

Catskill Town Board Monthly Meeting
Catskill Town Hall
July 2, 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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Councilman Antonelli seconded by Councilman Walsh to approve the June 4th Town Board Monthly Meeting, carried.

Motion by Councilman Antonelli seconded by Councilman Walsh to approve the June 7th Department Head Meeting, carried.

Motion by Councilman Antonelli seconded by Councilman Walsh to approve the June 10th Department Head Meeting, carried.

Motion by Councilman Antonelli seconded by Councilman Carlson to approve the June 12th Bid Opening: Ambulance Stretchers, carried.

Motion by Councilman Antonelli seconded by Councilman Walsh to approve the June 19th Town Committee Meeting, carried.

Motion by Councilman Antonelli seconded by Councilman Carlson to approve the June 28th Government Operations Meeting, carried.

RESOLUTIONS:

Motion by Councilman Antonelli seconded by Councilman Walsh to adopt the Grievance Procedures: Discussion: Supervisor Leggio stated part of the review for the grant program for the Community Center stated we needed this procedure to be in compliance. Vote: Adopted-4
Yes

CORRESPONDENCE:

Invite from Columbia Greene Humane Society Shelter Groundbreaking Ceremony July 16th at 10 am, 125 Humane Society Road, Hudson

Letter from Laberge Group regarding consolidated funding grant alert.

Letter from Laberge Group regarding hazard mitigation grant program.

Letter from Transmission Developers Inc. regarding Champlain Hudson Power Express Transmission Project

Letter from National Archives regretting to inform us we were not recommended for a grant.

Letter from members of the BAR asking the board to adopt RPT 467-d.

Letter from NYSDEC regarding Greene County's application for a permit on lower Water St.

Letter from Cornell University regarding the termination of their Cornell Local Roads Program asking the Town's support in helping to overturn their decision.

Letter from NYS Dept of Public Service regarding improving the State's energy infrastructure.

MONTHLY REPORTS:

Town of Catskill Code: Copies available at the Town Clerk's office.

NEW BUSINESS:

Hudson Talbott introduced Lorraine Warner who is the interim executor director of the Community Center as of April when their director left. She agreed to stay on through the Summer Recreation/Summer Fun program and the Center will be recruiting for a director this summer.

Ms. Warner gave a brief overview of the Summer Recreation program as it has just started two days prior. She stated there are 196 kids signed up and about 52 of them will also be participating in the Summer Fun. She was at the school yesterday and all is running smoothly. She asked the board if they had any specific questions for her. Supervisor Leggio asked if the attendance is above or below last years. Ms. Warner stated a little above. She stated the afternoon program is down as kids cannot participate after eighth grade. She stated they are

getting a lot of kids after summer school and so far everything is good. Councilman Antonelli asked her to come back in a month or so to give an update. Ms. Warner stated she would be happy to come back sometime in August.

Marguerite Sprague of Palenville approached the board regarding “day camping” and hanging out at the Kaaterskill Creek Bridge (Tannery Bridge). She presented a petition of people who reside on Kaaterskill Ave and Woodstock Ave who want their neighborhood to remain residential and who wish to have no parking on these roads. They are requesting more boulders be placed. She stated there has been some progress with the boulders placed now but wishes to continue the progress. She stated she and her neighbors oppose any access plans to the property. She stated there is illegal parking throughout the year and after residing there for 25 years, the problem has a new scale and dimension. She stated people who live there are fearful. She stated the creek bed has changed since Irene and it is not safe to jump off the bridge any longer. She stated the no parking message is getting out but stresses the need for follow through. She stated there are too many vehicles driving around trying to find parking, creating traffic. She stated the disturbances last long hours. There are drugs, liquor, garbage left behind. She stated the activity under the bridge is worse. There is graffiti on the new concrete.

Supervisor Leggio stated the Highway Department put boulders on the corner and it is obvious people are trying to park in between. He will look into having more boulders placed. He stated there are no parking signs all over the place and is unsure of the legal requirement but was told if the signs state tow at owner’s expense the Sheriff can then tow the car.

Councilman Carlson stated there are multiple issues. In regards to parking, if there is no parking you can tow the car even if not posted as if the tires of the car are on a public street, it can be towed. That is a law enforcement issue. The homeowner needs to call and the law agency would come out and tickets to tow. He stated the other issue is the people going there. All the other swimming holes are private and the attendance has increased the last four to five years. He stated if you grew up in the area, you were taught to respect the property. It was not transient then. The majority of the kids are coming from other communities. Unless they are breaking the law, they have as much a right to be there as anyone else. There is a mechanism to deal with problems in place.

Mike Sprague stated it has become a problem through social media. Councilman Carlson stated other communities are dealing with it by towing cars and putting up guard rails. Mr. Sprague has stated it has turned into a party place. Mr. Jacob stated since the boulders have been in place, two cars have parked on the bridge behind the barrier. Supervisor Leggio stated they can be towed. Mr. Jacob stated there is a fence on the embankment by the church and you can hear the tires squeal. Mr. Sprague stated he has been threatened by a local kid that he would burn down his house. Councilman Carlson stated to not confront but to call the State Police. Supervisor

Leggio stated if it is a violation of the law, call the police. Councilman Antonelli agreed with Gary to not approach the kids. Supervisor Leggio stated if one or two vehicles get towed the message will get out. He will ask the Highway Superintendent to see about placing more boulders. Councilman Carlson stated to meet with the Sheriff and the State Police to see if they can patrol more.

Rose Sledzenowski approached the board regarding Barie Lake on Cairo Junction Road. The lake and spillway are lower and believes it is damage by Irene. She states there is long term damage done by the Town as they increased the culvert. The lake needs a bigger outlet and feels it is the responsibility of the town.

Supervisor Leggio asked the culvert pipe have increased. Councilman Walsh asked how the lake was created. An audience member stated it is a manmade lake. Councilman Carlson asked if it is town owned property. Supervisor Leggio stated Cairo Junction Road is a County road. He stated he will call Gary Harvey in the morning.

An audience member stated there are four culverts that run into the lake. The County has tried to address it. It was stated you can't have culverts running into people's houses. There are culverts between Bethel Ridge and pond and our cellars are constantly flooding. The culvert was increased by Wilson's pond.

Supervisor Leggio stated we will look into it. We had no prior knowledge but we will get in touch with water and soil/conservation and also ask Superintendent Harvey and Mr. Beers to try to set up a meeting.

John Brust from Delaware Engineering was present to give an update on the sewer project. He stated the most recent work was looking at the County owned sewer line. The report back is that it has integrity and there is no I and I. The Town has received the first installment of the planning grant. The out of pocket expense is \$15,000 and the next step is \$150,000 which will be for the SEQR review as that will be needed for a BAN. We will need archaeology sign off so the series of steps is SEQR, bond coordination, survey, conceptual engineering (where line will go), archaeological work in the area, hardship application for EFC financing, sewer district formation, comptroller's review, securing easements and rights of way, consolidated funding process (grants), facility plan, SPEDES permit, hard design and CWSRF financing.

Mr. Brust stated they will hit all avenues for funding. All the agencies will want to know if the project is real; completed easements, agreement with Village, when we go for the CWSRF funding. We need to have our ducks in a row.

Supervisor Leggio stated the project can't happen fast enough but it has been talked about long enough. He probably won't be in office when the project starts. He stated the town has a comprehensive plan but the question is where do we want to see the community grow? There is no other option than to move forward because there is no growth without it.

Supervisor Leggio asked the work done up to now is useable. Mr. Brust stated yes. The income survey is very useable. He stated we made a lot of progress and the only complaint is when will it be coming and will I be on it. The more folks who hook up the lower the cost to all involved.

Councilman Antonelli stated we have no other choice but to proceed. There is a consent order in Leeds. He believes Jefferson Heights will need it also. He is for it as the potential for development is up there.

Councilman Antonelli wants to keep the public apprised as he believes it will be an easier project if we do. Mr. Brust stated there are tremendous amount of steps for public input and he will be here for the public.

Councilman Antonelli stated as a board member he would vote for it. Councilman Walsh stated to move forward. Supervisor Leggio stated he would like the attorney to review the contract and we can pass a resolution then. Supervisor Leggio stated this is the one project the Town and Village are working hand in hand without animosity.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A person in the audience stated she would like to see the hedge cut at the Senior Center as it obstructs the view when driving. She also is wondering if the town can place a mirror on the corner of the building so you can see oncoming cars. Supervisor Leggio stated it will be looked into.

With no further business a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Antonelli seconded by Councilman Carlson. Meeting ended 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Izzo
Town Clerk

