

Minutes of the Fourth Tuesday Regular Town Board Meeting on September 22, 2009

Supervisor Connell called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

The Assembly was led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present on a roll call were:

Councilman Paquette
Councilman Sherman
Councilman Smith
Councilman Tyler entered at 6:38 p.m.
Supervisor Connell

Others present:

Sheila Borden, Town Clerk
George Hainer, Zoning and Codes Officer
Jerrold Sherman, DPW Superintendent
James, Hermann, Dawn St. Louis, Bruce Dunning, Bruce Ware, Rick Rockefeller

RESOLUTION #184

MINUTES

On a motion by Councilman Smith seconded by Councilman Paquette and approved on a roll call vote.

4 Ayes Paquette, Smith, Sherman, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting of September 8, 2009.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MUNICIPAL CENTER – Supervisor Connell reported on the meeting held on September 21, 2009 to discuss possible cuts that could be made in the project. Included in the board packet is a list of those items. The next meeting is scheduled for October 7, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at which time they plan to focus on getting information out to the public.

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YOUTH COMMISSION – The soccer program is going on with a tournament in Willsboro this weekend. They had a fund raising tournament in Westport two weekends ago and raised \$1,787 for Molly Rascoe.

OLD BUSINESS

ASSESSMENTS – Supervisor Connell suggested that to continue the discussion of the reevaluation topic perhaps a committee should be setup to look at the issue and make some recommendations. The Board was in agreement and the following will form the Assessment Committee.

Supervisor
Councilman Sherman
George Hainer
Dave Galarneau, Assessor
Ulrich Hoffman, Chairman Board of Assessment Review
Rick Rockefeller

WADHAMS WATER – The next committee meeting is scheduled for September 29th. The Board has been given the three options to review and be prepared to come to the October 13th board meeting with a recommendation. The Town Crew has been meter testing the water flow in Wadhams as requested and the rates are coming in much lower than previously stated and as expected.

WATER ORDINANCE

RESOLUTION #185
AMENDMENT TO WESTPORT WATER CODE

On a motion by Councilman Tyler seconded by Councilman Smith and approved on a roll call vote.

5 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Smith, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to adopt the amendments to the Westport Water Code of January 1, 2004.

BLUE RIBBON UPDATE – There is a meeting tomorrow 9/23/09 with George King, Bill Johnston, Dan Connell and George Hainer to review the RFP that has been drawn up by Bill Johnston. The Board is in agreement that the agreed upon proposal then be sent out.

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ARTICLE 78 – nothing more from the Attorney.

ZONING – George Hainer reported that there is one zoning amendment on water that has some questions on it that is holding the other amendments back now. It was agreed to set that one aside and move forward with the others.

BUDGET – Supervisor Connell is in receipt of the requests from all the departments. He will have the Tentative Budget to the Town Clerk by September 30th and she will put them in the Councilman's mailboxes.

The first meeting on the Budget will be October 13th at 5:00 p.m. with the regular meeting to follow immediately after. A representative from Burnham & Associates will be here to speak with the Board that evening.

The second Budget meeting will be October 15th at 3:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

RESIGNATION – PLANNING BOARD – A letter of resignation was received from Joyce Daniels from her position on the Planning Board due to her moving to Connecticut.

RESOLUTION #186
DANIELS RESIGNATION

On a motion by Councilman Smith and seconded by Councilman Tyler and approved on a roll call vote.

5 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Smith, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to accept the resignation of Joyce Daniels from the Planning Board with thanks and with the Board's regrets.

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RESOLUTION #187
APPROVAL OF BILLS

On a motion by Councilman Smith seconded by Councilman Tyler and approved on a roll call vote.

5 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Smith, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize the payment of bills on Abstract 9B, Vouchers 2009-556 through Vouchers 2009-590 in the amount of \$149,994.98.

DPW SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – JERROLD SHERMAN

The meter has been installed on the line in Wadhams to verify the actual amount of water going through. On the south end of town in Westport the crew did hit and break a water line but quickly made necessary repairs. Another manhole was repaired that may have been the source of some of our problems. Replaced pipe from a leak in front of the Hudson's house. A windshield had to be replaced in one of the trucks and one pickup truck had to be sent to the County for diagnosis of problems. All the water meters have been read and a few had to have some repairs done to them. The mowing has been finished for the second time and there is a problem with the John Deere loader. In early October we plan to start hauling road sand.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

We have received a letter from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation regarding the inspection report on the Wadhams Sewer District, which was found to be generally satisfactory.

A copy of the Mined Land Inspection Report was received from Joseph Barbarto from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.

Notice from the State of NY Unified Court System Fourth Judicial District that hearings will be rescheduled on Small Claims Assessment Reviews since the Hearing Officer did not notify the Assessor of the date and time of the hearings.

COUNCILMEN'S COMMENTS

Councilman Paquette expressed his concern over not having documentation on incidents or accidents that happen involving staff and equipment. He feels there is a need for a paper trail too not only protect the individual but to document for insurance purposes. Supervisor Connell will come back to the next meeting with some sample forms.

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Councilman Tyler gave a letter to the Clerk to read from a local resident, Kevin Cooper, who is very disturbed over the noise level of the fire siren in Town. The letter will be forward to the Fire Department for their consideration.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Bruce Ware asked if the Town had looked at the possibility of and the cost involved with running a pipeline to Wadhams for water. Supervisor Connell responded that this had been looked at and to lay the pipe alone was around \$2,000,000.

RESOLUTION #188
ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilman Smith with a unanimous second to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted

Sheila Borden, Town Clerk