Catskill Town Board Monthly Meeting
Catskill Town Hall
December 5, 2013 6:44 pm

Attendance: Joseph Leggio, Supervisor; Robert Antonelli, Councilman; Pat Walsh, Councilman; Gary Carlson, Councilman; Elizabeth Izzo, Town Clerk; Michael Smith, Town Attorney.

Supervisor Leggio before opening the monthly meeting stated there was a special meeting at 6 pm and there was a motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel issues. No action was taken. A motion to exit executive session and end the meeting was made by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Carlson. Special meeting ended 6:43 pm. The monthly meeting was then opened with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES:

11/5/13	Public Hearing 2014 Preliminary Budget Motion: C. Antonelli Second : C. Walsh	Vote: Adopted 4 Yes
11/5/13	Public Hearing Unsafe Building: Tsadilas Motion: C. Antonelli Second: C. Carlson	Vote: Adopted 4 Yes
11/5/13	Town Board Monthly Meeting Motion: C. Antonelli Second: C. Walsh	Vote: Adopted 4 Yes
11/15/13	Bid Opening #3-2013 Motion: C. Antonelli Second: C. Carlson	Vote: Adopted 4 Yes
11/20/13	Town Board Committee Meeting Motion: C. Antonelli Second: C. Walsh	Vote: Adopted 4 Yes

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 131-13 Motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Carlson to renew the contract with the Columbia Greene Humane Society for the year 2014. Vote: Adopted 4 Yes

Resolution 132-13 Motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Walsh to change the hours of the Washington Irving Senior Center to 9 am to 3 pm effective January 1, 2014. Vote: Adopted 4 Yes

Resolution 133-13 Motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Carlson to change the employment status of the Senior Center Director from 40 hours a week to 29 hours a week with an hourly rate of $17.82 effective January 1, 2014. Vote: Adopted 4 Yes

Resolution 134-13 Motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Walsh to change employment status of the Ambulance Billing Coordinator from 40 hours a week to 29 hours a week with an hourly rate of $15.09 effective January 1, 2014. Vote: Adopted 4 Yes

Resolution 135-13 Motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Carlson to change employment status of the Maintenance Person from 40 hours a week to 20 hours a week with an hourly rate of $12.99 effective January 1, 2014. Vote: Adopted 4 Yes

Resolution 136-13 Motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Walsh to change the highway budget to eliminate a mechanic position and add a motor equipment operator effective immediately. Vote: Adopted 4 Yes

Resolution 137-13 Motion by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Walsh to purchase an ambulance in the amount of $102,500 from North Eastern Rescue Vehicles. The original price is $125,775 minus a trade of three ambulances in the amount of $23,275. Vote: Adopted 4 Yes *Supervisor Leggio stated we had purchased new ambulances and we tried to auction the old ones. No bids were greater than $2,500. They have been sitting around for four months and the third remaining vintage ambulance has more and more maintenance costs which prompted us to purchase the third ambulance.*

CORRESPONDENCE:

Greene County Resolution 372-13 Approving Reimbursement to Community Colleges (Catskill's share $19,412.10)
Greene County Resolution 373-13 Authorizing Distribution of Mortgage Tax (Catskill share $76,674.86)

Letter from Werner Knudsen regarding the proposed establishment of a task force for the Senior and Community Centers.

Letter from NYSEFC regarding the CWSRF Project which is eligible for subsidized funding. Application must be submitted by February 3, 2014.

Letter from NYS Dept of Public Service regarding Alternating Current Transmission Upgrade Proceeding and another letter regarding their Winter Outreach and Education campaign.

Holiday Open House for the Independent Living Center of the Hudson Valley, Inc. 12/13 3-5 pm 802 Columbia St. Hudson, NY.

Energy Bulletin from Central Hudson

Letter from Wayne Speenburgh, Chairman Greene County Legislator, inviting Town Board to a special meeting of the Health Committee on 12/4 at 7:00 pm at the Emergency Services Building in Cairo to discuss a county wide consolidated ALS/BLS. *Supervisor Leggio stated what prompted this discussion is the Town of Catskill has had numerous discussions going into the ALS business. If we proceed, it will impair the current ALS service which now uses us to stay afloat. This is not an attempt to jeopardize ALS for the County but as a board we seek the best interest of the citizens of the Town of Catskill. We will attend the meeting and we will be open and candid where we stand.*

Copy of letter to Assemblyman Peter Lopez from Chester Garrison regarding the brown-field clean up on Woodstock Ave in Palenville.

MONTHLY REPORTS:

Town of Catskill Code Enforcement Office
Town of Catskill Cemetery

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

Gordon Cochrane of Apex Solar Power spoke regarding the proposal of solar energy he presented at the last board meeting. The Town uses 600 kilowatts per year. He also looked at the property the town owns in regards to placing solar panels. There is the landfill, which could place 200 kilowatts, but he would need to look at where other places can house panels, such as the roof of town hall. He is also looking into remote meter properties which are renting space for a solar field to provide solar power to the town.

The system costs $1.2 million and NYSERDA would match 35% for each hundred thousand making the bottom line cost $800,000. However, the system can be leased. It will save 20% on electric costs for the next twenty years. He has also approached the Village of Catskill and proposals have been given to the Town of Hunter, Village of Hunter and Tannersville.

Supervisor Leggio stated we will need an RFP. Mr. Cochrane stated he is not sure if you need an RFP because you will be entering into a lease agreement; however, if the town is more comfortable then they can assist with an RFP. The importance now is getting our name on the

list for NYSERDA funding. Next year is the last year for funding and this would be to the Town's advantage.

Michael Smith asked if the town were to move forward is there cash out of pocket. Mr. Cochrane stated no. The agreement is signed and you pay them instead of Central Hudson each month. There is no layout of money.

Mr. Smith stated it costs money to put up the panels. Mr. Cochrane stated the investor pays. He stated now the Town would pay him our electric bill. Mr. Smith stated it is the equivalent of substituting Central Hudson for the investor and he fronts the cost of the installation and the Town would need to evaluate the cost reduction.

Mr. Cochrane stated they set the utility cost based on the kilowatt used and size the equipment to match the usage. We use 600 kilowatts and would eliminate the supply and 20% of the cost. Mr. Smith asked if there would be a benefit if the Town and Village were to do this together. Mr. Cochrane stated it is the same thing. It would be a benefit to the Town because you could use their acreage. It would be a good idea to collaborate with them.

Mr. Smith asked if a line would be run to where the panels are at Town Hall. Mr. Cochrane stated it would be remote net metering. Councilman Carlson stated it would be put back in the grid. Mr. Cochrane stated you would still be connected to Central Hudson as it would be divided into load zones. Councilman Carlson asked what the conclusion would be after 20 years. Mr. Cochrane stated you could buy at anytime. The investor gets the tax credits. The life of the system is 30 years. Councilman Carlson stated ownership is required to maintain but if we bought we would be responsible. Mr. Cochrane stated yes.

Mr. Cochrane stated the Town of Hunter is putting out RFP's. He will get that information to Mr. Smith. Supervisor Leggio stated the attorney will review and get back to the town.

NEW BUSINESS:

Supervisor Leggio stated the attorney is reviewing the computer network service contract. He stated we also have the contract for the Senior Center and asked Mr. Smith if he had a chance to review.

Mr. Smith stated he had. He stated Article 9 calls for the Town to pay worker's comp and liability insurance for the group of employees who are hired to do the work there. It is an inappropriate expense for the town. He phoned Carol Stevens who approved the contract and alerted her to the fact the Town has no responsibility to pay worker's comp or liability for

employees in the senior center who operate the Meals on Wheels. She agreed and is revising Article 9 and will present him with a new agreement.

Supervisor Leggio asked if it was the board's pleasure to approve the contract with Michael's review. Mr. Smith stated there is another issue. He stated it is an issue change to what has taken place in the past and that is garbage removal. There was discussion to revisit the monthly price coupled with the recommendations, one year County, that the Town of Catskill be responsible for removal of the garbage accumulated by Meals on Wheels. She is in the process of reviewing the County Waste agreement which includes the Senior Center. Does the Town want to remove garbage? If not, then she will keep the County Waste contract in place where the County is responsible.

Supervisor Leggio stated the conversation was he would bring the issue back to the board. They say they don't use paper products and most of the garbage is generated by the Senior Center. Councilman Antonelli feels that is not true and the garbage bin should be locked up. Supervisor Leggio stated the County's maintenance people pick up recycling and they can remove the garbage on a daily basis. Mr. Smith stated the contract in review includes garbage removal and with board approval he will advise her to maintain garbage removal as a county expense. Supervisor Leggio stated everyone was in agreement.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dick Schloss approached the board regarding his usual problem. He stated the grass was mowed once this year. He stated the school bus drivers are complaining to him about the hole in the driveway which borders on the Town road. He said it is a sad situation. Someone is holding a grudge, an unnamed individual. Everyone should be treated fairly. He is asking the board look into the situation.

He also stated the Marchessani house, which burned, is half in the Town and half in the Village. It looks like a garbage dump. The windows aren't blocked. Supervisor Leggio stated when the fire occurred the Village Code Office was handling. He will see their building inspector as well as ours and address it. He stated in regards to his road, a memo will be sent to the Highway Supervisor.

Supervisor Leggio asked if there was further comment. A member of the Greene Alliance asked the board about the ban on hydro racking brine. Draft legislation was given to Town. Supervisor Leggio stated the paperwork was given to the Town Attorney but we have had a lot of other issues than that. He stated we did tell you it was not our intention to use it. The audience member stated intentions are not legal. Supervisor Leggio stated the review hasn't finished. It is not our intention to use brine. We do not have the equipment to use it. The

audience member stated they would like us to say the paper is back from the town attorney to pass legislation. Supervisor Leggio stated he is not trying to be argumentative but there are many other issues that require the Town Attorney's attention. He is not diminishing your concern but we are not going to use brine on any roads in the Town of Catskill. Mr. Smith stated the review can be done by next month. Supervisor Leggio stated the attorney can give a review of brine then.

The audience member wants the decision to have legal status. Councilman Carlson stated it is not the consensus of the board for a law governing procedure. From presentation to law is not realistic. The public hearing is a whole different process. For us to make a local law there is a process.

Mr. Dombrowski asked where the discussion about brine would take place. Supervisor Leggio stated at a town board meeting which are the first Tuesday and third Wednesday of the month. There are occasionally Department Head meetings. Some meetings are Friday's at 8 am. They are all public meetings.

Lorraine Warner of the Community Center asked if there were any questions regarding the Summer Recreation program. Councilman Antonelli stated he will stop down to the Community Center. He stated Hudson had scheduled a meeting on the 17th but Elizabeth will call to cancel.

Supervisor Leggio stated we all have differences of opinion. The brine, there is a bunch of stuff going on. Some time there are months and weeks spent on something and it goes on the back shelf. We have a disaster plan and when Irene/Sandy hit no one knew about it. It may take time to get back to the issue. The main project is the Leeds sewer project. It takes time and effort. Please try to be patient. We are not trying to blow you off and pacify you. We are all part time here and it is difficult. It will be addressed.

Supervisor Leggio then proceeded with the proposal for the unsafe building at 898 West Main Street. It was put out to bid. The low bidder was CJ Edwards in the amount of $3,850. The Code Officer reviewed everything and work can begin December 9th. *Motion by Councilman Walsh second by Councilman Antonelli upon review by the Town Attorney to have CJ Edwards proceed in the amount of $3,850.00. Vote: Adopted 4 yes.*

Supervisor Leggio asked if there was further discussion. With no further discussion a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Antonelli second by Councilman Carlson. Meeting ended 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Izzo, Town Clerk