

Supervisor James Schmitt opened the Workshop Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Pawling at 6:00 PM October 7, 2020 at the Lathrop building, 2 Lakeside Drive, Pawling, New York. Present were Councilmen McCarthy, Councilwoman Snow, Town Attorney Nancy Tagliaferro and approximately 3 interested citizens. Councilmen Johnson and DeRosa were absent. The meeting was also broadcast live on Facebook on the town Facebook page at www.pawling.org. The Board took comments in person, through Facebook and by email. Due to Covid 19 restrictions, there was a limited capacity of 48 persons maximum allowed in the building. Social distancing and masks were required. Registration to attend the meeting was required.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Supervisor Schmitt opened the meeting for public comment on agenda items, there were none.

PAWLING COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Mr. George Apap was present representing the Pawling Community Foundation (PCF). Mr. Apap stated that the PCF wanted to clean up the dirt pile at Lakeside Park. They propose removing one third of the dirt because there is more dirt than needed for the great lawn project. They propose moving the dirt to a location inside Lakeside Park where the dirt is needed.

Supervisor Schmitt made a motion to authorize the PCF to remove one third of the existing dirt pile to be placed in specific locations in the park, to start as soon as possible, seconded by Councilwoman Snow, motion passed unanimously.

WENDEL WEBER/SUPERVISOR OF BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – LAKESIDE PARK ENTRANCE

Wendel Weber said the asbestos abatement at the Burr House is done. He has received plans from Joe Zarecki on the relocated entrance at Lakeside Park. He said Dutchess County Department of Public Works has inspected where the entrance is to be located and they approved of it. He felt this would be approved by the County DPW and he felt this project could move forward next spring. Mr. Weber talked about asbestos testing in the town hall basement. He felt that could be done for approximately \$1,500.00. Once that is done, he can decide how to move forward with that project. Mr. Weber said Holmes residents want the Town to donate a pavilion or gazebo at the head of the rail trail, near the Holmes Whaley Lake Civic Association building. There are some trees that need to be taken down first. Mr. Weber talked about the Lyons building. He said Joe Zarecki and Curt Johnson said they would do the RFP for the roof and masonry work, which would cost approximately \$3,500.00. He was not sure the roof could be replaced before winter. Mr. Weber said the recreation department would like air purifiers so that the buildings could be used more.

Following discussion, Councilman McCarthy made a motion to allow Wendel Weber to order six air purifiers, not to exceed \$3,000.00, seconded by Supervisor Schmitt, motion passed unanimously. Mr. Weber thanked the Board for moving funds for the purchase of the new truck for the buildings and grounds department.

RESOLUTIONS

The Board reviewed the resolutions and stated that the resolutions would be placed on the October 14, 2020 agenda.

TOWN BOARD DISCUSSION

CONSOLIDATION STUDY

Supervisor Schmitt explained that a petition was circulated forcing a special election on November 30, 2020 for the consolidation of the Town and Village of Pawling. The Town Board has hired the Laberge Group to do a study regarding the proposed consolidation. As part of the study, there is a consolidation committee that must be formed consisting of two town board

members and one community member and two village trustees and one community member. From the Town, the proposed members will be Supervisor Schmitt, Councilman McCarthy and community member Richard Harshbarger. He said the Laberge Group has been working tirelessly on the study in order to get it done ahead of the vote in order to get it out to the public. They have created a website with information, which is labergegroup.com/pawling.

Supervisor Schmitt made a motion for the town portion of the consolidation committee to consist of Supervisor Schmitt, Councilman McCarthy and Richard Harshbarger, seconded by Councilwoman Snow, motion passed unanimously.

WHALEY LAKE WATER LEVEL

Supervisor Schmitt said the lake level had to be lowered a bit more than had been anticipated. The mailing that went out to the community in August said the water level would be lowered twelve inches but it had to be a little lower than that. Some of the spillway modifications are in but not all of them. In order to do the modifications properly, the water level had to be lowered a bit more. Once that is done, the water level will be brought back up. An issue came up about potential algae in the lake and NYS DEC has been notified and they will take a look at it.

SCHMITT

Supervisor Schmitt said Helen Grosso submitted an email, but he wasn't sure she wanted it read into the record. He said he would check with Mrs. Grosso about it and possibly read into the record at next week's meeting.

SNOW

Councilwoman Snow thanked Cathy Giordano, Town Clerk and Nancy Tagliafierro, Town Attorney for their work on the special election. She understood that there is a lot of time and effort being spent to prepare for this vote. It is truly above and beyond their regular duties.

MCCARTHY

Councilman McCarthy also thanked Cathy Giordano and Nancy Tagliafierro for all they are going through for the special vote. Councilman McCarthy said last December, the Board held a public hearing on the Ag Law. He suggested the public hearing be closed in November and the Board vote on the law.

SCHMITT

Supervisor Schmitt said the special election will be held on November 30th for the potential consolidation of the town and village. As information becomes available, he would do his best to get it out to the public. Supervisor Schmitt said he submitted the tentative budget to the Clerk last week. This is a difficult time and everyone did a great job providing services during Covid and doing the best they could with what they had. Everyone worked hard on the budget and it is flat, with a zero percent increase. He thanked Christine Mitchell, Bookkeeper for her good work on the budget. There will be a budget presentation on October 21, 2020 and the public hearing for the budget will be on November 4, 2020.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Supervisor Schmitt opened the meeting for public comment, there were none.

Supervisor Schmitt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 PM, seconded by Councilwoman Snow, motion passed unanimously.

Town Clerk