

**TOWN OF DEERPARK  
TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2016**

Meeting was held at Town Hall, 420 Route 209, Huguenot, NY 12746

**Invocation** by Alan Schock (Participation is Optional)

**Attendance**

**Supervisor:** Gary Spears

**Councilmember's:** Alan Schock, Ken Smith, David Dean, Arthur Trovei

**Engineer:** Al Fusco, Jr.

**Call to Order** at 7:31 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance** by Ken Smith

Presentations/Communications

*Brenda Blair* – Reported that since her first letter to the Supervisor a year ago and making her presentation to the Board requesting reducing the speed limit on County 80 (Neversink Drive). She said she was kind of old school and are too busy in society speaking negatives and not positives—so she is back to say thank you for those who signed the petition and those who contacted her, and those who went around with petitions. She thanked the board for listening and doing what they had to do to send their concerns to Goshen, then on to New York State. She acknowledged that getting all that done within a year's time was good. She was sure everyone has seen the multiple signs along both sides of the road. She thought it might be nice to alternate putting the digital sign up at each end of the road to give people a little warning about the change. She also hoped the Police Department could give tickets to make people obey the signs. Supervisor Spears told her he met with the Police Chief and they have already had police out and they have given some warnings. He thought the speed limit sign would be good, since they didn't even get notified from the state.

*Town Clerk Florence Santini* – Reported they are getting responses for the Sr. Council Thanksgiving Day Dinner. Also, the Dog Enumeration was mailed out. They had close to 20 dog registration/renewals just that day and probably nine people said they didn't even know they had to register their dogs. Regarding the Thanksgiving Dinner, she had spoken at the Port Jervis City Council meeting and she thanked them for helping them out. Kathy Shortell helps with the cooking. They can feed about 120 at the Senior Center and usually will feed about 85 to 90 by delivery in Deerpark and Port Jervis. They will do about 200 or 250 on November 19. It is on the website. She also offered to put the speed limit on the website as well as the dog enumeration.

Councilman Dean announced the American Red Cross Blood Drive on Tuesday, October 25 at the Port Jervis Elks Lodge from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. This is for the Building Inspector, Bob Emerson. He is fighting a battle and it would be nice to have a huge turnout to support him. He needs our prayers and would appreciate everyone to help.

Addition or Changes to the Agenda – None

Public Comment – None

Supervisor Spears announced their Attorney was not at the meeting due to religious holiday. Ed Hughson the Highway Superintendent was going to be there but one of his children had a medical emergency, so he would not be there. He will give his brief summary. The Highway Department has been grading ditches and clearing brush to get ready for winter storms and make sure everything is ready for proper drainage. They are hauling some sand in on bad weather days. He did reach the quota of salt he needed to buy from last year, so they fulfilled their contract. They have 600 or 700 tons yet for the coming winter. The last truck body is going on that they bought and that will be ready for this winter also. The bridge on Route 42 is now complete and open.

*Town Engineer Al Fusco, Jr.* reported on the culvert on Big Pond Road, they have bid on it and awarded it, they have contracts and drawings that have come in and they look good and they will probably approve those this week. They are coordinating with Orange & Rockland for the electric and gas. That project is moving ahead well. They applied for three 100% grants under Bridge New York. There are 200 million dollars a year for bridges and 100 million dollars a year for culverts, and it will be five year program. They can submit every year. This year they submitted one for Guymard on the hairpin turn;

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another one on Big Pond Road up further from the culvert being replaced; and Shinhollow needs a culvert replacement, including engineering. They also applied for the Orange County Community Development money to do some paving and they should hear in October. He mentioned a TAP Grant (Transportation Alternate Program) available for sidewalks through the schools or trail or bike path. Port Jervis applied and got money for the Middle School for sidewalks ... so there is 98 million dollars for this region. Supervisor Spears recommended they set up a meeting later that week to discuss it. Mr. Fusco also said that Bob is a real good friend of theirs, as well as their employee and he'll coordinate refreshments for the blood drive. Councilman Dean will provide that information to Mr. Fusco. More discussion about the grants continued.

**Motion to Approve September 19, 2016 Board Minutes**

Motion by David Dean, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ken Smith to approve the September 19, 2016 Board Minutes as presented.

**VOTE: 5 AYES:** Alan Schock, Ken Smith, David Dean, Arthur Trovei, Gary Spears

**MOTION CARRIED**

Old Business – None

New Business

**Motion to Appoint Daniel Kurdyla as Cleaner at \$13.00 per hour**

Motion by David Dean, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ken Smith to appoint Daniel Kurdyla as cleaner for \$13.00 per hour.

Discussion: Councilman Trovei asked how many hours and Supervisor Spears replied 24, he will be working Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

**VOTE: 5 AYES:** Alan Schock, Ken Smith, David Dean, Arthur Trovei, Gary Spears

**MOTION CARRIED**

Supervisor Spears stated that he has received all the department heads budget information and he has put it together and given it to the Town Clerk, who was going to hand it out to the Board. He said it is slightly under the tax cap, which is .6 this year, because it is ever going down from the 2% because the inflation rate has not been high. So, the budget he is presenting is a .5 (a half percent increase). He said the board has two weeks to look at it and make suggestions, and then they'll vote on a budget. Since they are in deficit finance, they need to send this to Albany. They do a complete audit on it and send back recommendations, which they look at and pass the budget sometime in the middle of November. It does allow for quite a bit of money for paving for roads and extra money for a police car they need. Their medical insurance is going up about 5% – 8%. The Highway and Police employees are at a 2% increase. He also recommends a 2% increase for employees in the Town Hall. He welcomed phone calls about it. They sent a letter to the Upper Delaware Council about their draft position paper on commercial solar within the corridor...they were going to ban it outright and the letter they sent to them expressed spots where they could possibly mitigate it without banning it, so private property owners would have the possibility of the use of their land. They replied that they would look at it. They will give comment and Mr. Spears told the Board there were copies in their mailboxes. Councilman Dean has been working on this with the UDC and he commented that the consensus for the meeting was they were going to ban the commercial solar in the corridor. He added that if they are going to be champions for private property rights regardless of where it might be, they need to stand strong on their position. They have support by 600 townships. Nobody wants to see the corridor ruined. It is a valuable asset for everyone. More discussion followed.

Appropriations, Budget and Payment of Bills

**Motion to Pay Bills and Accept Budget Officer's Report**

Motion by Arthur Trovei, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alan Schock to pay bills that have been signed by three council members, and accept the Budget Officer's Report and may be viewed in the Town Clerk's Office.

General Fund Abstract #18 of 2016 in the amount of \$109,103.14

Highway Fund Abstract #18 of 2016 in the amount of \$39,605.89

Deerpark Manor Street Lighting Fund Abstract #9 of 2016 in the amount of \$483.69

**VOTE: 5 AYES:** Alan Schock, Ken Smith, David Dean, Arthur Trovei, Gary Spears

**MOTION CARRIED**

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Closing Board Comments

Councilman Trovei thanked the Supervisor for all his hard work that went into the budget. He is sure he did a great job and it was good holding the taxes again. He thanked the rest of the board and all the employees of the town for all they did to keep this up.

Councilman Dean expressed his appreciation for the time and effort the Supervisor put in on the budget.

Councilman Smith also thanked the Supervisor for his work on the budget and know how tedious it is and for everything to come out right.

Councilman Schock agreed.

Supervisor Spears said that Bob Emerson goes for blood about three times a week, so the blood drive is on Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at the Elks Lodge in Port Jervis between 1:00 and 6:00 p.m. He would like for as many people as possible to go out, it is a worthy cause. He thanked Al Fusco, Jr. for his offer of donations.

*Town Clerk Florence Santini* reminded the board that the budget is not yet public, just a work in progress. Supervisor Spears informed the board that he gives it to them to look over for two weeks, then they come together to hash it out.

**Motion to Adjourn at 8:02 p.m.**

Motion by Ken Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> by David Dean to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

**VOTE: 5 AYES:** Alan Schock, Ken Smith, David Dean, Arthur Trovei, Gary Spears

**MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted by,

Florence T. Santini  
Town Clerk