

TOWN OF AMENIA
Town Board Special Meeting
Thursday, October 10, 2013
Amenia Town Hall

Supervisor Flood moves, seconded by Councilwoman Riemer to call the meeting to order at 7:00pm followed by a salute to the flag and a moment of silence.

Members present:

Councilwoman Darlene Riemer
Councilwoman Victoria Perotti
Councilwoman Gretchen Hitselberger
Councilwoman Vicki Doyle
Supervisor William Flood
Clerk Dawn Marie Klingner
Also Present
Ian MacDonald, Town Attorney

Public Comments

Pat Nelligan commented that the water meeting held last night was a good meeting and commented that the town calendar was not update with the announcements of committee meetings.

Sharon Kroeger read aloud a prepared statement regarding check valves and water laws.

Tom Werner asked the board to take into consideration that there was a reduction in property values and reminded them to take into consideration that there is a tax cap.

Evelyn O'Connell commented on the preliminary budget asking that the board review the senior picnic line that was cut. She points out that the dance program was open to students out of town. There is a need for a second person to help with the maintenance of the town park and the need of new playground equipment.

Kevin Cassone commented to the board that there is a requirement to have a backflow prevention program it is not a law. He also complemented the board members on all of their hard work they do for the town.

Pat Nelligan commented in response to Sharon Kroeger's earlier comments by saying to the board that they are responsible for all the decisions that are made.

Water Committee Report

Chair May Jones reported that the Water Committee met last night. Most of the businesses in the water district who are required to have back-flow valve have complied and at this time is interested in the fine structure for those who have not. It is up to the town board on how they want to set up the law and the penalty phase.

S/Flood asked if the Committee discussed the water rates; they did not.

Marco D'Antonio comments that Code Enforcement Officer John Fenton would enforce the cross contamination program and if he does it through the state code the town would lose revenues.

Mr. D'Antonio reports that the Town Hall is not complete. S/Flood informs him that VRI is a local company that can come in and inspect the town hall. The attorney adds that according to Chapter 63 it gives the Building Inspector the power to complete the inspection. S/Flood asked about a recent break in and the shutting off of the water at the pump house and the Board not being notified. Mr. D'Antonio did not want to discuss the security issue in a public meeting.

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C/Perotti addresses the issue and asked Mr. D'Antonio to get estimates for two steel doors and new locks.

Building Department Report

S/Flood read aloud the monthly report.

Highway Report

No report

Grant Updates

Main Street Grant: S/Flood reported that the benches and planters have arrived.

2014 Community Development Block Grant application-

S/Flood motioned, seconded by C/Perotti

Motion to accept Resolution #68 – authorization to apply for the 2014 Community Development Block Grant application for handicap accessibility improvements at the Town Hall

The motion was duly put to a vote which resulted as follows:

Supervisor Flood	Aye
Councilwoman Perotti	Aye
Councilwoman Doyle	Aye
Councilwoman Riemer	Aye
Councilwoman Hitselberger	Aye

Motion carried

CAC Report

C/Doyle reported that the CAC has reviewed the project Northwest Farms (formerly Amenia Sand & Gravel South Amenia Pit). There is a current active permit allowing them to mine. Proposed is to increase the area by three and a half acres that is not in the soil overlay district. The applicant, Ian Hollback is looking to bring the area into compliance. The project is not applying for a new permit but is looking to modify the current one. Attorney MacDonald explains that the comment period will expire on October 18th, during this period of time the town can comment on the setback requirements, the dust, hours of operation and if it is permitted in the area. S/Flood adds that at the end of the day this will better the project. The board will meet and visit the site.

C/Doyle motioned, seconded by C/Riemer

Motion to have a special meeting on Saturday, October 12th at 7am for a site visit of Northwest Farms

The motion was duly put to a vote which resulted as follows:

Supervisor Flood	Aye
Councilwoman Perotti	Aye
Councilwoman Doyle	Aye
Councilwoman Riemer	Aye
Councilwoman Hitselberger	Aye

Motion carried

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Town Clerk's Report, Dawn Marie Klingner, Town Clerk

The Clerk reported that she has turned over to the Supervisor the local shares of fees collected. The Clerk announced to all the hunters that the shot gun season begins on November 16th. Licenses are on sale at this time. The Clerk has provided to the board a copy of a three month Record of Activities report as required by NYS Retirement. The Clerk also asked the Board who will be collecting the 2014 taxes, as she has noticed in the Preliminary 2014 budget there is no salary listed.

Discussions

C/Perotti read aloud a letter from John Fenton, Code Enforcement Officer regarding Bill Henry/Unsafe Building and illegal usage of structure and property. Attorney MacDonald explains the next step is for the town board to order the barn to be demolished. Initially the cost will be paid for by the town and then levied onto the property taxes. The board will have Mr. Fenton get three bids. C/Doyle asked about the people living in the structure. Mr. Fenton is currently prosecuting the matter in local jurisdiction.

C/Doyle asked about an outstanding bill from Berlinghoff Electric for the repairs on the tennis court lights from over a year ago.

The town attorney has drafted a written response to Mr. LaRobadier letter dated July 11, 2013. The Board approved the attorney's response and was okay with the attorney mailing out the response.

S/Flood motioned, seconded by C/Doyle

Motion to approve Resolution #69-Standard Work Day

The motion was duly put to a vote which resulted as follows:

Supervisor Flood	Aye
Councilwoman Perotti	Aye
Councilwoman Doyle	Aye
Councilwoman Riemer	Aye
Councilwoman Hitselberger	Aye

Motion carried

2014 Budget

The board scheduled a budget meeting for October 15, 2013 at 7:30pm

Board announcements

S/Flood announced the Enhanced Star Program; the NY Sheep and Wool Festival will be held October 19 and 20th at the Dutchess County Fair grounds and the 4H will be hosting a Woods of Terror Halloween themed event. The landfill project is almost complete, they are currently seeding the area. Silo Ridge is moving forward. The NYS Comptroller auditors are here and will be here for four to six weeks. A pitching machine and balls that is owned by Sam Bailey has been stolen from the ball fields.

C/Doyle announced the haunted hayride on Saturday, October 26th in Wassaic. The next Enhancement meeting will be October 16th at 5:30 to discuss the Holiday of Lights. There will be a talent show at the town hall on November 2nd at 2pm. Donations will go towards Gridley Chapel roof repairs.

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C/Perotti announced the upcoming Wassaic Pancake Breakfast and Lions Club Dinner. There will be a defensive driving course held at the town hall on October 29th and 30th.

C/Riemer announced an upcoming auction to raise money for repairs at the Smithfield Church. The Coons Brothers Farm will be hosting an open house on October 13 and on November 2nd there will be a turkey dinner at the Smithfield Church.

S/Flood motioned, seconded by C/Riemer

Motion to go into executive session at 8:56pm and invited Mary Malliet to stay in the meeting.

The motion was duly put to a vote which resulted as follows:

Supervisor Flood	Aye
Councilwoman Perotti	Aye
Councilwoman Doyle	Aye
Councilwoman Riemer	Aye
Councilwoman Hitselberger	Aye

Motion carried

The Clerk was excused from the executive session, C/Doyle agreed to take minutes for the remaining of the meeting.

S/Flood motioned, seconded by C/Hitselberger

Motion to adjourn the executive session and return to the regular meeting

The motion was duly put to a vote which resulted as follows:

Supervisor Flood	Aye
Councilwoman Perotti	Aye
Councilwoman Doyle	Aye
Councilwoman Riemer	Aye
Councilwoman Hitselberger	Aye

Motion carried

S/Flood motioned, seconded by C/Riemer

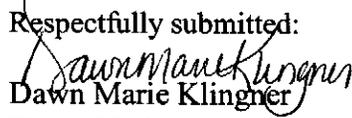
Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:40pm

The motion was duly put to a vote which resulted as follows:

Supervisor Flood	Aye
Councilwoman Perotti	Aye
Councilwoman Doyle	Aye
Councilwoman Riemer	Aye
Councilwoman Hitselberger	Aye

Motion carried

Respectfully submitted:


Dawn Marie Klingner
Town Clerk

The foregoing represents unapproved minutes of the Town of Amenia Town Board from a meeting held on October 10, 2013 and are not to be construed as the final official minutes until so approved.

 Approved as read on 2/27/2014

 Approved with: deletions, corrections, and additions