

TOWN BOARD MEETING
September 20, 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

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING ON WATER DISTRICT EXPANSION AND NEW WATER TOWER

Supervisor Reagon opened the Public Hearing:

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.

PUBLIC HEARING [WATER DISTRICT EXPANSION] COMMENTS

- May Jones, member of the water district and water committee:
 - Depot Hill Road is farmland. Individual septic systems will be installed, threatening two of our best wells which are located in the area. If they get contaminated, we will have a big problem.
 - Well #1 is slowing down. We need another well for our present water district.
 - What is keeping the Town Board from voting on this? Is it the free water tank? The present tank works fine. It will cost to remove the old tank.
- John Lazarony, town engineer:
 - Until Well #4A is operating, we won't know if we'll have enough water for an expansion. If there is excess capacity, we could expand.
 - Mike Merriman (DEC) said that the info may be done next week.
 - The septic-well separation is a county issue: there must be 200 feet separation between the septic and the well.
 - Water tank: there is some salvage value, but it probably wouldn't cover the whole cost of removal.
 - Water meters may help the supply. In East Fishkill, the average flow was 100,000 gallons per day before water meters were installed. After meters were installed, the usage was reduced to an average of 65,000 gallons a day.
 - A new water tank would cost about \$2.00 per gallon capacity. A 100,000 gallon tank would cost about \$200,000.
- Pat Nelligan, Lavelle Road

- o The first Public Hearing on this topic was called in October 2006. This is too long to hold things up for a well that was intended as a replacement.
- o Syms is not committed to giving the Town a new water tank.
- o Town Board should say NO to the water district expansion. If the meters cut down on usage, then we could consider expansion.

CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING ON WATER DISTRICT EXPANSION

At 6:15 p.m., there being no further comment from either the public or the Town Board, it was moved to close the Public Hearing on the water district expansion:

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.

MOVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:15 p.m. Supervisor Reagon moved that the Board go into executive session for the purpose of privileged and confidential communication with the attorney on pending legal action regarding an Article 78 and the Mex Notice of Claim:

MOTION: S/Reagon
 SECOND: C/Doyle
 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 PUBLIC MEETING

At 7:05 p.m. the Board voted to close the executive session and enter the public session:

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

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING ON CONSTABLE LAW

Supervisor Reagon opened the Public Hearing:

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.

PUBLIC HEARING [CONSTABLE LAW] COMMENTS

- Dan Killmer, Wassaic:
 - o What do we want the Constable Law to do? Supervisor Reagon responded that the law had two major purposes: (1) if we want the constable to do more (for example, issue parking tickets), that is not possible under the current law; (2)

Councilman Euvrard added that Amenia's constable is using his own weapon which, under the current law, is vague. A new law would clear this up.

- o Michael Hayes explained that section 10-9 of the proposed law is codification of New York State law to make sure the town constable is not confused with a police officer.
- o Dan Killmer spent a day observing the intersection of Route 22 and Old Route 22 in Wassaic. 23 cars came through in half an hour: 6 stopped (with traffic coming); 14 never stopped; 3 stopped (with no traffic coming). We need an enforcement officer who can patrol and issue tickets.

Supervisor Reagon summed up the conversation by saying that the proposed local law is a first step. The duties of the constable can be expanded in the future as budget money is available for additional hours.

CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING ON CONSTABLE LAW

There being no further public comment, it was moved to close the Public Hearing on the Constable Law:

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.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

- Pat Nelligan, Amenia, praised the specs for the water meter project as an excellent job. The specs were prepared by John Lazarony of Morris Assoc.

WATER METER PROJECT - OPEN BIDS

Supervisor Reagon opened the bids for the water meter project:

1.	National Metering, NJ	\$ 195,678.14
2.	Everett M. Brady, Dover Plains	\$ 298,660.
3.	Gannon Plumbing, POK	\$ 465,245.
4.	Woodchips Carpentry, Pine Bush	\$ 205,398.

Supervisor Reagon requested that John Lazarony review the bids to see if they meet the specs, starting with the two lowest bids.

SEWER DISTRICT MAP AND PLAN: D.C. WATER AND WASTEWATER GRANT

Supervisor Reagon explained that Morris Assoc had estimated the cost of the sewer district map and plan (and report) at \$ 24,900. The County will pay up to one half of this cost, or \$ 12,450. Since the County has already given Amenia \$ 5,000 towards the project, that leaves \$ 7,450. This project must be completed by March 31, 2008.

RESOLUTION # 37 OF 2007: AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN CONTRACT WITH D.C. WATER AND WASTEWATER FOR SEWER DISTRICT MAP AND PLAN GRANT

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.

BUDGET TRANSFER

Supervisor Reagon read Resolution # 38 of 2007 to do a transfer of funds and a budget amendment. \$18,000 is to move from Fund Balance to Contingency to cover the deficit in the Contingency line caused by the expenses of the Flood of April 2007. Revenue and expense lines were updated to reflect the receipt of unanticipated grant money for playground equipment at Wassaic Park. Money totaling \$1,500 was also transferred (into Justice Court Training line) from various accounts to cover the cost of mandatory training for Justices and Justice Clerks.

RESOLUTION # 38 OF 2007: FUNDS TRANSFER AND BUDGET AMENDMENT

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

BEL-AIRE HELIPORT PERMIT EXTENSION

Supervisor Reagon read Resolution # 39 of 2007 to approve the application for renewal of an airfield permit for Bel-Aire Farms:

RESOLUTION # 39 OF 2007: BEL-AIRE HELIPORT PERMIT EXTENSION

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

TOWN CONSTABLE - ADOPT LOCAL LAW

Supervisor Reagon read Resolution # 40 of 2007 which is the Resolution of Adoption for Local Law for Town Constable. [Clerk's note: although the original version of Resolution #40 mentioned Local Law #4, the number is not officially assigned until the local law is recorded with the New York State Department of State.]

RESOLUTION # 40 OF 2007: ADOPT LOCAL LAW FOR TOWN CONSTABLE

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.

GRANTS UPDATE

Grant writer Michael Hagerty reported:

- \$40,000 Quality Communities Grant received.
- Greenway grant of \$10,000 came in today.
- Sat. October 13 is Silo Ridge Planning Workshop from 9:00 to 12:00 noon.
- Mechanic Street project: bid specs should be ready by next meeting. Mike Hagerty is going door-to-door to get merchants' ideas.

WASSAIC PARK UPDATE

Supervisor Reagon reported:

- A commuter is donating \$100 to the Wassaic Park project because Lana Anguin-Cohen was nice to her on the phone.
- Community Day in Wassaic Park was Saturday. The Supervisor read through a long list of people who had worked to make it a success.
- \$3,000 has been promised by Berkshire Taconic for handicap accessible playground equipment.
- How should the Town use the Trout Unlimited grant?
- The next phase is a new basketball court, soccer fields, etc.

TOWN BOARD MEETING ON OCTOBER 18: CHANGE OF VENUE

Supervisor Reagon announced that the October 18 Town Board meeting would be held at Amenia Elementary School to accommodate the anticipated crowd (especially persons with physical disabilities) coming to hear Diana Jones-Ritter, Commission of NY State OMRDD (Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities). The meeting will be preceded at 6:00 by a Public Hearing for the Amenia Highway Department.

FALL CLEAN-UP DAY

Supervisor Reagon said that no specific date had yet been set although it would probably be in November.

DANCE PROGRAM FOR KINDERGARTEN

Councilwoman Doyle informed the Town Board that the dance program needed another \$1,000 to cover the cost of the kindergarten program. There is money that could be used for this in the recreation budget (perhaps in the intercommunity recreation personal services line. Also, summer rec program did not cost as much as budgeted.). Overall, the cost of the dance program is quite reasonable considering that 100 children are participating with a \$5,000 budget, which is only \$50 per child.

This year the dance program received a grant of \$ 1,115; next year they have requested \$3,000.

AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURE OF \$1,000 FOR KINDERGARTEN DANCE CLASS

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.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT SOFTWARE, AUTHORIZE PURCHASE

Supervisor Reagon reminded the Town Board that the Building and Zoning Department (Mike Segelken and Nancy Brusie) had requested new software. The vendor selected is BAS whose Building Department software is currently in use in Salsbury, CT and working well. \$10,000 is budgeted in the capital improvements line and the remainder of the money could come from related lines (e.g. conferences).

AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURE OF \$12,000 FOR BAS SOFTWARE FOR BUILDING DEPARTMENT

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.

"WELCOME TO AMENIA" SIGNS; HISTORIC WASSAIC SIGNS; WASSAIC PARK LANDSCAPING

Councilwoman Doyle reported that three new "Welcome to Amenia" signs are needed, including highway permits. The five existing signs need to be painted and stabilized. Also, the two new historic Wassaic signs need to be installed. Additionally, the Town needs bids on landscape construction at Wassaic Park. All of these items can be advertised together, and the Town Clerk was instructed to do so:

ADVERTISE FOR: LANDSCAPE WORK AT WASSAIC PARK; REPAIR/REPLACEMENT OF "WELCOME TO AMENIA" SIGNS; INSTALLATION OF HISTORIC WASSAIC SIGNS

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.

SNOW REMOVAL

Supervisor Reagon reminded the Town Board that it was time to advertise for snow removal bids. The ad should appear in the September 27 newspapers with a bid due date of October 10, and bid opening on October 11.

ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR SNOW REMOVAL

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.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Peter Clair reported that Amenia Recreation has teamed up with the Lions Club to sponsor "Walk to Cure Diabetes" on September 29 at FreshTown. Registration is at 10:00 with the walk at 10:30. At 11:30 there will be a chicken BBQ.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

ZONING DEPARTMENT

Nancy Brusie announced her winter hours:
Tues. & Thurs. Total hours: 8:00 - 4:00
 Office hours: 9:00 - 11:00
 3:00 - 4:00,
 Other hours as needed for inspections, etc.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Supervisor Reagon read the written report submitted by Stan Whitehead.

CABLEVISION

Councilwoman Perotti reported that the contract negotiations with Cablevision are going extremely well. Marshall Miles has been helpful with the

requests for new equipment. Webutuck High School is interested in offering video programs for the students. Gary Bonds mentioned that the Town is asking for \$10,000 worth of digital equipment from Cablevision. (The Town would have to buy the software and hard drives to complete the operation.) Cablevision said that they would not pass on the cost of this equipment to the users. Supervisor Reagon observed that cable TV subscriptions would probably increase if high school athletic events were televised.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

Town Clerk Gail Hermosilla gave the attached status report.

TOWN BOARD COMMENTS

- Councilman Euvrard:
 - Building/Zoning Department Software from Enhanced Business Systems is being used in about 40 towns. Amenia paid \$8,000 for this software and then decided that we could not use it. Supervisor Reagon reminded the Board that the things the vendor promised did not happen. She asked Councilman Euvrard to look into recovering the expense of purchase.

SPECIAL BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING

Supervisor Reagon announced that there would be a special budget workshop meeting on Thursday October 4.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Pat Nelligan, Amenia, asked what the potential cost of the water meters would be. Supervisor Reagon responded that the cost was estimated at \$300 per unit with 300 units for a total cost of \$9,000. Pat Nelligan suggested that the Town ask a second engineer to review the entire project.
- Peter Clair, Wassaic suggested that the Town change how they select Citizen of the Year. The process should be opened up to the Town people for submissions.

ADJOURN

The motion to adjourn to pay claims was unanimous at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Hermosilla,
Amenia Town Clerk

Draft to Town Board (via Councilwoman Perotti): March 27, 2008

Gail home PC:\C:\Gail\Town Clerk\ minutes\2007-09-20, PHS- water district, Constable law
adopt.doc, 03/27/08

Town Clerk Monthly Status Report for August 2007
Presented September, 2007

Regular Monthly Activity:

Legal notices:			
admin law)	Public Hearings	4	(CDBG, Constable law, water dist exp., bldg code
	Bids Advertised		
	Positions advertised:		
	Jobs, paid		
	Jobs, volunteer		
	Transfer Station:		
	Transfer station permits	14	
	Bulk permits	8	
	Coupon books	141	
	Licenses sold:		
	Bingo/games of chance	2	
	Dog	5	
	Hunting/fishing	22	
	Permits issued:		
	Burning	lots	Fireworks 0
	Handicap parking	7	Public Gathering 0
	Peddler		Junkyard 0
	Trailer park		
	Vital Statistics:		
	Marriage licenses	4	
	Marriage certified copies	2	
	Death certificate copies		
	Miscellaneous:		
	FOILs received	3	Town Hall rental 0
	Zoning books sold	14	
	Photocopies, misc.		
	Tape duplication		

As a result of this activity, the Town Clerk Office gave the Supervisor \$ 3,622.70 for last month.

Hunting and Fishing Guides

The Town Clerk now has copies of the DEC Hunting and Fishing Official regulations guides. If anyone needs these, they are free and we have plenty of them.

BAS Software Upgrade

The Town Clerk office has recently upgraded our BAS software. Randy Gibbs company, PCA, has been providing us with outstanding service.

BAS Software Training Session

We are sponsoring a training session for the new version of our BAS software system here in Amenia on Tuesday, September 25 at 10:00. All of the town clerks in Dutchess County have been invited, so it should be a good session. Anyone who is interested in attending should let us know so we can plan accordingly. The class is free and open to Town Board members and other interested parties. The Town Clerk office will be closed on Tuesday, September 25 from 10:00 to 2:00.

Thank you, Gail Hermosilla, Town Clerk

Gail's home PC: C:\Gail\Town Clerk\Town Clerk Status Reports\2007-08 Aug.doc, 3/27/08