

**TOWN OF DEERPARK
TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2017**

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

Invocation led by Councilman Trovei (Participation Optional)

Supervisor: Gary Spears

Councilmen: Alan Schock, Ken Smith, David Dean, Arthur Trovei

Attorney: Glen Plotsky

Engineer: Al Fusco, Jr.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Dean

Call to Order at 7:35 p.m.

Additions or Deletions to Agenda

Supervisor Spears said that under New Business he wanted to add Local Law 5 of 2017, (which will become Local Law 1 of 2018) regarding Driveway Permit Agreements.

Presentations/Communications

Peter Tomasi spoke in regards to the need of a ramp for handicap access at the Port Jervis Train Station. He referred to the Metro North Station in Port Jervis is the last stop of the train and the only station outside of Otisville that hasn't been renovated to allow for handicap accessibility. The interior of the train is four feet above the platform. Other stations have had their platforms raised, which is expensive or they have put a ramp on a concrete platform to bring the rider to the same level as the interior of the car. Or, he said a mobile lift is available to get on and off the train. The people getting in and out of the train could be pushing kids in a stroller that can climb that four foot stairs. It could be someone who is disabled and very well might be a veteran or aged. Metro North's policy is that if you cannot get on the train in Port Jervis they could get on in Middletown. When you point out to them that other stations east of Port Jervis have been renovated, they say one isn't needed. He asked the council to put a letter together and give it to Mr. Foster, the Chairman of the ADA Committee in Port Jervis and let him include the Port Jervis City Council ADA Committee drafted last week to the MTA. He also asked for a copy of the letter for those demonstrating at the Train Station on December 3rd. Councilman Dean asked if there was any documentation from MTA and he did not but thought the Port Jervis Council did. Supervisor Spears asked if they sought any grants for this. Discussion followed.

George Ewing of Port Jervis Volunteer Ambulance Corps reported seeing a \$15,000 profit the last month. They were doing inspections on a 2002 Ambulance and they were looking at an ambulance from East Chester that is a 2007 Ford with 76,000 miles on it and appears to be mechanically sound. They hope to get it for less than \$18,000. This group will work with them allowing 50% down and allowing them to pay off the remaining money over the next 12 months. He said that in October, almost 27% of their mandated roster was covered by volunteers. Almost 30% of their call line was met by volunteers. This is the biggest this number has been in close to five years. As far as of October 31st the volunteers have done 2,688 hours on the truck. It's a huge improvement. He went on to discuss the volunteer program he hopes to begin in January. He went on to say their payroll is the lowest it has been (by \$150,000) and they are getting a \$20,000 credit from the Workmen's Comp and Volunteer Ambulance Benefits Law package. They are getting better--it will still take time. Supervisor Spears asked about the property and Mr. Ewing said there was no movement on the property. They owe roughly \$115,000 on the property.

Supervisor Spears reported on a letter from Steve Neuhaus about the CDBG running. The town applied for a grant for Sleepy Hollow Road improvements for next year in the amount of \$75,000. It seems like the County will receive the \$2.3 million funding and they should be receiving the \$75,000.

Motion to Approve November 6, 2017 Board Minutes

Motion by Alan Schock, 2nd by Ken Smith to approve the November 6, 2017 Board Minutes as written.

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

MOTION CARRIED

Old Business

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Supervisor Spears read the proposed resolution in its entirety regarding the inventory of all town roads.

Motion to Approve Resolution 14 of 2017 – Maintain Inventory of all Town Roads

Motion by David Dean, 2nd by Ken Smith to approve Resolution 14 of 2017 – Town to Maintain Inventory of all Town Roads, adding Corso Road, beginning at NY Route 42 & 97, ending at Berme Road, length 0.20 miles; Gristmill Road, beginning at Shinhollow Road, ending at Neversink Drive, length 0.06 miles; and Huguenot Road, beginning at US Route 209, ending at US Route 209, length 0.22 miles.

VOTE: 5 AYES (Roll Call): Alan Schock, Ken Smith, David Dean, Arthur Trovei, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Supervisor Spears mentioned the Veterans Tax Deduction has a Public Hearing set at the last meeting for December 4th, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

New Business

Supervisor Spears stated the 2018 Budget needed to be approved and it was the last year of the deficit financing. They will pay off their debt in March of 2018. He said this year's budget is reflected in a tax levy percent change of an increase from .72%, which is slightly under a ¾ of 1% increase. It is not much but they are trying to keep a little bit of pace with inflation. He reported at the last meeting that the only change that's been made in the last two meetings was the actual report from Sparrowbush Fire House which was a \$1,000 difference in their budget from first reporting and it has been reflected in the budget.

Motion to Approve the Town of Deerpark 2018 Budget

Motion by David Dean, 2nd by Ken Smith to approve the Town of Deerpark 2018 Budget.

VOTE: 5 AYES (Roll Call): Alan Schock, Ken Smith, David Dean, Arthur Trovei, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to Accept Resignation from Amanda Gorr from Assessor's Office as Data Collector/Clerk

Motion by Alan Schock, 2nd by Ken Smith to accept letter of resignation from Amanda Gorr from the Assessor's Office as Data Collector/Clerk.

Discussion: Supervisor Spears explained that Amanda will be working for Fusco Engineering in the Building Department office. Councilman Dean asked if she would continue working as the Secretary of the Planning Board, Zoning Board and Board of Assessment Review and Supervisor Spears said she would and that would be 10 hours a week to those boards.

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

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to Approve the 2018 Port Jervis/Town of Deerpark Humane Society Contract

Motion by Ken Smith, 2nd by Arthur Trovei to approve the 2018 Port Jervis/Town of Deerpark Humane Society Contract with no changes from the previous year and authorize the Supervisor to sign the contract.

VOTE: 5 AYES (Roll Call): Alan Schock, Ken Smith, David Dean, Arthur Trovei, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Supervisor Spears attended the grand opening of their dog exercise park and said it was gorgeous. He said it was fine craftsmanship, beautiful work and nice materials. The grand opening was well attended. He commended them for the improvements they've made.

Supervisor Spears mentioned that Local Law 5 of 2017 was changed to Local Law 1 of 2018 for the Driveway Permit to be changed by the Highway Superintendent to update it and make it more specific so the town doesn't face issues in the future. Glen Plotsky explained that the councilmen all have a copy and only the Local Law number is different.

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Motion to Set Public Hearing for Local Law 1 of 2018- Introduction Adopting an Application for Construction of Driveway Entrances and Exits, a Permit for Construction of Driveway Entrances and Exits, and an Acknowledgement/ Agreement Relative to Construction of Driveway Entrances and Exits in the Town of Deerpark, County of Orange, State of New York

Motion by Ken Smith, 2nd by Alan Schock to set Public Hearing for Local Law 1 of 2018 - Introduction Adopting an Application for Construction of Driveway Entrances and Exits, a Permit for Construction of Driveway Entrances and Exits, and an Acknowledgement/ Agreement Relative to Construction of Driveway Entrances and Exits in the Town of Deerpark, County of Orange, State of New York Wednesday, January 3, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Discussion: Supervisor Spears that normally they would have met on Monday, January 1st and since it is a holiday, they will need to meet on Wednesday, January 3rd for the Re-organization Meeting. Hopefully that will work for the council and their schedules.

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

MOTION CARRIED

Town Attorney Glen Plotsky read the proposed Resolution establishing a paid family leave program. Supervisor Spears explained that as a town they have the option to opt out of this extra program, as a town they do provide the benefits. He went on to say that when they first received this, they thought it was mandatory and so did the payroll company and they have been deducting money for months from employees. However, they will recompense the employees all the money they have taken out. Councilman Trovei asked if it was because we were a town. Supervisor Spears said the town has a certain number of employees and the town does supply disability benefits to their employees. He has reasoned that it is money the employees may never use and with the town's situation with mostly union highway workers and union contracted police officers, they have personal/vacation days and a number of different ways to accommodate this without taking extra pay from their payroll. His recommendation is they opt out.

Motion to Approve Resolution 15 of 2017 – Opt Out of New York State Workers' Compensation Paid Family Leave Program

Motion by Alan Schock, 2nd by David Dean to approve Resolution 15 of 2017 – Opt Out of New York State Workers' Compensation Paid Family Leave Program per our carrier with a letter sent by December 1, 2017 to the Workers' Compensation Board.

VOTE: 5 AYES (Roll Call): Alan Schock, Ken Smith, David Dean, Arthur Trovei, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to Approve Assessor to Advertise for a new Data Collector

Motion by David Dean, 2nd by Ken Smith to approve Assessor to advertise for a new Data Collector position vacated by Amanda Gorr.

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

MOTION CARRIED

Appropriations, Budget and Payment of Bills

Motion to Pay Bills and Accept Budget Officer's Report

Motion by Ken Smith, 2nd by Alan Schock to pay bills that have been signed by three council members and accept and the Budget Officer's Report and all may be viewed in the Town Clerk's Office.

General Fund Abstract #21 of 2017 in the amount of \$60,825.79

Highway Fund Abstract #21 of 2017 in the amount of \$27,042.92

Deerpark Manor Street Lighting Fund Abstract #11 of 2017 in the amount of \$498.51

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

MOTION CARRIED

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Closing Board Comments

Councilman Dean thanked the Supervisor for his work on the budget and Glen Plotsky for all their work. They were a short time away from being out of deficit financing. Now they need to make sure they stay that way. It requires work and sacrifice. He then congratulated Amanda Gorr and wished her luck with her move to the Building Department.

Councilman Trovei told the Supervisor he did a great job on the budget and those who worked on it. He told Flo she did a great job keeping everything going. He wanted to give a mention and encourage prayers for the Coda family for the loss of their mom. Her service was earlier that day.

Councilman Smith thanked the Supervisor and said he did a great job. He is looking forward to the next year. He said they dug out of a hole and were going in the right direction. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Councilman Schock thanked the Supervisor. He wanted to mention Mr. Tomasi's comments and said he agreed in writing a letter for that need.

Supervisor Spears thanked George Ewing for his work and Councilman Smith for leading the charge a while back and writing some very good pointers for them. Councilman Smith added that he is in communication with them four times a month and wrote a letter about getting their vehicle looked at. Mr. Spears said that the town hall would be closed both Thursday and Friday for the Thanksgiving weekend, so the employees can enjoy time with their families. He thanked Flo for looking out for him and making some recommendations. He thanked Glen for his help, and Danielle as well.

Florence Santini mentioned the Thanksgiving dinner on Saturday for the seniors. She said the seniors started coming at 1:00 for the 3:00 dinner. They had 117 seniors who came and Bill Harris (Chef on the Run) did an excellent job. She said they were out at 4:30 p.m. It was great and the seniors were very happy. The Senior Council was there along with Catherine Westfall.

Motion to Enter Executive Session to Discuss Tax Certioraris at 8:27 p.m.

Motion by Ken Smith, 2nd by Alan Schock to enter Executive Session to discuss tax certioraris at 8:27 p.m.

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

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to Re-enter Regular Session at 9:30 p.m.

Motion by Alan Schock, 2nd by Ken Smith to re-enter Regular Session at 9:30 p.m.

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

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to Adjourn at 9:35 p.m.

Motion by David Dean, 2nd by Arthur Trovei to adjourn at 9:35 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