

CATSKILL TOWN BOARD MEETING – May 2, 2017

The Town Board of the Town of Catskill held their monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 2, 2017 at 6:30 pm at Town Hall. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. The following members were present:

Doreen Davis, Supervisor
Robert Antonelli, Councilman
Jared Giordiano, Councilman
Patrick McCulloch, Councilman
Paul Vosburgh, Councilman

MINUTES:

April 4, 2017 Public Hearing Local Law 3-2017 Mass Gatherings
April 4, 2017 Town Board Monthly Meeting
April 6, 2017 Department Head Meeting
April 17, 2017 Town Board Committee Meeting

Motion by Councilman Vosburgh, seconded by Councilman McCulloch to accept the minutes of the above meetings, carried.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution # 47-17 Accept Certiorari Settlement: Davis Strohli
Motion by Councilman McCulloch, seconded by Councilman Vosburgh. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (Giordiano)

Councilman Giordiano entered the meeting 6:37 pm.

Resolution # 48-17 Waive Site Plan Fee & Building Permit Fee – Kiskatom Fire Department
Motion by Councilman Vosburgh, seconded by Councilman McCulloch. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes

Resolution # 49-17 Schedule Clean-Up Day June 24, 2017
Motion by Councilman McCulloch, seconded by Councilman Giordiano. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes

Councilman Vosburgh stated the County will be holding a hazardous waste day sometime in June.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letter from Shawn Groden, County Administrator, regarding County-wide shared services property tax savings plan. *Supervisor Davis stated this involves each County Executive to create a panel consisting of Town Supervisors and Village Mayors as required under the Governor's 2017-18 budget. The first meeting is May 12th.*

Invitation from GC Veterans Service for their Honor a Vet Memorial Ceremony for Saturday, May 20th at 10 am on the GC Courthouse Steps. *The Senior Center is the back-up site in case of rain.*

Letter from IDA adopting the Findings Statement for the CAT21 Project.

Letter from AOT regarding the Countywide Shared Services Plan and a free live seminar on its legislation.

Letter from Tal Rappleyea, attorney for the Town of Cairo, regarding their proposed zoning law and map change.

Copy of Local Law from Town of Saugerties amending their zoning.

Letter from LAM Properties looking for suitable solar properties and the Town of Catskill cemetery meets their criteria. Included a non-binding term sheet is the town is interested. *All were in agreement the town is not interested.*

Letter from the Chairman of the Memorial Day Parade asking the Town Board participate. Parade is scheduled for Monday, May 29th at 4 pm.

Letter from NYSDEC acting as Lead Agency Coordinator for the Hudson Valley Materials Management & Reclamation Project to see if the Town wishes to act as Lead Agent. *Supervisor Davis stated there are two companies who are looking at this proposal. The project has reached the level to present to the town board. Mark Schwartz and his team are present tonight to discuss this project.*

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Schwartz thanked the board in being able to present the feasibility of the project tonight and its initial development exercises associated with it. They have satisfied all the prerequisites in their analysis and are now ready to present to the town and move forward. They currently have three ash recovery and disposal centers along with Hudson.

Mr. Schwartz then gave a brief review of the history of Wheelabrator (the company) and what they do. He also reviewed the three facilities in New York and they are looking for another site as the site in Westchester has reached its capacity.

The plans align with DEC and EPA hierarchy. He reviewed the recovery and disposal concept. He reviewed why he is looking at Greene County for the site which consist of accessibility and a synergistic relationship with Peckham. The site is buffered and there is minimal impact to the surrounding neighbors. The truck traffic will be lower than historical records. The quarry provides alternative reclamation. The municipality would realize benefits instead of an out-of-state area. The view shed would be preserved and the quarry is hidden behind a ridgeline.

There have been five thousand hours of geological investigation at the site and two years of initial development work to evaluate the site. They engaged a DEC geologist to quantify the conclusions.

A letter has been received by the town from DEC regarding lead agency status on the project. They see value in the project. There is an initial application in with DEC and we will work with them through the SEQRA process.

This is not a municipal solid waste facility. It is a non-hazardous substance with no odors or vectors. At the end of the project, they make a useful contribution on the land such as a wildlife sanctuary.

This is the initial presentation. There is a long process ahead. There is scoping with the DEC, informational meetings and we are looking forward to the process.

Mr. VanSchaack stated the work has been done on the science and background. The IDA is on the fence as it is not a project they have sponsored and have no right with private property options. He suggests the town reply to DEC regarding lead agency status and ask for public scoping as there will likely be questions. He stated there is very few ways to make money out of a hole in the ground. This is non-hazardous. There will be ample opportunity for public input.

Supervisor Davis stated this is the beginning of a long trail. When we were all elected, we decided to investigate any economic opportunities. This is between two private companies within our community. The area was a huge loss to our tax base. None of this moves forward without the science behind it. She thanked Rene for his advice.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

Delaware Engineering Sewer Update. Mr. Smigel was present and gave a brief review. The main line crew is finished on Brooks Lane. They are now in Leeds at the Carl property. The second crew is finalizing the side streets off of Brooks Lane. Paving is anticipated next week for Brooks Lane and Country Club Estates.

Restoration process – Mr. Smigel is not pleased with the contractor up to this point. Now they are at a point where everything is in writing. If it is not done, money will be withheld. Weather has been a factor also but the materials are here. Supervisor Davis stated if there is not appropriate performance within two weeks, we will have another conversation and withhold money.

Lateral connections – Mr. Smigel stated the CEO has commented and edited. The changes will be made.

RFP/Maintenance – Supervisor Davis stated an email was received for the board to review and she would like comments by Thursday. Mr. Smigel stated the board has a draft agreement for maintenance and the agreement will draft the RFP for public bid.

Existing Users – Mr. Smigel stated part of the sewer main to the Medical Arts Building funding was for the old hospital and some users connected since then. They were added to the existing main. A call was received from a homeowner who has a grinder pump connected into the system. It was a private cost to connect. The questions posed was if they were to receive a new grinder pump. Supervisor Davis stated they are legally included in the district and legally bound to pay the debt service. She asked DE to do a work up as it would involve easements.

Mr. Smigel stated there are nine hooked in. Some of them are commercial properties and we need not do anything but some are private homeowners and we do. They were once in the village system and now will be in the town and will incur the debt service.

Councilman Giordiano stated it makes sense to replace the grinder pumps since it is a new system. Supervisor Davis stated Travis will review the nine to see if more easements are needed.

Mr. Smigel stated a FAQ will be sent to Liz for mailings and posting.

Supervisor Davis thanked all for their patience and reiterated we understand your concerns.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Maria Rothrock approached the board regarding her road and its lack of attention. She lives on Hickory

Hollow Rd. She stated the cul-de-sac has no culverts and when it rains it washes the road down. She stated there are two places that are down to pure dirt. She has spoken with the Town Highway Superintendent, present and past, and has been told there is no money in the budget to repair the road.

Her second issue is the dead or living trees which are blocking the power lines. She was told something was in the works to trim or take down. Supervisor Davis stated the crew took down four huge pine trees last week. Ms. Rothrock is speaking of the trees from Penn Ave to the first entrance of Hickory Hollow. She was told by Central Hudson they are not their concern.

Supervisor Davis stated she will get an update from Mr. Beers on Thursday.

Theresa Golden approached the board regarding trash on the sides of the roads and if there was a mechanism in place to have it cleaned up. After discussion, it will be investigated to see if a day can be scheduled with volunteers.

There was a question about high speed internet and the lack of it in certain parts of the town. Supervisor Davis stated there is money in the state with an 80/20 match but this is for private companies to do. The challenge in Catskill is there is a sole provider. She believes there will be a citizen panel as only with citizen pressure will Mid-Hudson make a change.

With no further comment, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Giordiano seconded by Councilman Vosburgh. Meeting ended 8:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Izzo
Town Clerk