

Catskill Town Board Monthly Meeting
Washington Irving Senior Center
September 2, 2008 6:30 pm

Attendance:	Peter Markou,	Supervisor
	Robert Antonelli,	Councilman
	Lewis O'Connor,	Councilman
	Patrick Walsh,	Councilman
	Michael Smith,	Councilman
	Elizabeth Izzo,	Clerk

Supervisor Markou opened the meeting with a moment of silent prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. He then introduced Alan Tavenner of Delaware Engineering who was here to give a presentation regarding the Leeds Sewer Feasibility Study, along with his coworkers, Mary Beth Bianconni and Mike Budris.

Mr. Tavenner outlined the process that would ensue if the Town decided to go forth with the project.

1. Preliminary Service/Planning.
2. Project Finance.
3. Feasible Project Alternatives.
4. Public Review Alternatives.
5. Town Board selection of preferred project plan.
6. Treatment plant siting and project permitting.
7. Engineer design and regulating approval.
8. Sewer or improvement district formation.
9. Construction (2010).
10. Operations.

Mr. Tavenner stated that we are on step one. They are checking out how much of the area around Leeds could be serviced and how many would benefit and the cost of that. The next step, project financing, will be discussed later on, but, with small systems, when the cost is not spread over a dense population, it is expensive. In reviewing feasible alternatives, connecting to the Catskill Village system, there are issues that would not make it practical. We are starting to discuss the public review tonight. The Town Board would ultimately select the plan, area serviced, where treatment plant is sited. During the regulatory approval means the project is almost at fruition. The next step would be the formation of the district and then construction and operations.

One of the most important things to view is the population density and how many feet of pipe will need to be run from one house to the other. When you have a densely populated area, the cost of the collection system is paid off very quickly. When viewing the alternatives for Leeds, extending out to the thruway, it would be cost prohibitive, however when thinking of commercial sites, you may want the ability to extend to the thruway to make it advantageous for business. The topographic features play a part because there is

a lot of rock in the area that will need to be removed to install sewer pipes, as there are a lot of hills. Pump stations will be needed and these play a part in the overall cost of the project.

Mike Budris explained the cost estimation between two areas in Leeds. The main collection area is the bulk of downtown Leeds, Church St, Greene Lake Rd, and Park Lane. Alternative one or the East side collection area extends from the fire station to Rip Van Winkle motels.

The cost of the system, in 2010 dollars, since this is the earliest the system would be able to be built would be about \$3.6million. The annual operation and maintenance of the system would cost \$551/year/service. Taking into account both the operation and maintenance cost and the capital cost, if the Town fully funded the project, the cost per year per service would be \$1,982. With a fifty percent grant (\$1.8M), the cost per year per service would be \$1,019 and an eighty percent grant (\$2.8M) would be \$738 per year per service.

The Comptroller limit, which is the average sewer rate in NYS, is \$667/yr. These are in 2008 dollars. The reason why Leeds is higher is because it is a new system and also the smaller number of users increases the cost.

Alternative one, which includes the main section and the East side section, would be \$4.8 million. The annual operation and maintenance would be \$475 per year per service. If fully funded by the Town the cost would be \$2,020 per year. With a fifty percent grant (\$2.4M) the cost would be \$979 per year per service and with an eighty percent grant (\$3.8M) the cost would be \$677 per year per service.

Mary Beth Bianconni spoke regarding the cost of the system. She stated that it is a process which includes how much would it cost, how many people can be included, how many feet of pipe would be needed to get the people into the system, and then the system if formed and a rate it created. She stated the most important next step is to realize if this is even a realistic goal. The decision needs to be made by the Town Board. Mary Beth stated that even though this has been looked at in previous years, the cost is not going to decrease. She stated that Delaware Engineering needs to finish their report and the next step would be to look for funding.

Even though there are several places to look for funding, there is not one funding source to get millions of dollars for the project. The programs for funding are very competitive. For the Town to bond the entire project, it would cost those in the district a couple of thousand dollars a year. This is a great deal of money for anyone anywhere, so the idea is to offset the cost with funding from multiple sources.

Supervisor Markou opened the floor to questions. (answers are from all three representatives).

Q. Where will the filtration plant be sited and is it grey water or sewer system?

A. It would be a conventional sewer system and the location of the site is too early to determine.

Q. Has it been considered to tie Athens into the system?

A. It is too long a distance to tie in. The longer length of pipe needed, without users, it becomes more expensive.

Q. Are prices accurate? Is there overage covered in the price?

A. There are hefty numbers in the prices already. There is a 25-30% contingency in those numbers. We have taken into account the rock to be removed and the length of pipe needed in the feasibility study. If the Town Board decides to pursue the project, then a more in depth engineering study would be performed and with that, a more accurate price.

Q. Has a grey water system been looked at?

A. No, because it never really works. It is only cheaper because you are not running pipes, however, in my (Mr. Tavennar's) experience; there was so much leakage it doesn't work.

Q. Will the property owners be charged per gallon use?

A. That decision is made later on in the process. The costs supplied tonight are the capital costs, with a debt payment, and divided among the users. The sewer rate will be established by the Board. What the cost per user entails is the debt payment plus operations and maintenance of the plant to equal the total cost.

Q. Who is responsible for hooking into the system from the house?

A. Each homeowner would be responsible to connect to the sewer pipe from their home. The average cost to connect to the pipe is about \$2,000 +/- . However, it is too early in the process to discuss the actual cost to connect and if there is the possibility that the homeowner would be able to pay the connection over time.

Q. If you have a septic system and you are in the district, do you have to be part of the district?

A. That decision would be made by the Town Board, but in general yes.

For the Town Board, if they would like to proceed with the process of creating a district, there is a legal process to adhere to.

Q. Has there been any discussion about replacing the sidewalks too.

A. Not in this plan, but communities have looked into establishing sidewalks and light posts since they are already digging up their streets.

Q. Have you found that the elderly or those on social security have been adversely affected by having a district formed? Have they been able to afford staying in their homes?

A. We have not seen that affect on people with projects that we have worked on before. Here, there is a different situation, because there is no NYC funding, since Leeds is not in the watershed district, and there aren't a lot of users, so the cost per person is more expensive, so it is something to be looked at. The median household income in Catskill is about \$42,000 based on the 2000 census.

Q. Has there been any discussion with the County?

A. Supervisor Markou stated not yet, but they will be approached. DEC will not forget about this problem and the Town can be fined if the problem isn't rectified.

An audience member stated that DEC and DOH will not disappear and eventually Leeds may become a ghost town due to the fact that they may shut businesses down.

Supervisor Markou stated the ideal situation would be to have a multi-million dollar business come in and have the IDA tell them they would need to have a sewer plant built. Exit 21 off of the thruway has twelve million cars pass it each year.

Q. Has there been a preliminary study to see which parcels would make sense to have the treatment facility placed.

A. No, it is too early at this stage, however, it may be near the creek, at a low spot, but need to take into account flood zones, etc. It will be looked at in detail.

Supervisor Markou stated that the Town is at the early stage of the feasibility study, but the Town now, would need to start looking for financing. The expectation is that Delaware Engineering will help us find that money and we will be looking to our Senators and Congressman. There is always an ongoing issue of money. The Town also has another hamlet that has a sewer issue.

Alan Tavenner stated that they will look at the option of running a line to the Thruway to be able to encourage development along that corridor.

Supervisor Markou asked if those in the alternate area, the blue area (extending to Carl's cabins), would like to be part of the district. The answer was yes.

Supervisor Markou thanked Delaware Engineering for their presentation. The next update will be in roughly 90 to 180 days.

Supervisor Markou took a five minute break. Upon reconvening the meeting, he reviewed the minutes:

08/05/2008

Public Hearing #21-2008 Proposed Change in
Subdivision Regulations
Motion Councilman Antonelli
Second Councilman Walsh

Ayes 4, Nays 0, Absent 1 (O'Connor)

08/05/2008

Monthly Town Board Meeting
Motion Councilman Antonelli
Second Councilman O'Connor
Ayes 5 Nays 0 Absent 0

8/20/2008

Monthly Town Board Committee Meeting
Motion Councilman Antonelli
Second Councilman Walsh/Antonelli
Ayes 5, Nays 0, Absent 0

Supervisor Markou reviewed the following resolutions:

RESOLUTION # 103-2008

ENTER INTO MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT
FOR A/C & FURNACES IN TOWN BUILDING
WITH FAMILY DANZ HEATING & A/C,
ALBANY, NY

Councilman Robert Antonelli, offered the following for consideration and adoption,

WHEREAS, the Town of Catskill is interested in maintaining proper functioning of the heating and air-conditioning in the Town building (Senior Center), and

WHEREAS, the Town has received a maintenance proposal from Family Danz Heating and Air-conditioning, Albany, NY, and

WHEREAS, the proposal meets the requirements of the Board, so

THEREFORE, WE, the Catskill Town Board, agrees to enter into a one(1) year maintenance agreement with Family Danz company, for the total cost of \$ 1,395.00, with description of services included, attached.

Councilman Michael Smith, seconded this motion.

Ayes 5, Nays 0, Absent 0. Motion Carried

RESOLUTION #104-2008

AMEND NEW CEMETERY FEE SCHEDULE

Councilman Robert Antonelli, offered the following for consideration and adoption,

WHEREAS, there was an oversight in developing the new Cemetery fee schedule, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to produce an- up- to- date fee schedule, with no omissions, so

THEREFORE WE, the Catskill Town Board do hereby amend the new Cemetery fee schedule, as attached, to become effective immediately.

Councilman Lewis O'Connor, seconded this motion.

Ayes 5, Nays 0, Absent 0. Motion Carried

RESOLUTION # 105-2008

ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL FOR
SIDEWALK/PAVING FOR
AMBULANCE BUILDING

Councilman Lewis O'Connor, presented the following for consideration and adoption,

WHEREAS, the Catskill Town Board is in the process of completing the renovations at the Town of Catskill Ambulance Building on West Bridge St., and

WHEREAS, the Town sought three proposals for the sidewalk and paving and the following proposals were received:

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------|---------------|
| 1. | KZ Concrete Flatwork | \$7,200.00 |
| 2. | Easy Street Builders, Inc. | \$7,500.00 |
| 3. | DiCaprio Excavation | not submitted |

THEREFORE WE, the Catskill Town Board hereby accept KZ Concrete Flatwork for the sidewalk and paving of the Ambulance headquarters.

Councilmen Walsh and Smith, seconded this motion.

Ayes 5, Nays 0, Absent 0. Motion Carried

RESOLUTION # 106-2008

AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR
TO SIGN NYSCDBG GRANT
AGREEMENT

Councilman Robert Antonelli, presented the following for consideration and adoption,

WHEREAS, the Catskill Town Board has applied and been awarded a New York State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) in the amount of \$400,000, and

WHEREAS, this grant was submitted on behalf of the Catskill Community Center for rehabilitation of the facility, so

THEREFORE WE, the Catskill Town Board authorize the Supervisor to sign and submit the Grant Agreement to the Office of Community Renewal.

Councilman Michael Smith, seconded this motion.

Ayes 5, Nays 0. Absent 0. Motion Carried

RESOLUTION # 107-2008

2008 BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS
TRANSFERS

Councilman Robert Antonelli, presented the following for consideration and adoption,

WHEREAS, the following budget transfers for 2008 need to be made to the following accounts:

General A Fund

A1620.1 Town Maintenance-Personal Services	\$10,000.00
A7550.4 Celebrations	\$ 1,000.00
A8160.4 Landfill Contractual	<u>\$ 3,000.00</u>
Total Transfer to	\$14,000.00

THEREFORE WE, the Catskill Town Board hereby approve the following transfers from the below accounts:

General A Fund

A1990.4 Contingency	\$10,000.00
A6510.4 Veterans Contractual	\$ 1,000.00
A8510.44 Community Beautification	<u>\$ 3,000.00</u>
Total Transfer from	\$14,000.00

Councilman Patrick Walsh, seconded this motion.

Ayes 5, Nays 0, Absent 0. Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION # 108-2008

AUTHORIZE AMBULANCE
SUPERVISOR TO SOLICIT QUOTES
FOR SALE OF AMBULANCE

Councilman Robert Antonelli, presented the following for consideration and adoption,

WHEREAS, the Town of Catskill Ambulance Supervisor has declared a McCoy Miller 2002 Type II Ambulance, VIN # 1FDSS34F72HA16957 as surplus equipment, and

WHEREAS, there are several parties interested in bidding on said surplus equipment, so

THEREFORE WE, the Catskill Town Board hereby authorize the Ambulance Administrator to accept quotes for the aforementioned surplus ambulance.

Councilman Michael Smith, seconded this motion.

Ayes 5, Nays 0, Absent 0. Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION # 109-2008

ACCEPT BIDS FOR SALE OF
AMBULANCE

Councilman Robert Antonelli, presented the following for consideration and adoption,

WHEREAS, the Town of Catskill has received three bids for the sale of the McCoy Miller 2002 Type II Ambulance, so

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. | CNY Public Safety Supply, Inc. | \$4,000.00 |
| 2. | CEV, Custom Emergency Vehicles | \$4,600.00 |
| 3. | NorthEastern Rescue Vehicles, Inc. | \$5,100.00 |

THEREFORE WE, the Catskill Town Board hereby authorize the sale of the Ambulance to NorthEastern Rescue Vehicles, Inc. in the amount of \$5,100.00.

Councilman Lewis O'Connor, seconded this motion

Ayes 5, Nays 0, Absent 0. Motion Carried.

Supervisor Markou reviewed the County Resolution:

Resolution #331-2008

Approving Reimbursement to Community
Colleges (Catskill's share is \$2,411.84)

Supervisor Markou reviewed the correspondence:

Letter from NYSDOT, with notice of order, to amend the existing no parking restriction on both sides of Route 23A further south to a point 200+/- feet south of the bridge over Kaaterskill Creek.

Letter to Town Clerk from Greene County Board of Elections regarding voter registration days to be held on Wednesday, October 8th from 4 pm to 8 pm and Saturday, October 11th from 11 am to 6 pm at five sites around the County: Cairo Town Hall, Coxsackie Middle School, Hunter Village Hall, Windham Hose Co., and Greene County Board of Elections.

Supervisor Markou asked if there was any public comment. With no response, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Antonelli and seconded by Supervisor Markou. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Izzo
Town Clerk