

Supervisor James Schmitt opened the Workshop Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Pawling at 7:00 PM May 2, 2018 at Pawling Town Hall, 160 Charles Colman Blvd., Pawling, New York. Present were Councilmen DeRosa, McCarthy, Johnson, Kelly and approximately 17 interested citizens.

### **PUBLIC HEARING/COMCAST CABLE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT**

Supervisor Schmitt said the public hearing was left open in order to receive written comments and none have been received. At this point, he felt it was a good idea to keep this moving forward.

Councilman Kelly made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilman Johnson, motion passed unanimously.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

The Board discussed the proposed resolutions. Following discussion, it was agreed that the resolutions would be placed on the May 9, 2018 Town Board meeting agenda.

### **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

#### **JOHNSON**

Councilman Johnson said he met with Shawn Cunningham at the golf course and he expressed concern that he pays for supplies on his own but then has to wait to be reimbursed. Following discussion, the Board agreed they would look into either setting up a petty cash account or look into obtaining a credit card for the golf course. Councilman Johnson said regarding the Constable Office at Lakeside Park, he felt this was important and the Constable's presence was needed at Lakeside Park, especially since the Teen Center was recently vandalized. He felt there was a need to look into security, possibly cameras and he suggested Jay Gruendle, Lakeside Park Caretaker, could be involved in the security at the park. Councilman Johnson said regarding PWD #2 generator, he met with a number of experts at the water system to look at the generator to see why the generator would not power the compressor. It was discovered that the generator was programmed incorrectly and they are working to get this resolved. Councilman Johnson said he met with Fire Chief Everett White, Wendel Weber, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds, Melissa Smith, Recreation Director and Robyn Wooley, Assistant Recreation Director to discuss plans for having the carnival at Lakeside Park. It was a very positive meeting and this could turn into a very positive event. He met with the Supervisor and Anna Lindstrom from Christ Church, who is looking at doing a Town wide clean up in order to change their image in the community. He suggested they begin at the parks. The cleanup is scheduled for June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Councilman Johnson said he is still working on the re-bid of the water valves for PWD #1. He has found that this is a Village requirement, not a Health Department requirement so he will speak with Dan Peters, Village Trustee to see if this can be resolved. Councilman Johnson said he has been to the Whaley Lake Dam many times and he hoped photos could be posted on the Town's website.

#### **MCCARTHY**

Councilman McCarthy said he and Councilman DeRosa have been talking with Jay Dickenson, Highway Superintendent about the brush situation at the transfer station. They have come up with the idea of restricting the size of brush to be brought to the transfer station, diameter of 4" and length of 8'. This would eliminate contractors from bringing in large stumps that cannot be chipped. He wondered if that could be imposed right away or if the Board would wait until the end of the year.

Councilman DeRosa explained that Mr. Dickenson has been in touch with a company who would come in and grind up the entire existing pile of brush into wood chips, which could be used by the town and/or given to the community. The cost was \$3,000.00 per day. Then if the rules are changed, you would have better control. He felt commercial dumping of brush should be eliminated.

Councilman Johnson said he would be in favor but he felt the Board could vote and make this effective as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of next year because people have already purchased their permits.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the Board would check with the Town Attorney to see when the rules for the transfer station could be changed.

Councilman McCarthy said the fire suppression system at the gas island at the Highway Department is inactive now and is in need of repair. He asked Mr. Weber to put two fire extinguishers there until the repair gets done. He hoped the Board would approve the repair tonight.

Councilman McCarthy made a motion to hire Simplex Grinnell to supply a new fire suppression system for a total of \$8,207.58, seconded by Councilman Kelly.

Councilman Kelly said he spoke with Jay Dickenson, Highway Superintendent this morning regarding this issue. We should remember that it is not just the Highway Department or Maintenance Department that uses this.

Councilman Kelly offered an amendment that the cost is spread out to the departments that use the facility, pro-rated, and any costs that have been incurred by the Highway Department are reimbursed.

Supervisor Schmitt asked if that included the Village.

Councilman Kelly said yes.

The amendment was seconded by Councilman Johnson and passed unanimously.

The vote on the motion was unanimous and it passed.

### **DEROSA**

Councilman DeRosa said he has been working with Councilman McCarthy and Jay Dickenson on the transfer station. Regarding the Constables at Lakeside Park, he thought it was a very good idea to have them there and that should get done.

### **KELLY**

### **TOWN INSURANCE**

Councilman Johnson recused himself from the discussion.

Councilman Kelly said it is that time of the year where the Town has to renew its insurance. The Town's agent has been diligent since the beginning of the year looking for other companies to quote on the insurance plan. He explained that in 2010, the insurance premium was \$113,877.00. The premium for this year is \$110,000.00 so there is a \$3,000.00 savings. The Town of Pawling has abandoned buildings on Town property and a high hazard dam that is in the middle of construction. The dam coverage is only a couple thousand dollars, verses when the original company Glatfelter quoted this, they wanted \$100,000.00 per year just to cover the dam. The current agent was able to get that policy for \$2,500.00 per year. The work this agent has done for the Town is amazing. He stated that most companies don't want to bid insurance for the Town of Pawling. He said NYMIR, Glatfelter and many other companies chose not to bid on the insurance this year because of the dam. Even with these issues, there is still a decrease in the premium.

Councilman Kelly made a motion to approve the premium with Selective at \$110,036.93, seconded by Councilman McCarthy.

Councilman McCarthy thanked Lori Johnson for her work. He has done insurance for the Fire District for the past twelve years and it is a lot of work. It is very difficult to get people to write insurance for Towns and Fire Districts.

Councilman DeRosa said since he has been on the Board, Mrs. Johnson is always there to answer questions. She also sets up a lot of schooling for employees. You will not get that kind of service from anyone else and he thanked her for her help. The price of insurance has been a big help to the dam district.

Supervisor Schmitt said it is very helpful to have Mrs. Johnson at every meeting and available to the Board and employees whenever they need her. With rising costs, to be able to save money is commendable.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **TEMPORARY MECHANIC**

Councilman Kelly said he has been speaking with Jay Dickenson, Highway Superintendent and there is a need for a temporary mechanic. Conversations with Dutchess County Human Resources are ongoing and the Town can look into a temporary mechanic. He wanted to make sure there is authorization from the County before the position is filled.

Councilman Kelly made a motion to authorize the Highway Superintendent to hire a temporary mechanic based on authorization and contact with Teamsters 456 and with Dutchess County Human Resources, seconded by Councilman Johnson, motion passed unanimously.

## **WHALEY LAKE DAM**

Councilman Kelly said the Town received NYS DEC approval to modify the spillway. That happened quickly and he thanked Vinny DiMarco and Fuss and O'Neill for their work on that. The project is moving forward and there was a concrete pour the other day on one of the wing walls. Vinny DiMarco is sending photos and a summary to everyone involved every day in order to keep everyone up to speed. Winn Construction did some water diversion around the buttress and that worked. There are some change orders and modifications that will need to be acted upon. He will work on them and get them to the Board and hoped they could be approved at next week's meeting.

Vinny DiMarco, Owners Representative for the Whaley Lake Dam project, gave the Board a detailed overview of activities on site from April 30<sup>th</sup> through today. He said Supervisor Schmitt suggested inviting the community to the Whaley Lake Dam sometime in June so they could see the project.

Councilman Kelly said Jay Dickenson, Highway Superintendent have been looking at a new chipper because the existing chipper is a hazard. He will meet Mr. Dickenson to discuss this large purchase and get more information.

## **SCHMITT**

Supervisor Schmitt said he spent time with Councilman McCarthy and representatives of Little League to talk about the fields and when they can be utilized. Little League will be using Dover fields until the fields are ready to use next year. Supervisor Schmitt said he met with senior citizens at the senior citizen center for some time and discussed many issues. They would like to have weekly picnics, which he will continue talking to them about. Supervisor Schmitt said he spent time at the sewage treatment plant with Village Trustee Dan Peters. It was nice to see that project moving forward. He spent time with Senator Murphy on a Sunday two weeks ago to tour the Dewey Lane Bridge, which has been closed for some time. He asked the Senator to work with him to secure some grant money to repair the bridge. After that, he took the Senator to Lakeside Park and gave him a tour. There has been good communication and he hoped this would get the ball rolling on improving the park. Supervisor Schmitt said he met with Peter Cris and the Village Merchant's group. The group is pro Pawling and a very motivated group and a strong group of business owners.

Peter Cris, President of the Chamber of Commerce, said there are at least fifteen merchants involved in the Merchants Committee, with Shannon McKinney heading it. The Chamber of Commerce Executive Board is supporting this Committee. The idea behind this is to have the merchants themselves get together and talk about things they would like to do. Once they do that, the Executive Board would approve a plan or project. The spirit of cooperation is the key. The Committee is off to a good start.

## **WENDEL WEBER/DISCUSSION ON LED LIGHTING/GOLF COURSE**

Wendel Weber, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds asked the Board if they had any comments on the LED lighting plan.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the Board would continue to review and discuss the LED lighting plan at next week's meeting.

Mr. Weber said the Green Mountain Lake Dam Emergency Access Plan (EAP) has been completed and sent to NYS DEC. He said Morris Associates has the EAP ready for the Holmes Mill Dam also. He has commented on that and once changes are made, it will be ready to go to NYS DEC. Mr. Weber said at the golf course, they aerated on Monday and last week had the Fire Department there to put up a new rope on the flag pole.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Betsy Montgomery, Village of Pawling resident, said regarding the transfer station, contractors pay the same amount of money to dump large truckloads as it costs Councilman DeRosa to dump one bag a week. She did not feel this was fair.

Helen Grosso said regarding the cable franchise renewal, she did not want to speak about it because it isn't worth the trouble frankly. Regarding the Town's insurance, she felt Mrs. Johnson was probably very good at what she does and it's not about her. She felt the Town should show detail in the budget regarding the insurance and that the insurance broker/consultant should be put out to bid. Mrs. Johnson is married to Councilman Johnson and there is the appearance of a conflict. The insurance should be bid out fairly.

Drew Montgomery, Village of Pawling resident, said he hoped the Town Board would not go with a thirteen year contract for the cable franchise agreement because the time you are doing the contract is the only time you have leverage in negotiating and maybe getting coverage to people who don't have it. Regarding the transfer station, he has seen people take the large logs from the transfer station and this could be helpful with the brush problem.

Vinny DiMarco said he wanted to talk about the work that the Town Board members do behind the scenes. He volunteered at Pawling Water District #2 to resolve an issue and what impressed him was the time Councilman Johnson spent helping to resolve the problem. It is important for taxpayers to know the efforts that the Town Board goes to in order to do their job properly.

Bill Dietz complimented everyone for their work on the dam. Regarding rezoning Route 22 and the environment, he didn't think that developing the commercial and the environment are mutually exclusive, he felt both could be done. It needs to be done with the right balance. Regarding the brush issue, he agreed with Councilman DeRosa. Regarding insurance, what harm would be done to rebid the insurance, he didn't see a problem with that. Regarding Lakeside Park, he liked what the Board was doing and he would like to see the Town offices brought to Lakeside Park. Regarding the cable franchise agreement renewal, what will the Board do?

Councilman DeRosa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 PM, seconded by Councilman Johnson, motion passed unanimously.

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Town Clerk