

Supervisor David P. Kelly opened the Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Pawling at 6:30 PM November 18, 2015 at Pawling Town Hall, 160 Charles Colman Blvd., Pawling, New York. Present were Councilmen Johnson, Montemarano, Upham, DeRosa and approximately 36 interested citizens.

### **TOWN BOARD BUDGET DISCUSSION**

The Board discussed the preliminary 2016 budget. The Board discussed the Town's Stormwater Management Officer (SMO) and Transfer Station fees. Following discussion, the following actions were taken:

#### **STORMWATER MANAGEMENT OFFICER**

Councilman DeRosa made a motion to hire Carl Ellis, Building Inspector as Stormwater Management Officer, compensation to be \$5,000.00, seconded by Councilman Johnson.

Supervisor Kelly made a motion to amend the preliminary budget to reduce line B199.4 down to \$2,500.00 and transfer the \$5,000.00 into the 3620.1 line to increase that line by \$5,000.00, seconded by Councilman Johnson, motion passed unanimously.

The motion to hire Carl Ellis as SMO passed unanimously.

#### **TRANSFER STATION**

Councilman DeRosa made a motion to add a \$5.00 increase to the capital fund part of the permit for 2016, seconded by Councilman Johnson.

Supervisor Kelly felt the increase should be \$10.00, \$5.00 for the permit and \$5.00 for the capital portion.

Councilman Johnson agreed.

Following discussion, Councilman DeRosa withdrew his motion.

Councilman Johnson made a motion to increase the Transfer Station permit fee by \$10.00, \$5.00 toward the O & M side and \$5.00 toward the equipment side, seconded by Supervisor Kelly, motion passed unanimously.

#### **PROGRAM FOR RECREATION**

Councilman Johnson said there is a wonderful program for the recreation department, which is about \$4,000.00 to \$5,000.00. Supervisor Kelly mentioned there would be money in the technology bond so he saw no need to make a separate adjustment to the budget at this time. This is something he is anxious to move forward.

Councilman DeRosa felt that the Board needed to look at the audio and visual equipment for the meeting room. He said the Town Board gave elected officials a 1% raise and employees a 2% raise. He felt employees and elected officials should have received the same raise because they work hard and serve the public well. The Town Board reduced their salary by approximately \$6,000.00 some years ago. He felt it took a lot of effort to do these jobs if they are going to be done right, people should be paid a fair compensation. He thanked the employees for the work they do and their dedication.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

Steve Sollazzo said he was opposed to resolution 2015113 regarding the Assessor. He did not agree with fractional assessing. This way of assessing cannot go on anymore. There is not a lot of fluff to move the numbers around. The State wide system is broken. What we are doing here is not the right way. The Town needs to grow the tax base and consolidate government. He handed out "The New N.Y. Government Reorganization and Citizen Empowerment Act" handbook to the Board.

Harvey Matcovsky said he agreed with Glenn Carey's comments last meeting on benefits. It would be wrong ethically to take promised benefits away from retirees. He felt the issue of benefits should be reviewed to see if the Town could save some money. He suggested that a supplement to Medicare benefits could be more beneficial for retirees. He felt the town needed to look into long term budgeting.

Helen Grosso said the Building Department budget doubled for personnel services.

Supervisor Kelly explained that the Building Inspector position was funded in two lines but is now in only that one line. Also, the Town is looking for a part time Zoning Administrator, which is funded in his line along with the secretary to the Building Department.

Mrs. Grosso asked that a detailed budget be put on line for 2016. She said she wanted to know what the fund balances are. She asked that more information be made available next year and asked to be more involved in budget analysis.

Judy Pisano from Mallow Court said River Road is in bad condition. She said the infrastructure is falling apart and she asked the Board if they could do something with the budget so that the roads could be repaired. She said she would be happy to work on a budget committee to do a zero based budget.

Bob Flood suggested a bag system for the transfer station. He objected to raising the fees for legal counsel that are in the budget.

Bryn Loizeaux residing at 2 Estate Road expressed concern about the tax system and how it works. Her taxes were about \$10,000.00 then when she came here in 2007 and have increased significantly. She did not understand why she had to pay these high taxes or why there is no formula for taxes, and she felt the problem was not being addressed. Why do we as residents have to pay for your infrastructure, why can't the Board figure this out? She is very frustrated about the high taxes here, as are many people in the community.

There were no further comments.

## **MINUTES**

Supervisor Kelly made a motion to approve the minutes of October 7, 2015, seconded by Councilman Johnson and passed with the following roll call vote:

**MOTION:** Supervisor Kelly

**SECOND:** Councilman Johnson

### **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Councilman Johnson – “AYE”

Councilman DeRosa – “ABSTAINED”

Councilman Upham – “AYE”

Councilman Montemarano – “AYE”

Supervisor Kelly – “AYE”

Supervisor Kelly made a motion to approve the minutes of October 14, 2015, seconded by Councilman Johnson, motion passed unanimously.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **Resolution 2015109 Payment of Bills for the Town of Pawling**

Whereas, The Town of Pawling Bookkeeper has reviewed and prepared the vouchers and has offered them for review, and

Whereas, the vouchers have been approved in accordance with the Town of Pawling policy, and

Whereas, the vouchers have been numbered 20151481 through 20151655, now therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Pawling Town Board hereby accepts the vouchers as prepared and on the recommendation of the Bookkeeper and hereby authorizes payment of said vouchers for the Town of Pawling on this date in the amount of \$371,224.96.

**Resolution 2015110**  
**Billing for Pawling Water District #1**

Whereas, Pawling Water District #1 bills need to be approved by the Pawling Town Board, and,

Whereas, the bills have been prepared and submitted in the amount of \$2,236.80 for the period of August 1, 2015 through October 31, 2015 by the Water District Clerk, now therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Pawling Town Board hereby accepts the billing as recommended for Pawling Water District #1.

**Resolution 2015111**  
**Facility Use Requests - Waiver / Fees**

Whereas, the Town of Pawling operates facilities that from time to time will be used by the public for events other than the Town's own usage, and

Whereas, the Director of Recreation will periodically receive a request to waive the fees, and

Whereas, the Town Board sets the fees for the use of facilities, now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the following fees / waiver(s) have been authorized by the Town Board:

Pawling Interact	Sunday, 12/6/15; 5pm to 10pm	Lathrop Auditorium
BSA Troop 34	Wednesdays, 1/6/16 to 6/8/16 7pm to 9pm	J.C. Penny Room

**Resolution 2015112**  
**2016 Highway Material Bid**

Whereas, the Superintendent of Highways has requested bids on various highway materials for the year 2016, and

Whereas, the list of highway materials has been advertised in the Poughkeepsie Journal and was noticed to be opened on Wednesday, October 15, 2015 @ 10:15AM and

Whereas, the bids for material have been reviewed and approved by the Highway Superintendent for purchase in 2016, now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Town Board hereby approves the material bid from the tabulated sheet provided by the Town Clerk.

**Resolution 2015113**  
**Intermunicipal Agreement for Shared Services; Assessor**

Whereas, the Town of Pawling has an Intermunicipal Agreement between the Town of Patterson, New York for Assessor services and

Whereas, amendments to the current agreement have been offered for consideration by the Town of Patterson, and

Whereas, the Agreement has been reviewed by the Town's legal counsel, who has made recommendations to such amendments, now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Town Board hereby approves said Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Patterson, New York regarding Assessor Services and hereby authorizes the Town Supervisor

to sign the Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Patterson for a period commencing from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2019, and, be it, further

Resolved, that the Town Board hereby appoints Christopher G. Boryk as the Assessor of record for the Town of Pawling, New York in accordance with the Intermunicipal Agreement.

**Resolution 2015114**  
**County Snow & Ice Control Program, Dutchess County, New York**

Whereas, the Town Superintendent of Highways has been requested by the County of Dutchess to participate in the regional County Highway Snow & Ice Control Program within the boundaries of the Town, and

Whereas, the County of Dutchess is requesting that the Town enter into a contract with the County for participation in the County Snow and Ice Control Program, and

Whereas, and logically, an earlier or sooner response factor can be provided by Town units and personnel within the locale thereby benefitting the overall safety and welfare of town residents and local community interest, and

Whereas, such participation by the Town in removing snow from designated County Highways, and by sanding and salting or otherwise treating them for the purpose of maintaining highway safety and accessibility for emergency services, is specifically authorized by Article 6, section 135-a of the New York State Highway Law, now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Town Supervisor is authorized to execute "Change Order Extension" for the Town's continued participation in the County Snow and Ice Control Program, and the Town Superintendent of Highways is hereby authorized to perform such work in accordance with the "Change Order for Terms Change", under Contract number 13-0548-9/14-PW and Change Order number 13-0548-9/14-PW-A2 effective October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016.

**Resolution 2015115**  
**Contract Amendment; Village of Pawling**

Whereas, the Town of Pawling contracts with the Village of Pawling to purchase water for the Town of Pawling Water District #1, and

Whereas, the Village has required the Town to change all of the water meters within Water District #1 to match the requirement for meters set by the Village of Pawling, and

Whereas, the Town has bid and awarded a contract to install new meters to match specifications set forth by the Village of Pawling, and

Whereas, new water meters within Water District #1 are currently being replaced / installed, and

Whereas, the Village has the ability to read said meter electronically and has software to perform the billing to the customers of Water District #1, and

Whereas, the Supervisor and Town Board continuously look for ways to reduce costs and increase efficiencies by partnering with other municipalities, now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Town Board hereby requests the Village of Pawling to amend the contract to purchase water from the Village of Pawling to add the "Reading of Meters and Billing" for the Town of Pawling Water District #1, and, be it, further

Resolved, that the Town Supervisor has the authorization to execute the amendment as approved by the Town Attorney.

**Resolution 2015117  
Standard Work Day & Reporting Resolution**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Pawling hereby establishes the following as standard work days for elected and appointed officials and will report the following days worked to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System based on the record of activities maintained and submitted by these officials to the clerk of this body:

Title	Name	Social Security Number (Last 4 Digits)	Registration Number	Standard Work Day (Hrs/day)	Term begins/Ends	Participates in Employer's Time Keeping System (Y/N)	Days/Month (Based on record of activities)
<b>Elected Officials</b>							
Town Justice	Gayle Zelazny			6	01/01/2015 to 06/30/2015	N	3.75

**Resolution 2015118  
Planning Department - Refund Escrow Account**

Whereas, the Planning Board on November 2, 2015 has passed a motion to release \$200.00 escrow balance to applicant Lisa Evanson, and

Whereas, the Planning Board has notified the Town Board in a letter dated November 4, 2015 to refund the remaining funds in the escrow account of Lisa Evanson, now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Town Board hereby accepts the recommendation of the Planning Board to refund the escrow balance in the account of Lisa Evanson and hereby directs the Bookkeeper to pay said amount.

**MOTION:** Supervisor Kelly  
**SECOND:** Councilman Johnson

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Councilman Johnson – “AYE”                      Councilman DeRosa – “AYE”  
Councilman Upham – “AYE”                      Councilman Montemarano – “AYE”  
Supervisor Kelly – “AYE”

**2016 BUDGET VOTE**

Supervisor Kelly made a motion to move the 2016 preliminary budget, seconded by Councilman Johnson.

Supervisor Kelly thanked the department heads for their input, in particular Wendel Weber, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds, John Daley, Highway Superintendent and Jerry Terwilliger, Town Bookkeeper. The Town Board are elected by the people to do the job and look at the budget. There are a lot of great people who work for this town and he appreciated the time they put in. He appreciated the Board's input on the budget. He appreciated the open dialogue on the budget in this budget process.

Councilman Johnson commended Supervisor Kelly for presenting a budget that did not require exceeding the tax cap. He understood people wanted to see the budget cut but it is impossible to maintain the services we have if we do that.

Councilman DeRosa thanked the public for being engaged and he thanked Supervisor Kelly for doing a good job and being open minded to make changes.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **FURTHER BUSINESS**

### **DOG CONTROL CONTRACT/PAWLING ANIMAL CLINIC/DC SPCA**

The motion to allow the Supervisor to sign an agreement with Pawling Animal Clinic to house our animals under the short term care and if necessary to provide the services to make the animals adoptable and to authorize the Supervisor to sign an agreement with Dutchess County SPCA to be our long term sheltering facility, seconded by Councilman Johnson, motion passed unanimously.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Harvey Matcovsky said raising taxes is not the only way to fix roads or help the budget. The fact that the Board doesn't reach out to the community for people who have experience in various areas is a mistake. He mentioned at the last meeting that the Town is paying \$490,000.00 in principal and \$79,800.00 in interest for serial bonds for Lakeside Park and he felt they should be refinanced in order to obtain money to fix roads. The Board needs to look at saving money on health insurance and think outside the box. It is his understanding that Dutchess County or the State of New York do not require a tax collector. He would hope that the Town could do the same thing the school did which is to do away with the tax collector position. He hoped there would be follow up on this dialogue.

Supervisor Kelly said the Lakeside Park bond will be paid off in six years. The bond was refinanced to under 2% interest a few years ago, and he hoped Mr. Matcovsky would use the correct numbers when speaking about the Lakeside Park bonds. He did research refinancing the bonds and found it may not be feasible to refinance the bond at this time due to percentage rates and attorney's fees.

Councilman Johnson said Mr. Matcovsky is talking about extending the Town's debt, which makes no sense.

Alfred Greve from Holmes asked about using special bags at the Transfer Station and if that was a viable option.

Supervisor Kelly said it is not a new concept and there are a lot of pros and cons about it. He felt that way did not allow you to bring larger items and may not be conducive to the way business is done at the Transfer Station now. It is an option that can be explored.

Helen Grosso suggested that another option for the Transfer Station is to have something to scan when coming in so people can't come in without having the sticker. Based on a conversation she had with Supervisor Kelly on the budget, they discussed looking at ways to be more efficient with town government and actively looking at data. She looked at data for Fishkill and in the year 2000, the average home value was \$150,000.00 and in ten years, the average home value was \$260,000.00. The average home value in Pawling is not much above that. She gave additional statics on Fishkill. She would like to compare this data with the data for Pawling. In 2009, Fishkill stopped giving elected officials health coverage because they decided they couldn't afford it. She felt this issue needed to be looked at.

Supervisor Kelly said Fishkill is a unique situation because the State is there now working with them on how to deal with budgeting. He said Mrs. Grosso blended two of the conversations he had with her and they are two different issues and they can't be compared.

Councilman Johnson said Toll Brothers built hundreds or thousands of high end units in Fishkill, which is the reason for the increase in population and is most likely skewing the home values.

John Daley, Highway Superintendent felt there were inequities at the Transfer Station that should be looked at. Regarding the per bag fees, the Town of Unionvale, who has that system, has five employees and we have one. As far as charging for specific items, some years ago, the Town charged to take tires and there were tires thrown everywhere, which the Highway Department then picked up.

The motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor Kelly at 9:00 PM, seconded by Councilman Johnson, motion passed unanimously.

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Town Clerk