

TOWN BOARD
Regular Meeting
December 14, 2016

Supervisor: Robert Wood
Councilman: Michael Stolzer
Councilwoman: Patricia Jacob
Councilwoman: Patricia Riddell Kent
Councilman: Brett Holleran
Town Clerk: Cheryl L. Shackelton

Others present: Rob Panasci, Town Attorney; Jim Hurtubise, Supt. of Highways; Steve Kent; and Randy Mowers.

PETITIONERS – Councilwoman Jacob thanked Councilman Michael Stolzer for his hard work and service on the Town Board this past year. Councilwoman Riddell Kent also thanked him for his service to the Town. Supervisor Wood added that he appreciated his enthusiasm and all the good things he brought to the board and the town. All agreed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Highway/Water & Sewer – Councilwoman Riddell gave the following report and recommendations:

New Truck – Motion was made by Jacob, seconded by Stolzer to authorize the Highway Supt. to order the 2017 International 4300 SBA 4X2 truck with a Viking-Cives plow/body package for a total cost of \$131,094.23 (2017 expense).

Discussion: Councilwoman Riddell Kent commented that the reconfiguring to get 2 nearly new trucks was an excellent way to use money wisely.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Shared Services Agreement with NYSDOT – Motion was made by Holleran, seconded by Jacob to enter into a two year agreement with the NYS Department of Transportation to provide emergency assistance to the town when the need arises.

Discussion: Supervisor Wood said this has been an informal practice in the past.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

2017 Snow & Ice Agreement with County – Motion was made by Wood, seconded by Riddell Kent to approve the 2017 ‘Agreement for the Control of Snow and Ice on County Roads’, for a 3-year term commencing January 1, 2017.

Discussion: Supervisor Wood stated that the county reimburses the town for snow and ice work done on county roads.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Surplus drainage pipes – Motion was made by Holleran, seconded by Stolzer to declare two used galvanized steel drainage pipes as surplus, estimated value approximately \$350.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

John Deere loader – Motion was made by Jacob, seconded by Holleran to authorize the Highway Superintendent to purchase a new 2017 John Deere 624K-II 4WD loader, under State Contract. Cost of new loader \$160,264.85; minus trade in allowance of \$144,362.00 on the 2014 loader, leaving a total expense of \$15,902.85 (2017 expense).

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION – Public Hearing

The legal notice was duly advertised in The Daily Star on December 7, 2016. Motion was made by Riddell Kent, seconded by Holleran to open the public hearing.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

No one spoke for or against the proposal. Motion was made by Jacob, seconded by Stolzer to close the public hearing.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Motion was made by Riddell Kent to repeal Chapter 37 ‘Flood Damage Prevention’.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Motion was made by Holleran, seconded by Riddell Kent to adopt Local Law #4 of 2016, the new ‘Flood Damage Prevention’ as proposed by FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency).

Discussion: Supervisor Wood stated that the primary change is that 10-12 town properties have been added to the ‘Flood Insurance Rate Map’. Attorney Panasci added that this affects property owners who have mortgages and have to obtain flood insurance. Code Officer Neske reviewed the law and suggested a couple minor modifications that Attorney Panasci will address before filing.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Personnel – Supervisor Wood gave the following report:

Code Officer Neske submitted a request to roll over 5 unused vacation days to 2017. Supervisor Wood said he would like to use these days to attend a personal conference the early part of 2017. The board discussed the pros and cons of honoring unused time, but Attorney Panasci cautioned against it, saying it could start a precedent. Councilman Holleran suggested limiting the number of days that can be rolled over; and asked if there is coverage to issue permits when he is away. Supervisor Wood responded yes.

Motion was made by Wood, seconded by Stolzer to allow Code Officer Neske to roll over 5 unused vacation days to 2017.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Public Safety

Councilman Holleran suggested using a website that could plot all properties with transient rental special use permits, showing density of them. Supervisor Wood stated that there are 30 transient rental permits for the entire town. Councilman Stolzer said he would like to see rentals and vacant properties plotted as well. Councilwoman Jacob agreed adding that she likes the visual effect. The Board agreed that a ‘rental registry’ should be considered. Councilman Stolzer said renters need protection and if you are a conscientious landlord, regulations and inspections are not an issue.

Councilman Stolzer expressed concern about the drilling of a new well at the proposed Holiday Inn Express and the possibility of it affecting adjoining residents' wells. Attorney Panasci said those concerns would be addressed by the Planning Board and the New York State Department of Health.

Parks & Recreation – Councilwoman Riddell Kent gave the following update: Commended Steve Kent for the Fortin Park sign he made; and the Highway Crew for installing it; much positive feedback has been received. Recreation Committee will meet every 2nd Monday of the month at 3:30pm (before the Public Safety meetings). Next meeting will be Jan. 9th at 3:30pm.

OWL House and Grounds Committee report:

- will have their furnace inspected soon
- spending most of their time fundraising
- very pleased with the new sign at the corner of Youngs Rd. & Co. Hwy. 47

Community and Health

Councilwoman Jacob reported that Fox Hospital offers a 'Smoking Cessation' program that is open to the public.

Councilwoman Riddell Kent reported as follows on the Dec. 14th Fire Commissioner meeting:

- Elections were held Dec. 13th; 25 votes were cast with 24 votes for Eugene Molinari and 1 write-in;
- January organizational meeting will precede their regular January meeting on Jan. 10th at 6:00 pm;
- Next Task Force meeting with the City of Oneonta and consultant will be Dec. 21, 2016 at 11am at City Hall;
- Are exploring volunteer fire department options.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Attorney Panasci stated that the 'Written Notification' on abandoned/junk vehicles is of no effect and should be taken off the table.

MISCELLANEOUS

Resolution to Reduce the Use of Paper – Upon Councilman Holleran's recommendation the following action was taken. Motion was made by Stolzer, seconded by Jacob to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Oneonta recognizes that we are responsible for reducing our carbon footprint as a municipality. We recognize that we as a governing body are responsible for creating sustainable and environmentally conscience policies.

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Oneonta recognizes that while paper is a recyclable resource, photocopying documents has an economic and environmental cost.

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Oneonta recognizes that many town documents can easily be electronically distributed rather than photocopied.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, the Town of the Town of Oneonta unanimously approves that all departments move towards “ongoing paperless” where and when appropriate with the goal of reducing our carbon footprint.

Discussion: Supervisor Wood stated that everyone is conscientious in this respect, but we can do better. He said he would start by scanning the monthly bill summary and send via email to the board.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

2017 Susquehanna Animal Shelter agreement – Motion was made by Jacob, seconded by Stolzer to approve the 2017 agreement between the Susquehanna Animal Shelter (SAS) and the Town to provide shelter for the care of dogs found in violation of the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law or Town Laws.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Action on Local Law to amend Chapter 94 ‘Town Board Committees’ – A public hearing was held Nov. 9, 2016 with the board reserving decision at that time. Supervisor Wood called for action on the proposal.

Motion was made by Wood, seconded by Jacob to approve Local Law #3 of 2016 to amend Chapter 94 ‘Committees’ of the Town of Oneonta Town Code.

Discussion: Attorney Panasci stated that the Town Supervisor has the authority to set committees and appoint members, but also town board members have the same authority and control to present and act on legislation. Supervisor Wood said the supervisor has different responsibilities and obligations than the town board; and that he would simply like to combine some of the current committees, as well as form a new ‘legislative’ committee.

VOTE: Ayes – Jacob, Holleran, Wood

Nays – Stolzer, Riddell Kent

Motion Carried

Association of Towns Annual Meeting – Motion was made by Jacob, seconded by Stolzer to authorize Supervisor Wood to attend the Association of Towns Annual Meeting, Feb. , 2017 in New York City.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Annual Organizational Meeting – Motion was made by Jacob, seconded by Stolzer to schedule the annual Organizational Meeting for January 9, 2017 at 4:00 pm.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Mobile Home Park renewals for 2017 – Motion was made by Wood, seconded by Stolzer to approve the following Mobile Home Park renewals for 2017: Oneida Village, Evergreen Terrace, Lantern Hill, Byam’s Trailer Court, and Peaceful Flats.

Discussion: Councilman Holleran stated that he drove through Lantern Hill recently and was disturbed by the condition of the mobile homes in that park. He said most looked as if they should be deemed uninhabitable for human or animal; and the roads are terrible. Councilman

Stolzer said the town needs more rigorous inspections. Councilwoman Jacob added that we need affordable housing in the area. Supervisor Wood said the town goes as far as it can without infringing on property rights.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

MEGA Agreement - Motion was made by Stolzer, seconded by Riddell Kent to extend the agreement with MEGA for 6 additional months.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Facebook – Councilman Holleran submitted a draft ‘Facebook Policy’ for the board and attorney to review. He suggested establishing a ‘Public Information Officer’ who would be responsible for the Town’s Facebook page for an additional stipend.

Solar Permitting – Motion was made by Stolzer, seconded by Jacob to set a public hearing for February 8, 2017 at 7:15pm to consider an amendment to the Town Code Section 103.72.1 Regarding ‘Solar collectors’.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Informational:

- Zoning Board of Appeals vacancy – Supervisor Wood said the appointment would be made at the organizational meeting in January.

- Community Choice Aggregation – Supervisor Wood set a date of January 17, 2017, from 6 – 7:30pm at Town Hall for the first information meeting on Community Choice Aggregation. He said he would schedule another meeting later on for the East End.

PETITIONERS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Jacob, seconded by Riddell Kent to approve the November 9, 2016 minutes.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

BILLS

Motion was made by Jacob, seconded by Riddell Kent to approve bills as follows:

General	\$104,833.20	857,859,862-867,869,870,876,879,881,883,885-897,911,912
Highway	\$113,214.44	857,896-906,909,913
Street Lights	\$5,199.29	859,883,892
Trust & Agency	\$4,976.47	850-853,855,856,868,915,916

DISTRICTS:

WESD	\$45,079.83	849,854,858,860,861,871,872,874,877,880,882,884,907,910,914
WSSD	\$1,091.23	849,854,858,860,871,874,877,880,882,914
SSD	\$2,046.69	849,854,858,871,874,877,880,882,884,910,914
WWD	\$9,585.68	849,854,858,860,861,871,873-875,877,880,882,908,914

PWD \$10,687.36 849,854,858,871,874,877,878,882,914
VOTE –Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl L. Shackelton
Town Clerk