

TOWN OF AMENIA
Business Workshop Meeting
Thursday, January 10, 2008 – 7:00 pm
Amenia Town Hall

Supervisor Euvrard called Business Workshop Meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Salute to the flag was conducted.

Emergency Exits at right of town board meeting table and at rear of meeting room.

PRESENT: Councilman Pelkey
Councilwoman Perotti
Councilwoman Doyle
Councilman Cayea
Supervisor Euvrard

Supervisor Euvrard stated the following:

The first board meeting (second Thursday of each month) will be a business workshop meeting and board will conduct limited voting, unless issues are time-sensitive.

Public Comments will be allowed at beginning and end of meetings and should be addressed to the town board.

No Public Comments.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Town Clerk

Maureen Bonds reported that Public Hearing for Cablevision Franchise agreement was published on November 29, 2007 and December 6, 2007.

Public Hearing for Water Meter Project was published on January 3, 2008.

Warrant for Town of Amenia Property Tax was published January 10, 2008 in Millerton News. The Town Clerk's office will be working on Saturday, January 12th and property taxes will be mailed the week of January 14th.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Darlene Reimer – Town Wastewater Chair, reported that first meeting will be held on Monday, January 14, 2008 at 5:00 pm and future meetings will be scheduled and submitted. Janet Reagon may be interested in joining committee.

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Tom Werner – Recreation Committee Chair reported that some residents attended last Recreation meeting and expressed their concerns. He explained to those attendees that some funding may have to be cut for

some Recreation programs. Channel 22 advertisement for Recreation meetings has been helpful in gaining attendees at these meetings. Use of Webutuck School for Walk Program and fields for games will be scheduled and coordinated with Dr. Johns.

Councilwoman Doyle requested that a specific program be identified that does not have adequate funding, as each budget line was funded adequately.

Councilwoman Perotti and Supervisor Euvrard commented that monies were combined in one line for Recreation and specific programs and funding need to be identified.

OTHER BUSINESS

Supervisor Euvrard stated that interviews for Planning Board, ZBA and Board of Assessment Review seats have been scheduled for Friday, January 11, 2008.

Committee vacancy sign-up list is available at rear of meeting room and in town clerk's office for anyone who wishes to volunteer.

DC County Personnel Annual update of "Report of Changes" form will be completed by next week, as stated by Lana Anguin-Cohen, Supervisor Assistant.

NYMIR and PERMA Insurance changes/Elected Officials and Staff changes have been submitted.

NYC Association of Towns meeting – monies for meal allowances will be set up at regular board meeting on January 17, 2008.

Maplebrook School Swim Program - schedule will be finalized by next meeting.

Town Board members will be conducting INTERNAL AUDITS for completion by January 20:

Chief Financial Officer:	Councilwoman Doyle and Councilwoman Perotti
Town Clerk's Office:	Councilman Cayea and Councilman Pelkey
Town Justice Office:	Councilman Cayea and Councilman Pelkey

GRANTS UPDATE

Michael Haggerty submitted up-to-date listing of grants completed, ongoing, pending, potential new grants, or not awarded.

The Borden Park grant from Senator Leibell for \$10,000 has been approved with payment to the town shortly.

Dutchess County is not recommending the Freshtown sidewalk project under the Community Block Grant Program at this time.

Greenway grant, Extension of Rail Trail funding and Local Government Records grants are due in February 2008.

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TOWN BOARD COMMENTS

Councilwoman Doyle mentioned electrical issues at Fountain Square due to circuitry overload. Board members will discuss for possible reassessment by electrician.

Snow removal issues and comments are being logged.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Euvrard stated that he attended Association of Towns seminar in Albany, NY with Councilman Norm Cayea for newly elected officials.

Open discussion for monthly calendar of town events on website and Channel 22.
Supervisor welcomes volunteers to post events at locations in town.

Reminder that issues to be addressed at board meetings should reach Town Board members one week prior to meetings.

Mechanic Street Project paperwork has been reviewed with Michael Hayes, Town Attorney.

Employee's handbook manual to be discussed by town board for paid holidays for part time and full time employees.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Evelyn O'Connell welcomed everyone to the Harlem Valley Walk Program at Webutuck School every Monday thru Friday from 4pm to 8pm. Periodic incentives are given for this program.

A request for a Recreation budget printout has been given to the bookkeeper by Ms O'Connell.

Elizabeth Whaley commented that it is crucial that the Planning Board hear the public's input regarding the Silo Ridge project. Planning Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 3rd with consultants and the public is urged to attend.

Cheryl Morse read article regarding government officials democratic responsibilities to the people, and that the public have confidence in the integrity of its government. She recommended that the town board consider adding some guidelines to its code of ethics regarding conduct and procedures.

Arlene Iuliano offered her services as a volunteer.

Pat Nelligan suggested that part time and full time employees be offered the same holidays. Also, town board should consider local electricians for town jobs.

MOTION to adjourn meeting at 8:50pm, seconded by Councilwoman Perotti, and motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Maureen Bonds
Amenia Town Clerk

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Minutes approved by Town Board on February 21, 2008

