

January 14, 2016
Town of Washington Board Meeting
MINUTES

The Town Board of the Town of Washington held the regular Town Board Meeting on Thursday, January 14, 2016 at the Town of Washington Town Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Supervisor Gary Ciferri with the following present: Councilmen Stephen Turletes, Robert Audia and Michael Murphy, Town Clerk Mary Alex, Highway Superintendent Joseph Spagnola, Bookkeeper to the Supervisor Dana Sukow, Highway Employee Michael Llanes and Attorney for the Town Jeffrey Battistoni.

Resident Howard Schuman was also present.

Supervisor Ciferri opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Ciferri welcomed County Legislator Sandy Washburn to the meeting. Legislator Washburn said she is thrilled to be here representing the district. She is going through an orientation process and learning the ropes. Committee selections are being made and she will hear shortly what her committee responsibilities will be. Ms. Washburn said she is very approachable and to contact her whenever necessary.

George Cronk and Steve Alex of the Chazen Companies (TCC) were present to discuss the Oak Summit Rd. and Stanford Rd. projects. They suggested that they provide a quick rundown of where they are and requested a work session to go into greater detail and make decisions on how to proceed.

The Stanford Road area has an old Class A dam near the culvert replacement area, on property owned by Sam and Tom Metzger. The site area has been surveyed and TCC has enough information to begin the design process. The DEC visited both Town sites when they were in the area looking at other projects. The DEC came back in support of removing the dam.

The Town Board advised Legislator Washburn that they will be seeking funding for the project and will request her assistance.

Mr. Alex advised this is when a working meeting to nail down the details and to have the landowners in for their prospective projects would be helpful.

The Camby Road project is more of a challenge. The DEC expressed that a diversion swale approach is a good one. If the town decides to progress with the culvert improvements, the DEC noted there has been a change in requirements since the county replaced their culvert ten years ago. Because of the changes in requirements and standards, that culvert would require replacement. Councilman Audia asked on behalf of Mr. Marshall, can't the town fix the bridge and leave the flooding the way it has been for over sixty years. Mr. Cronk advised that you can't design a new bridge without meeting the current state standards. Councilman Audia asked can we make it the same as it is. Mr. Cronk said that would not comply with the state required design standards and engineering professionals have both state and ethical requirements to uphold. Replacing the culverts would have downstream ramifications. Currently, the water flows through this area at 200 cfs, which is a lot of water. Using the diversion swale and fire pond would provide relief from down gradient flooding. Councilman Murphy asked is there currently problems at both locations. Mr. Llanes said that Stanford Road has collapsed twice in the area of question. Camby Road has been narrowed to a one lane road over the bridge. Mr. Llanes said he

asked Dutchess County Engineers to review the two sites and provide feedback on their conditions. Both locations scored seriously low and it was his decision to take action and have the Town take action.

The Town Board asked Mr. Cronk to provide dates as to when the Board could meet, and to have the Mr. Metzger and Mr. Marshall available for further discussions.

In another matter, Mr. Cronk discussed the Hudson River Estuary program that the Chazen Companies has been working in partnership with the Cary Institute and the NYS DEC to identify barrier locations whereby species are unable to travel from the Hudson River to spawning areas throughout Dutchess County. The Town may have received a letter that locations within the town have been identified as potential sites. The two projects that the town are working on are not on the identified barrier list. There are two sites in the town which have been identified where owners might be willing to mitigate or remove the structures. The high priority locations in Washington are Fowler Road and on Cary Institute property. Mr. Metzger might want to suggest the dam on his property. It may be considered if other locations are not brought forth. At this time, funding sources (NY RISING) are not available and there isn't any indications that there will be.

Mr. Cronk said the Town may elect the two highlighted locations in the town and the two projects under discussion. If the town wants to make an election, they have been provided with the forms to complete for consideration.

Mr. Schuman noted that because the two road projects being discussed are wetlands, the Planning Board and the CAC should be included in discussions.

Mr. Llanes said the town has \$500,000.00 in CHIPS money which may qualify for funding.

Bookkeeper Sukow provided the Town Board with an up to date revenue and expense report. The bank statements were made available for the Town Board's review. Ms. Sukow noted the following:

- Currently working on ensuring all expenses are entered in order to complete all necessary budget transfers for 2015 are complete.
 - Memos are now being used to make employees aware of various topics i.e. a memo has been created to employees regarding Direct Deposit
 - Working with KVS to prepare the system to generate W2 for next week's payroll
 - All benefit time has been reviewed and updated in the system as necessary (case-by-case basis)
 - W2 form codes are under review to ensure the proper items are being recorded correctly to the IRS
 - 2015 FSA reports are in we are working to determine the amounts that each employee has remaining if any.
 - Request for voucher for issuance of replacement check for employee's check from last payroll 12/2015
 - AARP has issued a refund for 1887.75 for an overpayment made.
- The Board appreciated her detailed report.

Highway Superintendent Joseph Spagnola said he is two weeks into the job and getting his feet wet. There was a question by Mr. Llanes about CHIPS funding that had been requested for winter storm specific events. He said the state says the town cashed the checks in the amounts of \$27,318.73 and \$17,967.00 but the bookkeeper doesn't have record of the checks. After some investigating, Town Clerk

Alex said the payments were not made by check. There are two ACH payments in December that are probably the payments.

Hwy. Sup't. Spagnola is working with different entities about salt usage. He will work to establish a fair way to measure, track and bill those parties eligible for usage. Educating citizens on the new practice will be done.

The crew has been out on several winter events. It's a good group of workers and with a little more time, he will be comfortable knowing everyone's skill level and abilities.

Town Clerk Mary Alex said monthly reports and end of year reports have been received from the different departments and have been filed appropriately. Mrs. Alex has been meeting with different departments regarding 2016 budgets and expectations. Transfer station bag ticket rates and building permit fee increases have gone into effect.

Tax collection preparation is underway. Bills are being processed and being sent to all banks and escrow companies then when all address changes and property sale changes are finished bills will be mailed to all property owners.

Councilman Stephen Turletes provided information on the Recreation Department. Winter basketball has 102 children currently registered. Practice and games will begin shortly at the Village Hall. A new program, Adult Indoor Soccer is starting and will be using the Dutchess Day School facility. The After School programs may have less participants this year, as student enrichment Elm Drive Elementary and Alden Place Elementary schools are offering additional after school programs. The Recreation Commission is extending summer camp an additional week. Plans are under way for the Easter Egg hunt and the Twilight Egg Hunt to be held in the spring.

Mr. Schuman advised the Board that he followed up on the dog he worries about, on Horseshoe Rd. because the temperatures have been around 8 or 9 degrees at night. There are now two dogs outside at that location. He encouraged the Board to pass the local law he proposed to enhance animal protection.

On a motion made by Councilman Audia and seconded by Councilman Turletes, the Board closed the meeting at 8:30 PM. All ayes were recorded.

The Town Board had a meeting with the Town Attorney.

On a motion made by Councilman Audia and seconded by Councilman Murphy the Board opened the regular meeting. All ayes were recorded.

The following claims were accepted as presented:

2015	
Gen Fund A	\$55,471.96
Gen Fund B	\$5,587.25
Highway Fund DB	\$76,709.11
Fund TA	\$1,395.19
TOTAL	\$139,163.51

2016	
Gen Fund A	\$50,774.00
Gen Fund B	\$1,500.00
Highway Fund DB	\$79,169.00
TOTAL	\$131,443.00

On a motion made by Councilman Murphy and seconded by Councilman Turletes, the Board approved the claims as presented:

Supervisor Ciferri	Aye
Councilman Turletes	Aye
Councilman Audia	Aye
Councilman Murphy	Aye

There being no other business, on a motion made by Councilman Audia and seconded by Councilman Turletes the meeting was closed at 10:45 pm. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri	Aye
Councilman Turletes	Aye
Councilman Audia	Aye
Councilman Murphy	Aye

Mary Alex, Town Clerk