

Catskill Town Board Committee Meeting
Leeds Fire House
February 15, 2012 6:58 pm

Attendance: Joseph Leggio, Supervisor; Robert Antonelli, Councilman; Pat Walsh, Councilman; Kevin Lennon, Councilman; Gary Carlson, Councilman; Elizabeth Izzo, Town Clerk

Supervisor Leggio opened the meeting with a moment of silent prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Leggio reviewed correspondence from Ed Ferratto, Code Enforcement Officer, asking that a public hearing be scheduled for an unsafe building on the property owned by Karen Roberts.

RESOLUTION #21-2012

SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING FOR
UNSAFE BUILDING: KAREN ROBERTS

Councilman Antonelli presented the following for consideration and adoption,

WHEREAS, the Catskill Town Code Enforcement Officer has reported that conditions on property located at 89 Vosenkill Rd., Catskill, NY, Tax Map # 139.00-9-5 constitute a public nuisance; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Catskill Code Enforcement Office has issued an Order to Remedy on these properties due to unsafe structure; so

THEREFORE WE, the Catskill Town Board hereby approve and set a public hearing pursuant to Chapter 90 of the Town of Catskill Code concerning these matters on Tuesday, March 6, 2012 at 6:00 pm at Catskill Town Hall, 439-331 Main Street, Catskill, NY.

Councilman Carlson seconded this motion.

Ayes 5, Nays 0 Absent 0

Motion Carried

Reviewed correspondence from the Ambulance Administrator for a change in employment status of three individuals.

RESOLUTION #22-2012

CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT
STATUS

Councilman Lennon, presented the following for consideration and adoption,

WHEREAS, Matthew Leibowitz, Ambulance Administrator, has recommended changing a position from part time to full-time; and

WHEREAS, he has recommended Kiera Mollet's position be changed from Part-time EMT to Full-time EMT, and

WHEREAS, Kiera Mollet meets the minimum qualifications established for said position, so

THEREFORE WE, the Catskill Town Board hereby authorizes the change of Kiera Mollet's position of EMT part-time to, EMT full-time, effective February 15, 2011.

Councilman Walsh seconded this motion.

Ayes 5, Nays 0, Absent 0

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION #23-2012

CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT
STATUS

Councilman Lennon, presented the following for consideration and adoption,

WHEREAS, Matthew Leibowitz, Ambulance Administrator, has recommended changing a position from part-time to full-time; and

WHEREAS, he has recommended Gwen Horst's position be changed from part-time EMT to full-time EMT; and

WHEREAS, Gwen Horst meets the minimum qualifications established for said position; so

THEREFORE WE, the Catskill Town Board hereby authorizes the change of Gwen Horst's position of EMT part-time to EMT full-time effective February 15, 2012.

Councilman Walsh seconded this motion.

Ayes 5, Nays 0, Absent 0

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION #24-2012

CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT
STATUS

Councilman Lennon, presented the following for consideration and adoption,

WHEREAS, Matthew Leibowitz, Ambulance Administrator, has recommended filling a vacant Shift Leader position; and

WHEREAS, he has recommended Laura Mastranuono to said position; and

WHEREAS, Laura Mastranuono meets the minimum qualifications established for said position, so

THEREFORE WE, the Catskill Town Board hereby authorizes the change of Laura Mastranuono position to Shift Leader, effective February 15, 2011.

Councilman Walsh seconded this motion.

Ayes 5, Nays 0, Absent 0

Motion Carried

Supervisor Leggio stated he received an email today from Susan Rivers who is with Hazard Mitigation Community Planner-FEMA. Supervisor Leggio stated we never adopted a resolution for the Hazard Mitigation Plan to make us eligible for funding. Councilman Walsh stated he thought we did. Councilman Lennon stated we did. Supervisor Leggio stated she is not aware of it. Councilman Lennon stated he will follow up with the PACS & PALS team for the State. Supervisor Leggio stated if one wasn't passed then it is a matter of just passing one. It will be looked into and if one wasn't passed will be on the March 6th agenda.

Supervisor Leggio received a notice from Sandy stating while she is away on vacation she is requesting remote access to her computer in case there are any problems with payroll and billing. She spoke with our IT department and they stated there is no possibility of breach of security or anything. Councilman Lennon stated she already has the capability of remotely accessing her computer. Councilman Antonelli stated he told her to ask the board as she will be using her personal computer. Councilman Lennon stated we have laptops she could use if she wants. Councilman Antonelli stated there will be no security breach if she uses her laptop. Councilman Walsh stated whatever is practical.

Supervisor Leggio stated we received notification from the State in response to a speed limit reduction request for Paul Horn Road. The speed limit has been reduced to 25 mph.

Supervisor Leggio stated the County phoned yesterday and the Legislature has adopted a Flood Prone Acquisition Project whereas if a property owner has significant damage or loss of property there is a buyout program where they will pay up to 75% of the cost based on appraisal. There are guidelines that need to be followed. The property title would transfer to the town. Councilman Lennon stated if DEP is funding the property the property may go to DEP and not the Town of Catskill. There is some question as to this. Supervisor Leggio stated property owners have until February 23rd to submit the forms.

Supervisor Leggio stated he would like to start scheduling Department Head meetings on a rotating schedule however not all board members would be able to attend. It will be by himself and one other board member. Supervisor Leggio stated all Department Heads will be at the first monthly meeting so we can collectively meet with them all and then set up a schedule from that point on. Councilman Carlson stated as head of the ambulance committee, he has already notified Matt to attend the first meeting of every month and he has agreed.

Councilman Lennon stated we received bids for the surplus highway equipment and he would like to pass a resolution accepting them.

RESOLUTION #25-2012

ACCEPT BIDS SURPLUS HIGHWAY
EQUIPMENT

Councilman Antonelli presented the following for consideration and adoption,

WHEREAS, the Town of Catskill Highway Department has surplus highway equipment; and

WHEREAS, a resolution was passed to go out to bid for such equipment; and

WHEREAS, bids were through the on-line site, Auction International, with closing bids being:

1973 Oshkosh S/SP Snow Plow	\$3,900.00
1974 Oshkosh S/SP Snow Plow	\$3,551.00
1975 John Deere P/SH Tractor	\$4,550.00; so

THEREFORE WE, the Catskill Town Board hereby accept the above bids for the sale of the surplus highway equipment.

Councilman Carlson seconded this motion.

Ayes 5, Nays 0, Absent 0

Motion Carried

Councilman Lennon would like to place an ad in the paper, approved by the Ambulance Administrator and Ronni, to solicit applications for full time and part time EMT's to keep a pool available.

RESOLUTION #26-2012

ADVERTISE FOR EMT FOR AMBULANCE
SERVICE

Councilman Lennon presented the following for consideration and adoption,

WHEREAS, the Town of Catskill Ambulance Service would like to solicit applications for prospective EMT's to help fill future vacancies; and

WHEREAS, Ronni Travers, Human Resource Manager, will write the help wanted ad to be placed in the paper; so

THEREFORE WE, the Catskill Town Board authorize the advertisement for prospective EMT'S and authorize the Town Clerk to place the ad in the paper.

Councilman Walsh seconded this motion.

Ayes 5, Nays 0, Absent 0

Motion Carried

Councilman Lennon mentioned in 2011 a site visit was made to Landon Avenue regarding a parking issue and the inability for ambulance and fire vehicles to get through. There are a few residents there who illegally park. It was brought to the attention of the Sheriff and the Village Police and they are encountering a stumbling block. He reached out to the Trustees of the Village, Village DPW, and the Town's Highway Superintendent to look into having a public hearing regarding parking issues on Landon Avenue and to have no parking signs placed between the Village and Town line. Councilman Lennon would like the Town Clerk to contact Mr. Seeley and secure some dates and times for a public hearing.

Councilman Lennon stated he met with the debris team in the Hamlet of Palenville in regards to the bank erosion that occurred during the storm and to start the PW (project worksheets) that we have already done for out there. There were about eight representatives from FEMA, DEC, Army Corp, Debris Specialists, Geo Specialists and Historical Specialists and we are proceeding forward with documentation for reimbursement. It looks like we will be reimbursed for what was done. Supervisor Leggio asked how much the highway department expended and if it was submitted to FEMA. Councilman Lennon stated everything has been submitted to FEMA and we are going through the PW's now. We have thirty-five sites. He stated anything forced labor account that the highway department did from pre disaster to disaster to what they have done in

forced account labor will be written for reimbursement. There are five signed off of that total \$34,000.

Supervisor Leggio stated the Town of Athens has sent a check in for ambulance reimbursement.

Councilman Lennon stated he has been working with the State over the last three weeks to reapply and extend our debris removal for Category A & B. With those efforts the State has sent an email that they are going to grandfather the hardest hit counties with an extension until August of this year depending on which storm, Lee or Irene, to help with Category A & B reimbursement.

Supervisor Leggio polled the board. Supervisor Leggio made a comment on the Leeds sewer project. He stated right now the town is not under a consent order and one will not be issued as we have no facilities, however, DEC wants something done. We are in contact with Senator Seward, Congressman Gibson and Assemblyman Lopez and are trying to find some funding for a minor engineering scope. That will cost around \$45,000-\$50,000. If the storms didn't come we could use some of our reserve funds. DEC is in a position where they could shut any of the businesses down at anytime. We are working to try to get something done and we are moving forward.

Warren Sheridan heard that the line may go all the way into Catskill. He stated the last time they tried that everyone in Jefferson Heights blew a gasket. He doesn't know what they are thinking. At one time they were talking of putting a digester down here. Supervisor Leggio stated that is out. Now they are talking about tying into the Village of Catskill sewer system as the most economical way to go. The sewer line ends at the hospital. He stated when someone has a working septic system, no one cares. He stated the ground in Jefferson is continuing to be saturated but when you get leaks you have to make repairs to the infrastructure and without infrastructure the properties in Leeds will never develop.

Supervisor Leggio asked if anyone present frequents the Senior Center. He stated he has been told in recent days that he is closing the Senior Center. That is not true.

Tom McCullough had a question regarding the Farmer's Market. He was wondering if the Town had given any consideration of expanding the farmer's market to any of the Hamlets. Supervisor Leggio stated there are internal issues with the Village Board and the Farmer's Market and the business owners.

Supervisor Leggio asked if anyone had any other comment. He thanked the Leeds Fire Company for allowing us to have our meeting here and in the future too.

Councilman Lennon stated we had an ad in the paper regarding the Town Attorney position. He would like Ronni to review those applications and the rest of the board review and discuss at the next meeting. Supervisor Leggio stated as far as the attorneys go, he doesn't know if we have to go through Human Resources specifically. If you want to that is fine by him and he polled the rest of the board. He stated he would rather be able to meet with the person and be able to talk to them. Councilman Antonelli stated the reason why we advertised is to see if we would get a person from the Town of Catskill. We have a firm we use in Albany for our big issues. All of the applicants are from Albany, Poughkeepsie. There were no local attorneys. He would like to use our current attorney. Councilman Walsh stated we should listen to Ronni's input and all of us should look at the resumes and discuss it at the next meeting.

Councilman Lennon stated the Town of Catskill has a procedure we follow in placing an ad in the paper, accepting resumes, going through those resumes, interviewing those candidates and hiring the best possible person for the job. That is the procedure and policy we should follow. We still need to go through those procedures because it is no different than hiring an attorney we are going to appoint or hiring someone for ambulance or hiring someone for the highway department. We have to follow the procedures that are in place. Supervisor Leggio asked if it falls under the guidelines that we have to go through Human Resources for a Town Attorney. If it is an attorney for the Town or a Town attorney it is an appointed position. If it is going to be an attorney for the Town and we are going to stay on the same basis we are with the attorneys from Albany. Councilman Lennon stated that is why we are paying our Human Resource office. Supervisor Leggio stated she doesn't make the decisions, we do. Councilman Lennon stated we do but she gives us guidance making sure we dot our i's and t's so if we do not select a candidate that we do the proper procedure so we don't open ourselves up to litigation. That is why they are in place. That is why we have our Human Resource officer to make sure we do dot the i's and t's to make sure we follow the process.

With no further comment a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Antonelli and seconded by Councilman Lennon. Meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Izzo
Town Clerk