

Catskill Town Board Monthly Meeting
Catskill Town Hall
June 4, 2024

PRESENT: Patrick McCulloch, Supervisor
Jared Giordiano, Councilman
Steven Espel, Councilman
Brian Kozloski, Councilman

Absent: Dawn Scannapieco, Councilwoman

Supervisor McCulloch opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed all in attendance.

MINUTES:

May 7, 2024 Monthly Meeting
May 17, 2024 Committee Meeting
May 19, 2024 Emergency Meeting

Motion: Councilman Giordiano Second: Councilman Espel; carried.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 62-2024 entering into a Professional Service Agreement with Delaware Engineering for the Hamlet of Cementon I & I Study. Motion: Councilman Giordiano, second Councilman Kozloski. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (Scannapieco)

Resolution 63-2024 authorizing the Town Supervisor execute the Planning Grant Agreement No. 131619 with the NYSEFC and Authorization and Appropriation of Local Match. Motion: Councilman Giordiano, second Councilman Kozloski. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (Scannapieco)

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letter from Gary Wiltbank protesting the validity of a Zoning Board public hearing and wishing his letter to be part of the record.

Greene County Resolutions awarding Fuel Oil Bid; Distribution of Mortgage Tax (Catskill's share \$77,336.73), Awarding Bid to purchase materials Highway Department; Awarding Bid for Washed & Screened Crushed Stone.

Email from Chris Camacho, Tectonic Engineering Consultants and Geologists regarding their environmental review of a property off the NYS Thruway Exit 21 for construction of a proposed monopole tower.

Email from Laura Romanowski, US EPA, regarding public meeting in July about American Thermostat Superfund site.

Email from Laurie Schmidt regarding code enforcement complaint on property located at 1349 Route 23B, Leeds.

DCO May report.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

ARPA Funds for Youth and Seniors -Greene County offer \$25,000 for capital improvements. *Supervisor McCulloch stated we mentioned the scoreboard at the last meeting. Ricky Cramer is the only park we have. Councilman Espel*

is collaborating with Assemblyman Teague for a pocket park in Palenville. Councilman Giordiano has quotes for the scoreboard. We will reach out to other not-for-profits for the expense of the lighting.

Uniform Policy – Ambulance. Supervisor McCulloch asked all if they had a chance to review. Resolution # 64-2024 on motion of Councilman Espel second Councilman Giordiano approving the Uniform, Dress Code and Personal Appearance Policy for the Ambulance Department. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (Scannapieco)

MOA Shift Supervisor between Town of Catskill and UPSEU. Supervisor McCulloch asked if everyone had a chance to review. Resolution # 65-2024 on motion of Councilman Espel second Councilman Kozloski authorizing the Ambulance Administrator sign the Memorandum of Agreement for Shift Supervisor at the Ambulance Department. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (Scannapieco)

NEW BUSINESS:

Cemetery Seasonal Hire. Discussed. Resolution # 66-2024 on motion of Councilman Giordiano second Councilman Espel to hire Justin Gallo as PT Seasonal help for the Cemetery. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (Scannapieco)

Friends of Senior Center – pending registration. Councilman Giordiano stated the Senior Center started a nonprofit but the paperwork has not been completed. We no longer have a town employee who would sit on that board. Do we continue with the registration? Supervisor McCulloch will contact Kirsten and we will discuss it at the next meeting.

Amendment to the employee handbook to update the Rights of Nursing Mothers to Express Breast Milk. Discussed, new law. Resolution # 67-2024 on motion of Councilman Giordiano second Councilman Kozloski amending employee handbook for the Town of Catskill regarding Rights of Nursing Mothers. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (Scannapieco)

Northeast Glass Tinting quote to tint the windows in the Assessor, Code and Finance Office. To help with energy costs. Resolution # 68-2024 on motion of Councilman Giordiano second Councilman Espel to tint the windows at Town Hall on the second floor by Northeast Glass Tinting in the amount of \$1,008.00. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (Scannapieco)

Doyle Security fire system upgrade quote. Supervisor McCulloch stated the system at Town Hall is 20 years old. The smoke detectors and alarm monitoring need to be updated. Resolution # 69-2024 on motion of Councilman Giordiano second Councilman Kozloski to accept the proposal from Doyle Security for the fire system upgrades in the amount of \$9,869.86. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (Scannapieco)

Lindsey Williams regarding continuous issues with a Short-Term Rental, Hamburg Road. Ms. Williams approached the board to discuss if she has any recourse with issues, she and her neighbors are having with a STR on Hamburg Rd. There are two properties, one in Catskill and the other in Athens that are large scale venues and every summer they have people trespassing on their property, their private dirt road is used as access and just recently a 70-passenger coach bus traversed the road and caused damage. The road is not equipped for such large-scale vehicles. Other complaints are trash being thrown on their property, drunk people trespassing on property and entering homes. Every summer it gets worse. The owner is Owen Lipstein and he has an event company people go through. She has not been able to rectify any issues with either Mr. Lipstein or the event company.

She has contacted the police regarding noise but she feels this has become an issue of safety concerns for her and the neighbors. She is at her wits end as it keeps getting worse and wonders how such a large-scale venue can operate.

Councilman Giordiano stated the noise issue is a code enforcement issue but the police can write appearance tickets. Councilman Kozloski stated to contact an attorney regarding the road easement and any damages done to your property. Supervisor McCulloch stated he will speak to the Code Officer tomorrow.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Bessie and Roger Vincent approached the board about 956 Route 23A and building code violations. Diane Bitterman stated the place has been condemned. There are sewage issues, mold issues and water diversion onto Mr. and Mrs. Vincent's property. The house is full of garbage and neighbors are now having an issue with rats.

Supervisor McCulloch stated the grey water issue should be managed by DEC and he will speak to Matt about the other issues brought tonight. The town can take action to have the homeowner begin the process of cleaning up the property.

David Vipler approached the board and gave an update on his project to dig a well so he can proceed with his project and not have to wait for the water line extension. The DOH has been contacted and it is a small-scale project so it is non-jurisdictional for the DOH. He will be contacting the Code Department for a permit to drill the well and proceed from there.

Supervisor McCulloch asked if there was further public comment. Mr. Izzo stated in the building code complaint, public health can function as a health officer under county law and they can inspect the property and declare it a health hazard and have the property removed. The Town Board can also send a letter to DEC and make a complaint. He also stated the road used for egress to the short-term rental was only to be used for emergency vehicle access and the main road off Route 385 was for entry and exit to the properties.

Patty Fitzgerald stated the central Hudson lights are still an issue and she will email more information. Supervisor McCulloch stated the whole corridor of 23B is being redone but he does not have a timeline.

He asked if there was any further comment. With none being heard Councilman Giordiano made a motion to end the meeting seconded by Councilman Espel. The meeting ended at 8:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Izzo
Town Clerk