

J. Schmitt: All right, thank you. Good evening everybody, and thank you for being here for the Pawling town board meeting Wednesday, December 2nd, at 6:00 PM. We moved this meeting to a Zoom meeting because of the COVID spikes going on, and we just want to take some extra precautions and then others have concerns that potentially more spikes could be coming after the holiday. So, just an extra safety measure, we decided to move this week's and next week's town board meetings to Zoom, which we've done a lot of this year already as well this way. And they've been very successful in getting out to the public as well. So, with that, clerk, could you please read the roll call?

C. Giordano: Councilwoman Snow?

C. Snow: Here.

C. Giordano: Councilman Johnson?

B. Johnson: Here.

C. Giordano: Councilman McCarthy?

J. McCarthy: Here.

C. Giordano: Councilman [DeRosa 00:01:09]?

Councilman DeRo...: Here.

C. Giordano: Supervisor Schmitt?

J. Schmitt: Here. Please stand and follow us in the pledge of allegiance.

All speakers: I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

J. Schmitt: Thank you very much. And just before we jump into the meeting, I just want to say everyone worked so hard on this consolidation of vote that we all just went through as a town board and a village board and as a community, and it was a lot of work for the board and for town board and the village board, the town clerk, the village clerk, the attorneys, the consulting company, and everyone that handled the election process. And the community has really spoken and in overwhelming numbers of how they feel about their town government and their village government and the separation of the two. And I think we're all going to work hard moving forward to push for some shared services and see what we can do to be better. And, as well as the people that voted against the consolidation, not only people that voted for consolidation, we'll try and work with them and their interest and see what we can do to continue to streamline government and be as efficient as possible. So thank you everyone for

participating in that election, and we're glad it's behind us and then we can move on to the next thing now.

J. Schmitt: So, with that, we'll move on with the, we'll start with your resolutions. We're pretty light agenda this evening, only three resolutions on the agenda. Resolution 44 the payment of bills for the town of Pawling. All these resolutions are, I think we have a number problem actually, because there's two...

J. McCarthy: It should be 45 and 46.

J. Schmitt: Yeah, there we go, got you. So we'll just change this one to resolution 44 will be the first one, and then we have, it will be 46 and 45 would be the second one, yep. Resolution 45 requiring a performance bond for timber harvesting for the Chung residents, and then 46 would be the escrow release for the DePaulo. Let's make those changes. As to the motion to the board, we have this transfer station on for this discussion tonight. I think Councilman De Rosa, would you like to start with a discussion for the transfer station?

Councilman DeRo...: Yeah. I'll start the discussion and then Jim [inaudible 00:04:17] can pick up on it. We were looking at other issues there at the transfer station. I know there was a discussion about maybe moving it to eight hours a day instead of a 10 hour days, four, 10 hour days, and this and that. And possibly we have to come up with a fee charge because the clerk [inaudible 00:04:40] office, I'm sure she's gotten phone calls already, people buying their stickers for next year. So we have to come up with a fee charge and being that we drained our capital fund, what I call the capital fund side of the sticker fee that was \$40 a sticker, because all the new equipment we bought, and the trucks we bought, and the bonds are coming due, we were thinking about raising that sticker price possibly, so that discussion we have to have.

Councilman DeRo...: And we discussed at one time about right now, if the transfer station open day, which is Monday, falls on a holiday or any day falls on a holiday, we keep the transfer station open up the next day. Well, when we do that, we have to pay the operators and the transfer station, because they're union operators, overtime. So we've had discussions about maybe not doing that from now on if the holiday falls on a day, then the people just have to hold their garbage a day or two to the next scheduled open day to try to save our money. So, I don't know, Councilman McCarthy, do you have anything else you want to add to that or expand on that discussion?

J. McCarthy: Is that all right James?

J. Schmitt: Yeah, sure, go ahead.

J. McCarthy: I did reach out to Gordy and Jay both and they feel that yes, the hours from six to seven is relatively quiet, but by 7:00 people going to work, they are getting people to come in, so they kind of felt we should stick with the three, 10 hour

days. Again, we could look at not opening up after the holidays or maybe just the two major holidays in my mind are probably Labor day and Memorial day and just opening those two days only. I do agree that maybe we should raise the price probably around maybe \$10 and have that extra money go into the capital improvement so we can continue to make repairs and keep that fund funded.

J. McCarthy: And then the only other thing that I had, I know it's going to be a difficult year with the COVID and I know it's going to be hard for Kathy to have people come in, so I think maybe we could ask Kathy her opinion on how we're going to do the stickers this year. And the only thing I have last would be is I know currently Kathy, correct me if I'm wrong, you use basically registrations to verify the residency of the town of Pawling, and I would like to ask if we could possibly add a utility bills. There's a lot of people moving into the town that might like to get a transfer station sticker, but their cars are registered in New York or New Jersey or wherever...

C. Giordano: We already do that.

J. McCarthy: We do what?

C. Giordano: We already do that, we request a utility bill along with the registration to show that they live in the town.

J. McCarthy: But if the registration isn't...

C. Giordano: Yes, if the registration is not in the town of Pawling, we require a utility bill to show that they have a residence in the town of Pawling. We do that already.

J. McCarthy: And you can get a transfer station sticker that way?

C. Giordano: Mm hmm.

J. McCarthy: Okay, that's news to me, thank you. So, we can do it that way then. So, that's all I had.

J. Schmitt: Jim, thanks for that, I know you and Bill work pretty hard at that transfer station over there. Quick question, Jim, is there any capital projects that you guys are thinking about or do you think the transfer station might need in 2021?

J. McCarthy: I think, not to beat a dead horse, I think the only question will be is the generator for the transfer station and or the highway garage? So, I know we were looking into that and I know Bill suggested seeing we can get one generator big enough to do both, and I'm working on that too. So that would probably be the only thing I think we need for next year.

J. Schmitt: Okay. Excellent. Thank you. Thank you for that. And the rest of the board, I'll start, I guess, Councilman Johnson. Do you have anything in regards to the transfer station?

B. Johnson: Yes, I certainly agree that we need to have an increase to go into that equipment fund, I'd be okay with \$10 or even \$15. I had sent an email out to the board with my suggestion of changing it to eight hour days. Shortly after our last meeting, I was up at the transfer station up in Wingdale, the Royal Carting facility, getting rid of a bunch of stuff for our church, they're only open eight hours. And I also saw the bag drop that Phil has, which I think is something that maybe we want to look towards for seniors, allow seniors to be able to possibly buy \$5 bag drops, and we have the place for them to drop it near the booth or the attendant. That might be a good savings for our seniors, as well as a little additional revenue stream.

B. Johnson: If we cut the transfer station to eight hours, that removes 20% of the labor costs and 20% of the benefit costs of Gordy and gives him eight hours back to the highway that I'm sure Jake, could use. I am concerned that this does need to be a user-funded system. I know we're also working at the town, obviously we do use the transfer station, we should pay something. But, I see the eight hour day thing as eliminating overtime and really streamlining it, and I don't see that it's going to hurt services.

J. McCarthy: Bill, you said how many hours? You're only going to save six hours?

B. Johnson: No, no. If you do three eight hour days with the station open, that's 24 hours. Then, you do one day where he drives to get rid of the materials, that's 32 hours. Then, he spends in an eight hour day...excuse me?

J. McCarthy: He can't, even at a 10 hour day, he has a hard time disposing all of the garbage, in a 10 hour day.

B. Johnson: So, maybe even we'd wind up saving a half a day. But it would still eliminate a big expense from that. I mean, if Royal Carting, who I'm sure it gets a lot more people a day than we do, can do it in eight hours, I think people would adjust to that schedule. [crosstalk 00:12:11].

Councilman DeRo...: If they're open five days a week, six days a week though, the Royal Carting, out there in Wingdale.

B. Johnson: But, they also don't have, they have a lot more than 800 users.

Councilman DeRo...: Yeah, no, I'm just saying that they, I'm just making the point that they're open six days a week, Saturday, half a day.

B. Johnson: Well, based on our short fall of last year, you need to raise the sticker prices, then \$50 a sticker.

J. McCarthy: Well, we haven't confirmed the actual cost as of yet because we still have December to go through.

B. Johnson: No. So, why not make a decision now to go to eight hours, shift some of the expense back to highway, and if it shakes out less, we can always, we can always add hours back in.

J. McCarthy: Well, my question is, the two extra hours you're saving for those three days or four days, first of all, the highway garage doesn't work on Saturdays. So, what are you going to do with Gordy? It's going to be very difficult for Gordy to go to a job site for Jay for two hours and then have to get back to the transfer station. And the other question I have is now...

B. Johnson: It's not going to be...how would it be two hours?

J. McCarthy: You're saying if...

B. Johnson: His work day is eight hours.

J. McCarthy: You're going to do eight hour days, so right now it's 10 hour days. So, there's two hours each day, what is Gordy going to do with those days?

B. Johnson: Go home.

Councilman DeRo...: And then come in on another day, you're saying, to make up the [crosstalk 00:13:44] hours?

B. Johnson: That's correct. At which point, he's now on the dime of the highway garage, which the taxpayers pay for, which Jay is crying for extra help.

J. McCarthy: Well, I guess my other question then is how is that going to be on the budget? Because the budgets are being set for Jay's budget and the transfer station budget's already been set.

B. Johnson: The transfer station can not be subsidized via fund balance via taxpayer dollars. A highway garage can. So, we need to, right now we're talking about transfer station and how you keep it solvent without spending taxpayer dollars. I see that as the only way to do it without raising stickers \$50.

J. McCarthy: Well, I'm going to go back to the same thing as we have no idea how much garbage is being generated from the town on a yearly basis. [crosstalk 00:14:37]. That garbage is being, that is taking care of many residents, during camp, during the summertime for rec, you're not, so if you're saying that's fine Bill, then effective January 1st, buildings and grounds are going to have to get their own dumpster and they're going to take care of their own garbage, just makes no sense, because we already have one. So I don't want to argue with anybody...

B. Johnson: Jimbo, you pick a dollar amount, and you say that's what comes out of a buildings and grounds and goes to the transportation.

J. McCarthy: How do you come up with a dollar amount?

B. Johnson: Is it \$5,000?

J. McCarthy: No one knows you what that is.

B. Johnson: You and I talked today and said you spend \$4,000 a year on one place on a dumpster.

J. McCarthy: On a five yard dumpster. Yes. Yep.

B. Johnson: Okay. So maybe it's got to be \$10,000 Jimbo. Maybe it's got to be \$8,000. I don't know, but we need to pick a number. It's better than zero.

J. Schmitt: It definitely as the parks get busier and rec gets busier, these are all great things, but it is generating more garbage that is going through the transfer station, which needs to be accounted for. Just, that's for sure. We know we're generating more than we have in the past. Right, Jim? I mean, we're generating more through the town from, you spoke with Wendell and Everett about this Jim?

J. McCarthy: No, I haven't talked to them as to a concrete number, I guess again, I understand that we would like to see the transfer station make sure that it is not costing taxpayers money, but on the other hand, all the garbage that's generated from taxpayers in the park in the town hall has been going to the transfer station for years and...

B. Johnson: I have no trouble, I have no issue with the town buildings and grounds, the golf course, whomever, paying a number. We should just pick a number. Is it \$10,000 or is it \$5,000? What does everybody think?

Councilman DeRo...: All right, let me break in here a second. I think raising the sticker so much, will cut down on some of the stickers and maybe even generate some lesser funds because this was the first year that I haven't gotten a sticker in 30 years because I'm producing so little garbage that the sticker price is getting so high, that it just doesn't make sense for me. Because I eat out a lot and this and that, so I don't produce as much garbage, so I actually bring mine to Wingdale now. And I think if we get the sticker price way too high, you're going to force more people like me that are actually paying, subsidizing some of the other garbage users because they bring so much garbage in.

Councilman DeRo...: So I think we should raise the sticker, but no more than \$10. And let it go to that. Capital funds, why were capital funds is so low is because we've made so many improvements over the years and we bought the new truck, and the bond

issues come and do we have to make the payments on that? So that, that's why that fund has been drawn way down. And by cutting the day after the holidays, all holidays, if it falls on a day where the transfer station is open, that would cut all the overtime. There'd be no more overtime. So that and raising the sticker to \$10 and until we get these numbers figured out and coming up with some kind of a number for the Lakeside park, the garbage that the maintenance department generates and the golf course, whatever, coming up with a number like that, maybe five or 10 thousand dollars, whatever it is, and let's see where we are before we make any more major decisions. So that's my opinion.

B. Johnson: [crosstalk 00:18:30]. I can agree with that.

J. Schmitt: Go ahead Bill.

B. Johnson: I'm sorry. Okay. I agree with that. But what we need to do when 2020 shakes out, depending on what the loss was, you may need to cut the hours because this thing is [inaudible 00:18:48] to not be a taxpayer expense. So we need to make a determination as to how much, let's say that we, do you think we generate a full-sized dumpster once a month at the park? Do you think it's every two months? Figure out what the cost of dumping that is, and that's what we charge buildings and grounds. But, if at the end of the year, we've still lost \$30,000, you got to change the hours. It's not fair.

Councilman DeRo...: Yeah, no, you're right. We can look at it again. Let's see what all the numbers are.

B. Johnson: [crosstalk 00:19:19]. Yeah. I would pay \$15. I'm thinking \$15 is a better number, but if you want to go with \$10, I'll go along with that. And eliminating the opening after the holidays.

J. Schmitt: Go ahead, Jim, you had something you were going to say?

J. McCarthy: That's fine with me. Eliminate the holidays, stick with the 10 and let's look at it in January, February, or March, where we are with, once we have the numbers for the year end. Maybe by some miracle next year, we'll get the \$50,000 grant that we're supposed to get. And that's going to make a huge difference. Once the roll-off truck's paid off, that's another huge difference.

C. Snow: James, do we need to make this decision tonight? I guess, part of me is, as I'm hearing this and I'm still learning about how the transfer station works. If we had a normal meeting, we'd be having visitor comments too, and I guess my hope is that we would just allow to hear from the community that uses it before we make a decision.

J. Schmitt: Yeah. I don't think we need to make a decision on this tonight. And we have another meeting next week.

C. Snow: Okay. Okay. I wasn't sure we did. [crosstalk 00:20:30].

B. Johnson: And we need to start being able to sell stickers. [crosstalk 00:20:36]...except Cathy wants to sell stickers. [crosstalk 00:20:39], so people are already coming in.

C. Snow: Well, wouldn't it change January one? [crosstalk 00:20:45].

C. Giordano: Yeah. We start selling them mid-December for the next year, mid December. [crosstalk 00:20:52].

J. McCarthy: When are you going to start selling tickets, Cathy, next week? When are you going to start selling tickets?

C. Giordano: Not next week, probably the week after.

C. Snow: So we could do it next week? We could make a decision?

J. Schmitt: I'd like to talk to Everett and Wendell to try and get a handle on at least an estimate, and Jim, maybe you can work with me on that, on how much they think they're taken out of the parks and dropping off there on the town's behalf. And moving forward, I know we've talked about it in the past a little bit, but maybe we start looking at, I know a lot of those places like Phil was saying that they have a per bag fee, they do things differently, but maybe we start really wrapping our heads around this transfer station and seeing other ways to operate it more efficient ways operate it and it's just better for people like Phil said, the amount of garbage he generates now compared to years ago, things change for folks, so it doesn't make sense for him to buy stickers. But if we can make some other options there, it could maybe be something that can really benefit the transfer station and the residents in the long run.

B. Johnson: Well, you know, like Phil said, and they have up at Royal, like \$5 a bag, do that for our seniors and that's going to help a lot of people.

J. Schmitt: Sure.

Councilman DeRo...: Yeah, it's \$5 for one of the big black bags, and it's a \$2.50 for one of the kitchen size, 17 gallon bags, the white bags. The way they did it in other times when Cathy and I investigated years ago, they charge a sticker fee for the resident to use it, but it says it's a minor fee, \$50 or \$75 a year, and then it gives them a membership and then it's so much a bag, or so much a couch, or so much a refrigerator. And that's how they worked it.

C. Giordano: Well, who's going to monitor that and are you going to have cash up at the transfer station? [crosstalk 00:22:46]. That's why we didn't choose to go that route.

B. Johnson: [crosstalk 00:22:53] there's a lot to figure out.

Councilman DeRo...: Because it adds to your employment and it adds everything else, but there's ways you could do it because there's other towns do it. But we didn't dive into that that deep because we weren't ready to do that yet. But we can discuss that after the first of the year.

J. Schmitt: Well, there's nothing wrong with always trying to look for ways to improve. So if we think that's something that serves the community better, let's take a look at it and see how it works out and see if we can figure it out and we'll try and get some stuff going. Colleen, you had something to say before I thought?

C. Snow: No, no. It was just that I wasn't sure if we were looking to make a decision tonight. So I, wasn't going to be in favor for doing that tonight, because again, I just think as we're discussing it, it's helpful to hear from the community members. And I do appreciate even the consideration of the thought process of maybe doing something for seniors. Because again, we are still in the pandemic and I think we just, we need to be sensitive to that. And this gives the community time too, that if they want to get involved in next week's meeting or have questions and comments, we can hear from them.

J. Schmitt: Sure. Absolutely. Absolutely. Well, thanks for that. Anybody else have anything else on the transfer station? No. Okay. So while we're in discussion, I'll just go around and I'll just, I was calling board members individually and see what they have and if they have anything for discussion. I'll start with Councilman Johnson, do you have anything else to add for discussion?

B. Johnson: I just really want to echo James's comments. Congratulations to the village board and clerk, the town board, Cathy, our attorneys, Ben Snyder. It was the efficient distribution of good information that allowed residents to make, what I feel, is a very good decision. So, but I do also agree. We do need to continue to look for additional ways to have more shared services, and I'm happy to participate in that with anybody in the village.

J. Schmitt: Thank you. Councilman Johnson, Councilwoman snow.

C. Snow: Yeah. So, I'll continue to echo, just thanking Cathy again, the amount of time, weekends, a lot of time and effort into this and it went very smoothly. So, that was really Cathy's doing and Peggy helping her out. So again, thank you for that. Yep, I do have, well, I guess I'll just go piggyback on some of the shared services. I mean, James, you and I, we had this discussion, in one of our board meetings, I don't even know, I'd have to look back at the minutes, but it might've been back in March, April, May about talking about shared services, I really am hoping that we might consider again, having some meetings with the village board. Now, while I know we can't have more than a quorum with each board, I think we could come up with a way to have meetings where two from the village, two

from the town board one month next month, another board member and another two board members.

C. Snow: I think that's going to be the only way to go truthfully is like, we've done with the liaison meetings with the school and the chamber and the village and us. I think to have a set meeting and a set time, and then we can just rotate board members, as needed. But I think it's really, really important that we get the conversations going. And I know we talked about it, but I'm hoping we can really plan on doing that in after our reorg meeting. So that's my part of the shared services and meetings.

C. Snow: The other is the polling resource center. Again, if people can just go to their website, they have needs with the Christmas holidays. And again, they usually will have some things on their whiteboard outside, and I will pass this along, Terry had come to our rotary meeting, she's part of rotary, but adoptive families this year, they have so many people that want to adopt a family, they don't have enough families for these people to adopt. So, if somebody really knows a family that's struggling, there are people that are waiting, there's like 14 people I believe, Terry said that are looking to adopt 14 families. So if anybody knows somebody, it's confidential, they can just reach out to Terry, but please reach out to them if you're in need.

J. Schmitt: Thank you councilman Colleen. Councilman McCarthy.

J. McCarthy: Same thing. I'd want to just thank Cathy and Jen and the village board and all the town board members and everybody that was involved in this last week. I just want to thank everybody. Everybody did a great job. I think it went off very, very well for the short period of time we had to do it all.

J. Schmitt: I was happy to see, I don't know if anyone else took notice, there was folks out pretty much right away picking up all the signs and we had a lot of vote yes and vote no signs everywhere. And after election days, everyone generally does a pretty good job in pulling and picking up their campaign signs and they're supposed to be picked up within 24 hours. It was nice to see people that had opposing signs. At least we saw the vote yes and vote no signs finally coming down in a lot of locations right away. So I do just want to thank everyone who was out there doing that because I'm not a fan of all the signs and where all the time anyways, I've never really liked him all over. So it was nice to see them get cleaned up pretty quickly as well pretty quickly after the election process. Councilman DeRosa, I almost forgot about you because I can't see your face.

Councilman DeRo...: That's okay. Forget about me at dinner time. I want to thank everybody, echo what James said about the vote and thank everybody that was involved and especially thank Cathy because she was under a lot of pressure, never did this before. Her office never had to do it, and with being under such pressure and then the time constraints and everything, what a wonderful job and it came out perfectly. So thank you so much Cathy, you went above and beyond. And also, I just want to say tomorrow, I have a zoom meeting with Fletchers County

planning federation would be setting up their training classes up at Millbrook for the zoning and planning boards for the spring. Hopefully the spring will be here fast. Oh yes.

Councilman DeRo...: One more thing, the Whaley Lake Dam, the construction has been completed. We got the okay from the DEC to close the valve, so the valve has been closed, the dam is filling up naturally, and when I checked it as of yesterday, it was just about a half an inch or so from the top of this concrete spillway. It was hard to really measure it because the wind was blowing the waves actually over the spillway. But the Lake is refilling itself naturally.

J. Schmitt: Thank you, Councilman DeRosa.

B. Johnson: [crosstalk 00:30:21] It's important that people know, it's going to refill to the level of the concrete spillway until the spring time or until March.

J. Schmitt: Yeah. And then [inaudible 00:30:28] go in the center and then will come back up for the spring. All right, well that's, I don't have anything else to add for discussion as well. We don't have any questions coming in and we didn't have any questions emailed in today.

C. Snow: James, I'm sorry. Did we, you read the resolutions, but did we vote on them?

J. Schmitt: No. Next week we're going to vote on those.

C. Snow: Okay, we're holding off I didn't hear you. Okay. I just want to make sure thanks.

J. Schmitt: Yeah, absolutely. Yeah, no problem. We'll do them the next week, they'll be out there at the end of the week and the agendas online for everyone to view and we'll approve those three resolutions next week. I'm seeing then with no public comment, we have nothing out there. I'll make it a motion to adjourn. And could I have a second?

B. Johnson: Second.

Councilman DeRo...: Second.

J. Schmitt: Adjourn?

C. Snow: I.

C. Giordano: I.

J. Schmitt: Have a great night, everybody. We'll see you soon.

C. Snow: Goodnight.

