

TOWN BOARD MEETING
May 17, 2007 - 6:00 PM
TOWN HALL

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Reagon at 6:00 p.m.
Salute to the Flag was conducted.

Emergency Exits were pointed out by the Supervisor.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Perotti	Present
Councilman Euvrard	Present
Councilwoman Doyle	Present
Councilman Russell	Present
Supervisor Reagon	Present

RECEPTION FOR FIRE AND EMERGENCY VOLUNTEERS

Supervisor Reagon welcomed everyone to the reception for all the fire company members. She then read and presented a recognition plaque to the Amenia Fire Company, and did the same for the Wassaic Fire Company. Each presentation was met with appreciative applause. Finally the Supervisor read a plaque that will hang in Town hall thanking all the volunteers for their efforts in the flood of April 15, 2007.

At 7:00, when the meeting resumed, Supervisor Reagon read a letter from State Senator Vincent Leibell congratulating the Amenia and Wassaic Fire Companies and thanking them for their service to the community. The Supervisor also read the plaques that had been presented earlier, for the benefit of the television audience at home. Supervisor Reagon extended a special note of gratitude to the fire companies for helping everyone get through the April 15 flooding in Wassaic.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Councilman Euvrard read a letter from Caroline McEnroe related to her application for a position on the Town Ethics Committee. Supervisor Reagon then responded to the letter.

METAL COLLECTION AT TRANSFER STATION

It was recently learned that the Town could sell scrap metal collected at the Transfer Station. The metal could be stored behind the barn and also placed in barrels. It was suggested that the Town Clerk devise a new "recyclables only" permit which would be given free of charge to any Town resident who wished it. The new permit would be good until December 31, as a trial period. The purpose of the permit is to ensure that only Town residents use the Transfer Station. With the new permit metal, plastic, and paper could be recycled without purchasing a regular Transfer Station permit.

TOWN CLEAN-UP DAY

Councilwoman Doyle thanked everyone who helped with the first town-wide clean-up day in 17 years, especially the Highway Department, Jack Rooney, and the private donor who provided the extra funding needed for the event.

FLOOD RELIEF FUND

Supervisor Reagon announced a flood relief fund through St. Thomas Episcopal Church. Monetary donations are welcome and will be handled by the Bank of Millbrook.

CONSTABULARY

Supervisor Reagon alerted the Town Board that Albany has no record of a Local Law for the Amenia constable. Therefore, a new Local Law must be drafted:

AUTHORIZE MICHAEL HAYES TO DRAFT A LOCAL LAW FOR CONSTABULARY

MOTION: S/Reagon
SECOND: C/Perotti
ROLL CALL: C/Perotti - AYE C/Doyle - AYE
C/Euvrard - AYE C/Russell - AYE
S/Reagon - AYE
MOTION CARRIED 5 to 0.

SUMMER REC CAMP DIRECTOR

The Recreation Commission needs an assistant summer rec camp director:

APPOINT KAYLA KELLY AS ASSISTANT SUMMER REC CAMP DIRECTOR

MOTION: C/Perotti
SECOND: C/Russell
ROLL CALL: C/Perotti - AYE C/Doyle - AYE
C/Euvrard - AYE C/Russell - AYE
S/Reagon - AYE
MOTION CARRIED 5 to 0.

EPA SOURCE WATER CONFERENCE

Councilwoman Doyle and Mike Segelken would like to attend this conference on May 24 in New York City:

AUTHORIZE COUNCILWOMAN DOYLE AND MIKE SEGELKEN TO ATTEND CONFERENCE

MOTION: S/Reagon
SECOND: C/Russell
ROLL CALL: C/Perotti - AYE C/Doyle - AYE
C/Euvrard - AYE C/Russell - AYE
S/Reagon - AYE
MOTION CARRIED 5 to 0.

MECHANIC STREET PROJECT

Michael Hayes reported that he has put together a package for the State so the full contract review process can begin. In terms of the Judge Manning sliver of land needed, Michael Hayes prefers an easement to a deed because a deed takes longer. An easement with a defensive indemnification letter may be the solution.

GRANTS UPDATE

Grant writer Michael Hagerty reported:

- Mechanic Street sidewalks grant: contract is ready to be signed by the Supervisor and sent to the State. The bids that came in will be summarized in the contract. This is a 50/50 matching grant.

WATER DISTRICT EXPANSION: RESCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING

The Public Hearing for the water district expansion was originally scheduled for June 14. The Town has just received the "Notice of Completed Application" for well 4A from DEC, who will accept comments until June 8, 2007. It is not logical to hold the Public Hearing on June 14 (just six days after DEC

comment period ends), so it will be rescheduled for July 19 assuming the State Department of Health gives their approval and the State DEC gives the permit.

RESCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING ON WATER DISTRICT EXPANSION FOR JULY 19, 2007

MOTION: S/Reagon
SECOND: C/Russell
ROLL CALL: C/Perotti - AYE C/Doyle - AYE
C/Euvrard - AYE C/Russell - AYE
S/Reagon - AYE
MOTION CARRIED 5 to 0.

MINUTES

The following minutes of Town Board meetings were approved:

APPROVE AMENDED MINUTES OF APRIL 5, 2007

MOTION: C/Euvrard
SECOND: S/Reagon
ROLL CALL: C/Perotti - AYE C/Doyle - AYE
C/Euvrard - AYE C/Russell - AYE
S/Reagon - AYE
MOTION CARRIED 5 to 0.

APPROVE AMENDED MINUTES OF APRIL 12, 2007

MOTION: C/Euvrard
SECOND: C/Perotti
ROLL CALL: C/Perotti - AYE C/Doyle - AYE
C/Euvrard - AYE C/Russell - AYE
S/Reagon - AYE
MOTION CARRIED 5 to 0.

APPROVE MINUTES OF APRIL 19, 2007

MOTION: C/Euvrard
SECOND: C/Perotti
ROLL CALL: C/Perotti - AYE C/Doyle - AYE
C/Euvrard - AYE C/Russell - AYE
S/Reagon - AYE
MOTION CARRIED 5 to 0.

APPROVE MINUTES OF APRIL 30, MAY 1, MAY 8, MAY 10

MOTION: C/Euvrard
SECOND: C/Perotti
ROLL CALL: C/Perotti - AYE C/Doyle - AYE
C/Euvrard - AYE C/Russell - AYE
S/Reagon - AYE
MOTION CARRIED 5 to 0.

It was decided to postpone approval of the March 8, 2007 minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CAC - CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Elizabeth Whaley reported:

- CAC met with Hudsonia for training on using the habitat maps. Guidelines for use of the maps will be given to all Town Board

members and members of other appropriate boards, and put on the Town website. The training was attended by all CAC members, 3 Town Board members, and some citizens.

- Cornell Cooperative Extension will sponsor a free forest management forum on May 23.
- IES will hold a free organic gardening class on May 26.

ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

Vicki Doyle reported:

- Planting Day is Saturday May 26 at 10:00 to 12:00. 80 barrels to be planted; meet at Four Brothers.

RECREATION COMMISSION

Tom Werner reported:

- Summer camp registration is going well.
- Harlem Valley Walks is still going on.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Superintendent Stan Whitehead reported:

- FEMA meeting was held in Poughkeepsie and a caseworker has been assigned to deal with the April 15 flood.
- Initial flood report has been submitted to FEMA with the final report due in 30 days.
- Water problems on Willow Lane and Glenn Hill.
- Started sweeping, grading, mowing and fixing potholes.

Supervisor Reagon reminded everyone that the extra costs for the flood came out of the contingency budget line, which may be very low at this time.

WATER DISTRICT

Gary Bonds reported:

- 102,000 gallons a day - yearly average usage (all wells).
- 155,000 gallons a day - highest usage.
- Well #1 (the problem well) produces 20 gallons a minute. Timers will be installed to try to let it rest a while.
- Current capacity is sufficient to produce the maximum of 155,000 gallons a day with all wells going full bore. Although this is enough to meet current demand, the additional well is definitely needed with Syms and the other developments coming along.
- Annual water quality report will be mailed out by Jane.
- \$60,000 spent so far on well 4A: \$23,000 to drill the well and \$23,000 for engineers. An additional \$15,000 will probably be spent.
- Gary met with Depot Hill Farms (Keane Stud) engineers to discuss their water needs.

AUDIT OF TOWN CLERK OFFICE

Councilwoman Perotti reported that the NYS Comptroller Office has completed an audit of the Town Clerk and Tax Collector operations. The time period covered is January 1, 2003 to March 1, 2006.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

Town Clerk Gail Hermosilla gave the attached status report.

SUPREVISOR REPORT

Supervisor Janet Reagon reported:

- Pattern for Progress meeting June 12.
- Air Conditioning for Town Hall. A proposal was received but seemed too high.
- May 28 Memorial Day Fountain Square ceremony at 11:00.
- County Executive has money available to help persons age 62 and older to fix their homes. This is a zero percent interest loan.
- Red-line versions of the Comprehensive Plan Update and the Proposed New Zoning Law are available for purchase for \$12. They are also available on-line.

TOWN BOARD COMMENTS

Councilwoman Doyle reported:

- Public Hearing on Comprehensive Plan: Thursday May 24 at 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Amenia Elementary School.
- Fishing Derby Saturday at 10:00 to 2:00 at Ralph Vinchiarello's pond.
- Roast beef dinner at South Amenia Church this Saturday.
- June 9 is Strawberry Festival.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Bill Carroll commented on the draft New Zoning Law pages 33-35 which call for commercial development on the northern part of the DDSO property. We should revitalize our existing hamlets first, not create a new hamlet.
- Arlene Iuliano confirmed that there was no Local Law establishing a constabulary for Amenia.
- Jeanne Rebillard voiced her opinion that certain things should be kept in executive session, referring to the Ethics Committee appointment procedure and particularly the remarks about Caroline McEnroe. She also observed that Councilwoman Doyle should recuse herself from the vote on the Comprehensive Plan because it is the appearance of conflict of interest that matters.
- Pat Nelligan expressed his support of Caroline McEnroe. He also requested a third public hearing on the Comprehensive Plan possibly at the Wassaic fire house.
- Neila Cardus pointed out several references to Taconic DDSO (in the Comprehensive Plan) that she found objectionable. Supervisor Reagon assured her that at least one of them (page 11 section 3) was an oversight and would be corrected.
- Evelyn O'Connell voiced her support for Caroline McEnroe.
- Lou Cesa said that he opposed a third public hearing on the Comprehensive Plan because there have been many opportunities for public input.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:00 p.m. Supervisor Reagon moved that the Board go into executive session for the purpose of privileged and confidential discussion of personnel matters related to the Bookkeeper and also the RFQ for the hamlet planner:

MOTION: S/Reagon
SECOND: C/Russell
ROLL CALL: C/Perotti - AYE C/Doyle - AYE
C/Euvrard - AYE C/Russell - AYE
S/Reagon - AYE

MOTION CARRIED 5 to 0.

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING

The motion to end the executive session and to return to the public meeting was unanimous at 10:30 p.m.

MECHANIC STREET SIDEWALKS

The Town has been awarded a Greenway Grant for \$100,000 for downtown revitalization, including new sidewalks on Mechanic Street. A condition of this grant is that the Town must sign a contract with the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation:

RESOLUTION # 17 OF 2007: AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN CONTRACT WITH NYS OFFICE OF PARKS FOR THE MECHANIC STREET SIDEWALK PROJECT

MOTION: C/Doyle
SECOND: C/Perotti
ROLL CALL: C/Perotti - AYE C/Doyle - AYE
C/Euvrard - AYE C/Russell - AYE
S/Reagon - AYE

MOTION CARRIED 5 to 0.

ADJOURN

The motion to adjourn to pay claims was unanimous at 10:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Hermosilla,
Amenia Town Clerk

Approved by Town Board: Aug. 16, 2007

Draft to Town Board: 7/5/07 (email) paper to Wayne

C:\Town Board\minutes\2007-05-17 firemen reception.doc.doc, 8/20/07

Gail home PC:\C:\Gail\Town Clerk\minutes\2007-05-17 firemen reception.doc, 7/4/07

Town Clerk Monthly Status Report for April 2007
Presented at Town Board meeting in May 2007

Regular Monthly Activity:

Legal notices:			
Public Hearing	1	(Comprehensive Plan)	
Bids advertised			
Positions advertised:			
Jobs, paid	0		
Jobs, volunteer	0		
Transfer Station:			
Transfer station permits	47		
Bulk permits	13		
Coupon books	149		
Licenses sold:			
Bingo/games of chance	0		
Dog	12		
Hunting/fishing	0		
Permits issued:			
Burning	35	Fireworks	1
Handicap Parking	8	Gathering	1
Peddler	0	Junkyard	0
Trailer park	0		
Vital Statistics:			
Marriage licenses	2	Birth certificate copies	0
Marriage certified copies	2		
Death certificates copies	0		
Miscellaneous:			
FOILS received	15		
Zoning books sold	4		
Photocopies, misc.	2		
Tape duplication	1		

As a result of this activity, the Town Clerk gave the Supervisor \$ 5,178.90 for last month.

Tax Collector

To date, we have collected \$ 2,592,902 in taxes. We have also collected \$ 4,100 in late fees, all of which goes to the Town. 1628 tax bills have been paid which means that about 175 bills are still outstanding. Reminder letters were sent out yesterday to everyone whose tax bill has not yet been paid. To avoid having your tax bill sent to the county for collection, please pay by the end of May.

Bank Reconciliation

Scott Beyer has completed his review of the Town Clerk account bank reconciliations for the year 2006. A copy was given to the Town Board indicating that the account is balanced and reconciled.

Thank you,
Gail Hermosilla, Town Clerk

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