

Town of Washington
Town Board
April 14, 2016

The Town Board of the Town of Washington held their regular meeting on Thursday, April 14, 2016, at the Town of Washington Town Hall. The meeting was opened at 7:00 PM by Supervisor Gary Ciferri with the following present: Councilmen Stephen Turletes, Bob Audia and Al De Bonis, Town Clerk Mary Alex, Bookkeeper Dana Sukow and Highway Superintendent Joseph Spagnola.

Supervisor Ciferri opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion made by Councilman De Bonis and seconded by Councilman Audia, the Board moved to appoint Dianne McNeil to the Board of Assessment Review. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri: Aye
Councilman Turletes: Aye
Councilman Audia: Aye
Councilman De Bonis Aye
Councilman Murphy: Absent

Supervisor Ciferri announced that there are openings on the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals. He thanked Laura Briggs and Fletcher Coddington for the years they served on these Boards. They both had provided meaningful input on the committees they served. Town Clerk Alex will advertise for both.

Bookkeeper Sukow provided the Board with copies of the Revenue and Expense Report and an Overtime Comparison from 2015 and 2016. Due to the difference in weather, the overtime was reduced by over \$40,000.00 for the same time periods. Revenues of note included the following: Sales Tax \$25,629.34 and FSA Funds owed from Laura Hurley \$124.01.

On a motion made by Councilman Turletes and seconded by Councilman De Bonis, the Board authorized an FSA refund to Tom Coy in the amount of \$808.21. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri: Aye
Councilman Turletes: Aye
Councilman Audia: Aye
Councilman De Bonis Aye
Councilman Murphy: Absent

Ms. Sukow advised that at the request of several employees she made inquiries into providing Direct Deposit of paychecks. Nine employees signed up for the service. She asked the Board if they wished to proceed as there are security changes that have to be changed and upgraded, as well as a revision to the security policy. The Board decided there were too few employees wishing to participate to make the necessary changes.

Ms. Sukow said that she has advanced as far as possible with account reconciliations and requires some additional assistance from D'Arcangelo's. She has scheduled a meeting on April 20th for this work. She is still awaiting word from the Recreation Department on the amount of money to be transferred out of the Guertin Scholarship bank account, as transfers have not been made for several years. The Town has continued to collect from some of the older transfer station past due accounts,

and has forgiven others due to the time period and lack of proof we have available. The Payroll Certification paperwork and Workers Compensation Employee Code Report have been submitted to Dutchess County as required.

Highway Superintendent Spagnola notified the Board that the department partially completed a portion of the road work on Killlearn Rd. A complaint has been received by a resident as to the material being used. He advised the Board that it is the same material that has been used in the past. The Department still has to use a roller to compact the material that has been placed. Mr. Spagnola advised that the road is under construction and signs have been placed indicating such.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the hazards of traveling on a dirt road and generally people understand that road conditions such as mud, dirt, rocks, chips, etc. are all to be considered when living on such a road. Highway Superintendent Spagnola said his biggest concern is the ability of fire trucks and ambulances being able to travel the road.

On a motion made by Councilman Audia and seconded by Councilman De Bonis the Board authorized Highway Superintendent Spagnola to solicit bids for an excavator. He will provide Town Clerk Alex with the specifications and the bids will be due prior to the May 13 meeting. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri: Aye
Councilman Turletes: Aye
Councilman Audia: Aye
Councilman De Bonis Aye
Councilman Murphy: Absent

The Board was advised that Ed Wheeler has retired after thirty years of service in the highway department. He was a good man on the road and has offered to work part time if needed to plow. He is very good at what he does. Mr. Spagnola said that they may need an extra person, but didn't think it was necessary to replace Ed right now.

In other highway business, Hwy. Sup't. said that he didn't think the department would be completing a black top job in 2016. There's culvert work, repairs and oil and stone jobs he believes should be considered first. At the Transfer Station, the transmission in the tractor needs to be replaced. Prices are being researched.

Town Clerk Alex advised that monthly reports have been received and filed from the following departments: Building, Recreation, Justice Court and Town Clerk. As Tax Collector, a payment of \$5,135.58 has been provided to the Supervisor for the 2% penalty payments received in March.

Town Clerk Alex noted that Transfer Station permits would be available for sale beginning in May. She recommended that permit fees remain at the same price for 2016/17 but the bag ticket fees increase from 10 bags for \$40.00 to 10 bags for \$50.00 and the 5 bag tickets be raised from \$20.00 to \$25.00. The Board authorized the increase in fees effective immediately, as it has been over 10 years since there has been an increase in bag ticket fees.

The Town Board authorized Supervisor to sign the NYS Department of Taxation form to Authorize Power of Attorney to Dana Sukow, so she, as bookkeeper has the ability to speak with NYS regarding taxation questions and payments.

On a motion made by Councilman Audia and seconded by Councilman Turlletes the Town Board authorized Town Clerk Alex to purchase computers for the Town Clerk's Office and the Director of Recreation, as the computers in those locations are operating on a Windows platform that is no longer serviced. It will cost approximately \$1350 - \$1500.00 per computer. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri: Aye

Councilman Turlletes: Aye

Councilman Audia: Aye

Councilman De Bonis Aye

Councilman Murphy: Absent

On a motion made by Councilman Audia and seconded by Councilman Turlletes the Town Board approved a dog enumeration to be completed this summer. A survey will be sent to all property owners advising them of the enumeration and asking if they have a licensed dog, no dog or need to license a dog. Students will be hired to complete a door to door census of those property owners that do not respond. The enumeration fee will be \$25.00 per dog. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri: Aye

Councilman Turlletes: Aye

Councilman Audia: Aye

Councilman De Bonis Aye

Councilman Murphy: Absent

On behalf of Recreation Director McMillan, the Board was advised that a concession stand vendor is needed for the park and pool. Mr. McMillan suggested a seasonal price increase. Town Clerk Alex will advertise for a vendor.

Town Clerk Alex advised that there are vacancies on the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals and the Town Clerk will continue to advertise to fill these positions.

Councilman Turlletes provided the Recreation Report. The Committee will be conducting interviews for the Recreation Director position on April 20th. The Committee has received the latest financials from the Bookkeeper. The registration forms have been reformatted at the request of the Commission. They discussed the fact that there is a declining school population, and therefore there will probably be decreases in the number of children enrolled and participating in programs, including summer camp. There has been a minimum wage increase which will affect pricing and may require that the Recreation Department increase fees.

At the Senior Luncheon there were 75 attendees. Thank you to the Ladies Auxiliary. The Easter Egg Hunts were very successful, with over 300 children at the Tribute Garden and 50 for the twilight Egg Hunt at the Town Park. Summer camp has been extended by one week and there will continue to be an after camp care for one hour.

Councilman Robert Audia reported on Buildings and Grounds. The changes have been made to the furnace as suggested by the insurance company. The CDBG grant for the improved disability access is moving forward.

Councilman De Bonis discussed the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals meetings. The ZBA approved a variance for Mrs. Imperatori for a garage over 25% area allowance. The structure is smaller than the previous garage on the property and the neighbors were accepting of the application.

Ms. Marshall appeared before the Planning Board for an informational discussion regarding her property on Shady Dell Road. She is selling a piece of property that is from several lots. There is a pond that she does not

want to share. She would like to make a land swap from another piece of her land. Non-conforming lots are involved.

Mr. and Mrs. Olson were before the Planning Board to discuss an increase in their farm business. They will be raising chickens and slaughtering chickens for customers. This activity falls under the NYS Ag & Markets department.

A lot line change application has been submitted for properties on Hammond Hill Road.

Mr. Spence had a pre-application discussion about the property west of the Dutchess Day School. He seeks to combine two lots into one. Sell one lot and put one lot into the Dutchess Land Conservancy with a conservation easement.

Tuxis wishes to tear down the dairy deli in Mabbettsville and build additional storage units, as they have the storage facility next door. They were advised to go to apply to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

At 8:15 PM, on a motion made by Councilman Audia and second by Councilman Turletes the Board moved into Executive Session for a discussion that is Attorney Client Privileged. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri: Aye
Councilman Turletes: Aye
Councilman Audia: Aye
Councilman De Bonis Aye
Councilman Murphy: Absent

At 9:00 PM, on a motion made by Councilman De Bonis and seconded by Councilman Audia the regular meeting resumed. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri: Aye
Councilman Turletes: Aye
Councilman Audia: Aye
Councilman De Bonis Aye
Councilman Murphy: Absent

On a motion made by Councilman Audia and seconded by Councilman Turletes the Board moved to approve the claims as presented. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri: Aye
Councilman Turletes: Aye
Councilman Audia: Aye
Councilman De Bonis Aye
Councilman Murphy: Absent

There being no other business, on a motion made by Councilman Audia and seconded by Councilman De Bonis, the meeting was closed at 10:00 PM. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri: Aye
Councilman Turletes: Aye
Councilman Audia: Aye
Councilman De Bonis Aye
Councilman Murphy: Absent

Mary Alex, Town Clerk