	Second: Walsh
02/18/2015	Town Board Committee Meeting	Motion: Antonelli	Second: Carlson

DEPARTMENT REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE:

Code Enforcement Monthly Report

Memo from Ed Ferratto asking to schedule a Public Hearing for an unsafe structure on property at 25 S. Jefferson Ave.

Request from John Cashin for Fred Popp to attend the Hudson Valley Educational Conference April 22-24 for this continuing education credits. Cost is \$300

CORRESPONDENCE:

Grant survey from Laberge Group

Copy of letter from National Grid to Secretary of State Kathleen Burgess regarding application for electric transmission facilities

Copy of letter from North America Transmission Corp for same as above

Letter from Dept of Public Service for public hearing on joint rate proposal from Central Hudson

Dog Control Inspection Report from NYS Ag & Market for the Town.

Letter from CGHS regarding devising a county licensing system which they would administer.

Monitoring report for Catskill Water District No. 1 from NYSDOH.

Letter from PFIC asking to schedule a time to discuss P3 development/financing program for the town.

Letter from AOT regarding a group called Reform NY Towns.

Letter from GE regarding clean ups of PCB's, six year dredging project completion 2015.

Flyer from GC Chamber regarding 2nd Annual Buy Local Business Expo May 7th

Copy of letter sent to Commissioner of Homeland Security from Assemblyman Lopez regarding flood recover project.

Letter from ISO including a public protection summary report for a fire suppression delivery system for the Leeds Fire Dept.

Email from Paul Post wishing to use the Ricky Cramer field for a Capital District Senior Men's Baseball league game the weekends of April 11/12 and April 18/19.

RESOLUTIONS

Res 16-2015 General A Fund Budget Transfers (\$14,249.79)
Motion: Antonelli Second: Walsh Adopted 4 Yes 1 Absent (Giordiano)

Res 17-2015 General Outside B-Fund Budget Transfers (\$6,906.12)
Motion: Antonelli Second: Carlson Adopted 4 Yes 1 Absent (Giordiano)

Res 18-2015 Highway DB-Fund Budget Transfers (\$20,149.00)
Motion: Antonelli Second: Walsh Adopted 4 Yes 1 Absent (Giordiano)

Res 19-2015 Highway DB-Fund Budget Amendments (\$56,159.20)
Motion: Antonelli Second: Carlson Adopted 4 Yes 1 Absent (Giordiano)

Res 20-2015 General A-Fund Budget Transfers (\$30,000.00)
Motion: Antonelli Second: Walsh Adopted 4 Yes 1 Absent (Giordiano)

Res 21-2015 Highway DB-Fund Budget Transfers (\$46,000.00)
Motion: Antonelli Second: Carlson Adopted 4 Yes 1 Absent (Giordiano)

Res 22-2015 Justice Court Exam
Motion: Antonelli Second: Walsh Adopted 4 Yes 1 Absent (Giordiano)

Res 23-2015 Schedule Public Hearing for Unsafe Building: Meadow Wood LLC
Motion: Antonelli Second: Carlson Adopted 4 Yes 1 Absent (Giordiano)

Kayla Sieburg read a letter from her mother who lives at Meadow Wood apartments stating there are various problems such as plumbing, construction, rat infestation, and no snow plowing of the

driveway. She stated she has a letter from the DOH stating the water is unsafe due to microbes. She has spoken with the Attorney General. The Code Enforcement Office has been notified. Supervisor Leggio stated he is not familiar enough with the process but seems we should be able to help more. He asked the Code Enforcement Officer, Mr. Cashin, what is to be done.

Mr. Cashin stated the process is to set a public hearing with the owner appearing before the board and conditions will be set. Councilman Carlson asked why we cannot condemn the building. Mr. Cashin stated there is not enough evidence to condemn the buildings but have done apartments at times.

Ms. Sieburg stated there are 7 to 15 apartments occupied at this time. She stated people are living there without the landlord knowing about it. There are five buildings in total. Mr. Cashin stated there are 36 apartments. Ms. Sieburg stated it is difficult getting in touch with the landlord. He will not answer a woman. Mr. Cashin stated he did not know about the boil water notice or the microbes in the water. The water is from a well. The landlord is in trouble with the DOH because no one is monitoring the system. The DOH states it is in their legal department.

Mr. Smith stated part of the notice calls for the landlord to give the COE permission to inspect the apartments. The real issue is the living conditions within the apartments. The repairs need to be started within 20 days but no later than 30 days. We need to get in touch with the landlord much sooner than that. Councilman Carlson stated the COE can be let into an apartment to view violations and to start with the ones making the complaints and suffering. Once the apartment is red flagged, the notice to the owner is he wouldn't be able to do anything until it is fixed. The water situation is enough to condemn. Rodent infestation, mold, no access for emergency vehicles; this problem is now brought to the community's attention so now we need to deal with it. The COE, he believes, is hesitant to condemn because people would have to relocate immediately. There needs to be a balance.

Supervisor Leggio stated the notice will be sent out tomorrow which will give him 20 days to begin the process of remediation and 30 days to complete. Councilman Antonelli mentioned the landlord not attending the public hearing and what would happen then. Councilman Carlson stated his recommendation is to red flag the properties. Supervisor Leggio stated to issue him an appearance ticket to appear in court and this way we don't have to wait the 30 days. Mr. Smith stated once the board passed the resolution, appearance tickets can be issued for all violations through the court in case he doesn't comply with Chapter 90. He has spoken with the property owner's attorney and he understands the seriousness of the matter and as a courtesy will send him a copy of the notice.

Supervisor Leggio stated a when a person rents an apartment the water should be drinkable, there should be no mold and the heat should work. Councilman Antonelli asked why we just can't go

up there, knock on the doors and check the apartments out. Mr. Cashin stated on February 22nd he posted notices stating if there is a problem with water or septic to call the office. Two people phoned and stated everything is ok. Councilman Walsh stated if there is a failed septic then DEC and DOH should be involved.

Mr. Cashin stated legally we go through the unsafe building process. There is a complaint to the COE. If there is a violation there is an order to remedy. Supervisor Leggio stated the process should be streamlined. Mr. Cashin stated if there is heat and water it is a stretch to condemn a building. The unsecured apartments can be posted. He will contact DEC tomorrow to check out the septic. He will also issue appearance tickets and the property owner will appear before us in 3 weeks.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

The Office of the State Comptroller has acknowledged receipt of our CAP.

He received a proposal from Marshall & Sterling for a rider to our insurance for cyber liability coverage. Our IT recommends this policy. *Resolution # 24-2015 with motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Walsh to have one million dollar liability coverage for cyber security in the amount of \$2,210 for the annual premium. Adopted 4 Yes 1 Absent (Giordiano)*

Supervisor Leggio mentioned the contract with GCEMS. The attorney will review and it will be discussed at the next meeting.

Supervisor Leggio stated the memo from Ed Ferratto to schedule a public hearing for an unsafe structure at 25 S. Jefferson should go through the courts.

Supervisor Leggio asked for a motion to allow Fred Popp attend a conference for his continuing education for his code certification. *Resolution # 25-2015 with motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Walsh authorizing Fred Popp attends the Hudson Valley CEO Educational Conference April 22-24 in the amount of \$300 for the registration fee. Adopted 3 Yes 1 No (Carlson) 1 Absent (Giordiano)*

Supervisor Leggio mentioned an email from Paul Post as he wishes to utilize the Ricky Cramer Field for 2 games in April. He is with the Capital District Men's Softball League. Councilman Antonelli stated we will need proof of insurance and a signed contract.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Pilatich of Misbehavin' Fireworks approached the board regarding a fireworks law. We have 90 days to enact. With this law he would be able to sell to the public. Councilman Walsh stated the local law he presented doesn't say anything about a town enacting a law but a county. Supervisor Leggio asked the Town Attorney to review.

Mr. Smith stated he received an email from Ben Syden about the election and the contract with Laberge Group. Supervisor Leggio stated it will be addressed at the next meeting. Mr. Smith recommends he and Councilman Antonelli work on this as they have already approached the BOE. It will be a special election without absentee ballots. There will be four polling places.

With no further comment a motion to end the meeting was made by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Walsh. Meeting ended 7:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Izzo
Town Clerk