

TOWN BOARD MONTHLY MEETING

DECEMBER 2, 2014

The Town Board of the Town of Catskill held their monthly meeting on December 2, 2014 at Catskill Town Hall at 6:30 pm. The meeting was opened with a moment of silent prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. The following members were present:

Joseph Leggio, Supervisor
Robert Antonelli, Councilman
Pat Walsh, Councilman
Gary Carlson, Councilman
Jared Giordiano, Councilman

Also Attending: Michael Smith, Town Attorney

MINUTES:

11/3/14 Government Operations Meeting:	M: Antonelli	S: Walsh	Adopted
11/4/14 Public Hearing #13:	M: Antonelli	S: Carlson	Adopted
11/4/14 Public Hearing #14	M: Antonelli	S: Giordiano	Adopted
11/4/14 Town Board Monthly Meeting	M: Antonelli	S: Walsh	Adopted
11/7/14 Dept Head Meeting	M: Antonelli	S: Carlson	Adopted
11/14/14 Dept Head Meeting	M: Antonelli	S: Walsh	Adopted
11/19/14 Town Board Comm Meeting	M: Antonelli	S: Carlson	Adopted

DEPARTMENT REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE:

Code Enforcement: November Report; Memo from John Cashin requesting attendance at the AOT Meeting in February 2015. Registration Fee is \$100. Memo from John Cashin requesting approval for Ed Ferratto to attend Northern Adirondack Continuing Ed Conference in Lake Placid March 2-5, expense \$260. *This cost is a third as two other towns contribute. Supervisor Leggio would like to see if there are classes closer. There is plenty of time. Tabled until the next meeting.*

Justice: Recognition of Justice Margolius for his 16 years of service, Thursday, Dec 11th at 5:00 pm in the Town Court Office.

Highway: Quote from Madsen and C & R Overhead Garage for overhead doors. *The one quote does not include prevailing wage. Tabled until the 12/17 meeting as it is a substantial difference.*

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letter from NYSEFC regarding Project No. C4-5434-02-00 (Leeds/JH Sewer Project). *The Phase II archeological survey is being done. The right of way through Jefferson Heights is a 20 foot r.o.w and there is gas on one side and water on the other. Construction costs to lay the sewer pipe could be more as they may have to be part of the pavement. He is hoping there will be enough space between the water line and the road to fit the sewer line. Alan Tavenner is checking on this.*

Letter from Central Hudson reminding all temporary decorations to utility poles require prior authorization.

FEMA letter regarding property in flood zone.

Letter from The Olana Partnership inviting Town to become a member; \$40.00

Email correspondence from CH regarding Garrison subdivision; lighting. This will require town approval. *The email from CH gave three options. Mr. Garrison stated the style does not matter to him but the safety of the residents do. Whichever is more economical will be fine. Supervisor Leggio stated will contact CH to see how it would be charged and this will get approved at the next meeting.*

COUNTY RESOLUTIONS:

Res 349-14 Mortgage Tax: Catskill's share \$57,031.55

Res 347-14 Approving Reimbursement to Comm College: Catskill's share \$8,599.77

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

Powers Demolition estimates: Reid Mower, \$8,300; C.J. Edwards \$9,400. *This property was in the buyout for flood damage. The property owner had flood insurance and the insurance company is delaying demolition. Supervisor Leggio stated he told Michelle Yost the board would be acting on this tonight and awarding the bid. He asked the board's pleasure. Councilman Giordiano made a motion to accept Reid Mower's bid. Councilman Carlson stated this is not from a person being negligent but rather from damage due to Hurricane Irene. If their insurance company is playing games and our decision will affect their ability for reimbursement, he doesn't want to put the homeowner in that situation. Supervisor Leggio stated he is meeting with Code tomorrow and he will have them see Mrs. Powers and put some pressure on the insurance company to act.*

Benjamin Syden of Laberge Group for the Professional Service Proposal: Change from Elected to Appointed Highway Superintendent. *Supervisor Leggio stated the purpose is to discuss the proposal. The town pays to have Cementon sewer monitored and eventually we will have*

Leeds/Jefferson Heights sewer. We also will have buildings and grounds which is currently under the cemetery so we are discussing our options.

Mr. Syden stated he spoke about the process of converting an elected official to an appointed one the last time we met. Highway issues are becoming more complex. To move to an appointed highway superintendent will require a public referendum. He proposes developing a communication public outreach program so the public is informed. Ninety-four percent of towns have an elected highway superintendent. The job is becoming increasingly difficult to do and the town has an unprecedented opportunity with the Highway Superintendent retiring. The objective will be to provide the public with the pros and cons of a new form of government.

Supervisor Leggio stated the Governor has a concentrated effort to consolidate services and this will give us the opportunity to consolidate in the long run. In the short term, we need a better management plan in our house. Eventually the town and village will have to come into a consolidation plan.

Councilman Carlson stated the citizens of the town should have the opportunity to vote. He is hesitant at looking at the bottom line of the proposal and understands it costs money but at this point we do not have extra money and he is hesitant to sign the contract. Supervisor Leggio concurred and stated he doesn't mind spending the money but didn't realize it would be this expensive and asked if there was a way to reduce the time or efforts to reduce the cost.

Mr. Syden stated he is unsure. If it is just advice, there is an hourly rate but if you want us to do the work, it is the price. Councilman Carlson stated he likes a consultant on board so we have a proper direction. Councilman Antonelli stated the hardest part will be educating the public and is unsure if the board is capable of answering the public's questions. He feels we need a professional present and maybe have only two meetings. We will need to mull this over.

Mr. Smith stated time will eventually become the enemy to the process as there are statutory requirements that come into play. Councilman Carlson asked if we could have the vote in May or June instead of the March village election. Councilman Walsh stated we need to sit down and review the proposal and get a time table. Supervisor Leggio stated we will discuss at the meeting on the 17th but feels the presentations should be independent of the board. Mr. Syden stated if the board is not stuck on the March election we are able to look at April or May.

With no further comment a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Giordiano. Meeting ended 7:50 pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Izzo, Town Clerk*

