

Minutes of the Fourth Tuesday Regular Town Board Meeting on August 25, 2009

Supervisor Connell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Assembly was led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present on a roll call were:

Councilman Paquette
Councilman Sherman
Councilman Smith
Supervisor Connell

Members absent:

Councilman Tyler

Others present:

Sheila Borden, Town Clerk
George Hainer, Zoning and Codes Officer
Jerold Sherman, DPW Superintendent
James Hermann, Linda Bigelow, Gordon Bigelow, Bruce Dunning, Bruce Ware,
Bob Mahar, Janice Mahar

RESOLUTION #168 MINUTES

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

4 Ayes Paquette, Sherman, Smith, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting of August 11, 2009.

Minutes of the Second Tuesday Regular Town Board Meeting on August 25, 2009
Page 2

RESOLUTION #169
MINUTES

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

3 Ayes Paquette, Smith, Connell
0 Nays
1 Abstain Sherman

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Special Town Board Meeting on the Wadhams Water Project on August 19, 2009.

RESOLUTION #170
MINUTES

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

3 Ayes Paquette, Smith, Connell
0 Nays
1 Abstain Sherman

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Special Town Board Meeting on the Municipal Center Project on August 20, 2009.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None at this time

COMMITTEE REPORTS

GARAGE – There was a Special Board Meeting on August 20th to discuss the project and the latest projected cost estimate with the architect which is over the contracted \$6,000,000 we have with the State of NY. Our own DPW is going to dig in the areas where they found bedrock and see what the actual circumstance is. Supervisor Connell did talk with other landowners about availability of other sites. The next scheduled meeting is September 21st at 6:00 p.m. and it will be advertised as a Special Town Board Meeting.

YOUTH COMMISSION – Councilman Sherman reported that they have held no meeting but the bidy soccer program has begun.

Minutes of the Second Tuesday Regular Town Board Meeting on August 25, 2009
Page 3

OLD BUSINESS

WADHAMS WATER – A Special Board Meeting was held on August 19th to discuss three items involved with the project.

- On Thursday, August 20th Supervisor Connell received an email from Wayne Ryan of AES Northeast with a list of information he needed in order for him to complete his engineering report.
- On Friday, August 21st, thanks especially to Robin Crandall and George Hainer, all the information was together and mailed off to Mr. Ryan.
- Monday, August 24th, Mr. Connell received another email stating Mr. Ryan received the packet.
- Mr. Ryan also wrote that rather than AES coming back to meter test the line again in Wadhams that the Town now purchase its own meter. This would have cost AES around \$5,000. If we made the purchase, then we would be able to use it later when the water control building was constructed.

RESOLUTION #171
PURCHASE OF METER

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

4 Ayes Paquette, Sherman, Smith, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize the DPW Superintendent to purchase a test meter per Wayne Ryan's recommendation.

WATER COMMITTEE – Councilman Paquette presented the Water Code with its recommended revisions to the Town Board for its review. Within the code you will find asterisks that refer to fees charged and if you go to the last page (page 22) Appendix A you will find those fees listed. Supervisor Connell expressed his thanks to Councilman Paquette and the Committee for the time and work they had given.

SEWER PLANT – They have been here looking into the noise situation but no ideas as yet.

BLUE RIBBON UPDATE – Supervisor Connell will be working with Bill Johnston on the RFP.

ARTICLE 78 UPDATE – We are still waiting for a court decision.

Minutes of the Second Tuesday Regular Town Board Meeting on August 25, 2009
Page 4

ZONING – George Hainer reported that we haven't heard from the APA on the Northway industrial zone interpretation. It's not moving along as fast as we'd like on the zoning updates. There is some concern with traffic before and after the railroad underpass by the Depot because of the blind driveways. This has been discussed before and it is really a railroad issue.

RE-EVALUATION UPDATE – Due to a death in the family, Bernard Roy from the Real Property Tax Office has been rescheduled to come and speak on September 8, 2009.

WATER METER ISSUE – The resident has received our letter. We are in Step #3 of the process.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION #172
APPROVAL OF BILLS

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

4 Ayes Paquette, Sherman, Smith, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize the payment of bills on Abstract 8C, Vouchers 2009-514 through Vouchers 2009-533 in the amount of \$22,248.69.

MUNICIPALITY'S SNOW & ICE AGREEMENT WITH NEW YORK STATE – Received notification that there will be a slight decrease in the equipment rates for this years Agreement renewal.

REQUEST TOWN OF MORIAH – The Clerk read a letter from Thomas R. Scozzafava, Supervisor of the Town of Moriah, requesting the exploration of and feasibility of a shared court facility with the Towns of Moriah, Crown Point and Westport. They like to appoint a committee, including themselves, one councilman and one Judge to participate.

RESOLUTION #173
SHARED COURT FACILITY COMMITTEE

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

4 Ayes Paquette, Sherman, Smith, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to set up a committee to meet with the Towns of Crown Point and Moriah to discuss the possibility and feasibility of a shared court facility.

Supervisor Connell appointed the following to serve on the committee:

Supervisor Connell, Councilman Paquette, Justice Charles Turek

2010 BUDGET PROCESS

Supervisor Connell reviewed the budget process.

He has furnished request forms to all departments and they must be returned to him by September 20th. He then has ten day to put the tentative budget together and file it with the Town Clerk.

By October 5th the Town Clerk will place the budget in the Councilmen's mailboxes. We will then need to hold a public hearing no later than the Thursday following November third.

The Board must adopt the budget by 11/20/09. The fire departments will present their budgets directly to the Town Clerk.

Included in the Board packet is a New Exemption Reporting Requirement put out by the Association of Towns that hopefully the Real Property Tax Office will assist us with.

Minutes of the Second Tuesday Regular Town Board Meeting on August 25, 2009
Page 6

RABIES VACCINATION

We have received a request by the Animal Control Officer due to the nature of his position and that he has been bitten several times to receive the rabies vaccination by the County.

RESOLUTION #174
RABIES VACCINATION

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

4 Ayes Paquette, Sherman, Smith, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize Essex County Public Health Office to obtain and give the rabies shot to the Animal Control Officer and bill the cost to the Town of Westport.

DPW SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – JERROLD SHERMAN

We have been spending considerable time on getting ready for the new sidewalk. We are now ready for the new one to be put down. We are ready to start paving tomorrow on the Dudley Road that should take a day and a half and also have been doing the normal mowing and mechanical repairs.

SUPERVISOR’S COMMENTS – We are in receipt of a letter from Dennin & Dennin, Attorneys at Law, offering their services in defending any possible tax assessment proceedings.

Included in your packets you will find a copy of the February 2010 Estimate of the preliminary costs for employee retirement rates.

An advertisement received from Accurate Recycling Corporation on asphalt shingle recycling that will be shared with the County to see if they have any interest.

The latest copy of the account analysis of the budget is included in your packet for your review.

Minutes of the Second Tuesday Regular Town Board Meeting on August 25, 2009
Page 7

COUNCILMAN'S COMMENTS –

Councilman Smith was asked by some parents to have crosswalk by the fairgrounds painted back on. Supervisor Connell will call on it.

Councilman Paquette has been working with the Forester to settle a few minor problems. There will be a new person coming after 9/4. The Board would like the new person to come to the September 8th meeting to meet them and review the Board's plans for the watershed.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Nothing at this time.

RESOLUTION #175

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilman Paquette with a unanimous second the meeting was adjourned at 8:00p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted
Sheila Borden, Town Clerk