

TOWN OF WASHINGTON

TOWN BOARD

December 6, 2007

The Town Board of the Town of Washington held its regular meeting on Thursday, December 6, 2007, at the Town Hall, 10 Reservoir Dr., Millbrook. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Florence Prisco at 7:00 PM, with the following present: Councilmen Stephen Turletes, Allan Rappleyea, Michael Murphy and Robert Audia, Town Clerk Mary Alex, Highway Superintendent James Brownell, Bookkeeper to the Supervisor Laura Hurley, Zoning Administrator Jack Neubauer, Attorney for the Town John Gifford and Associate Attorney Rebecca Valk.

Also present were Frank Genova, Tim Marshall, Howard Schuman, Village Trustee Stan Morse, Steve Lynch and Kate Farrell.

Monthly reports were received from the Town Clerk, Court Clerk, Zoning Administrator and Bookkeeper to the Supervisor.

Supervisor Prisco opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supv. Prisco advised the Board that she had received a letter from the Oakwood Friends School recognizing David Greenwood, Town Historian, as well as Ginny Augerson for a student program they recently assisted with.

Supv. Prisco attended a breakfast at the Institute of Ecosystem Studies for municipal leaders. Dr. Schlesinger talked about how they would like to expand their partnerships with municipalities, and recognized the Town of Washington. Dr. Groffman has worked with Councilman Murphy and the Town Wetland committee in the review process of the proposed ordinance. The IES would like to be more involved with municipalities in this type of work.

Supervisor Prisco thanked the Millbrook Businessmen's Association for their efforts for how beautiful the village looks with all of the trees, lights, decorations and wreaths.

Supervisor Prisco said that residents living along Sharon Turnpike and Route 44 that have been affected by the new State routes will be or has received letters from New York State Department of Transportation with their new address information. If people have questions there is a map available at the Town Hall for review.

Dutchess County Legislator Margaret Fettes called Supervisor Prisco to report that the wells have been completed for the Geothermal construction, they are working on the installation of windows on the second and third floor, and the asbestos has been removed. She has obtained the information by talking to the workers on site. Supv. Prisco asked Mrs. Fettes to have a report for the Town Board at each Town Board meeting.

Highway Superintendent Brownell asked permission to sell as surplus a 1987 pickup truck. He is not asking for a minimum bid. On a motion made by Councilman Audia and seconded by Councilman Murphy the Board authorized the sale of a 1987 pickup truck, as surplus equipment. All ayes were recorded.

As the 2008 budget has been approved, Highway Superintendent Brownell requested that the Town Board sign the annual agreement authorizing the highway to spend Item I funds in the amount of \$469,456. for 64.44 miles of roads. The contract was signed by the Town Board and Mr. Brownell. It will be forwarded to Dutchess County and when accepted, filed in the Town Clerk's office.

On a motion made by Councilman Turletes and seconded by Councilman Audia, the Board opened the Public Hearing on the fire contract with the Village of Millbrook. All ayes were recorded. Supervisor Prisco said she will open up discussions when Mayor Ciferri arrives.

The Public Hearings on Stormwater and Sediment Control and Illicit Discharge are still open. The Town Board met with the Planning Board on Nov. 27th for further discussion of the proposals. Mr. Genova had suggested that they be forwarded to Ed Hoxsie at Dutchess County Soil and Water for his review. Jennifer Cavanaugh from his office provided a response to CAC member Tim Marshall. Mr. Marshall said he had brought copies of the proposed regulations down to Soil and Water about 3 weeks ago. The response basically advises that the law is written as if we are an MS3 community. The recommendation was to remove some of the more technical requirements. After a brief discussion the Board decided to invite Ms. Cavanaugh to a Board meeting so she could provide additional input to the town.

Supervisor Prisco had asked Zoning Administrator Jack Neubauer for his comments. He felt that by being able to bring in experts the Town would be sufficiently protected. The Public Hearing will continue to remain open.

Mayor Ciferri entered the meeting. Mayor Ciferri advised the Board that he had put RFP's out to Alamo Ambulance, Northern Dutchess Paramedics and Mobile Life. He has received a quote from Alamo for \$204,000. for the current 7 day a week, 12 hour a day coverage. Proposals are due to the village by December 18th. He said that he and Trustee Bondus had met with Asst. Chief of Rescue Laurie Olson and Rescue Squad member Liz Baldwin. The Squad expressed that they are ready to go back to providing 24 hour 7 day a week coverage. Supervisor Prisco said she would like to meet with the squad and both municipal Boards to discuss this possibility. Councilman Murphy suggested that the Rescue Squad put together a business plan outlining staffing and hours of coverage. Putting it in writing for the Boards to review would make the decision a business one and not an emotional one.

Mayor Ciferri said he would follow up with Alamo Ambulance to see if they would extend the month to month service, while the Board determines which type of

coverage would be best for the community. He also mentioned contacting the Pleasant Valley department to consider using their ALS service as a dual dispatch if needed. Trustee Morse said he has contacted NYCOM to find out what could happen to the village if the Board took away the professional service and went back to volunteers. He was told that there wouldn't be any liability to the village. It is a business decision the Village can make. He said he would prefer to go to a volunteer squad and be able to use the money elsewhere in the budget. Councilman Rappleyea said he would like to know what the people think, the residents haven't really weighed in on whether the cost of paid service is an issue. The Town Board certainly talked about it throughout the budget process, however there weren't any comments raised at the Public Hearing. Mr. Genova said he wants the service and doesn't care what it costs. Mr. Schuman said that depending on the age of a resident, they might have a different response to the type or height of coverage they want. Trustee Hurley said that volunteerism might be higher when people see the increase in costs.

Mayor Ciferri said if the Town Board wishes to keep the Public Hearing open on the fire and rescue contract the Village will extend the current services. When a contract is in place for rescue services the Town can finalize the budget with the village.

Trustee Morse congratulated those that were reelected in the Town elections. He introduced Stephen Lynch to the Town Board. He has been working with the Village on a shared service grant for a mid and long term grant. Dutchess County has endorsed the grant and the Village is requesting that the Town be a co-signer as well.

Mr. Lynch said he is the President of R. S. Lynch, an environmental consulting firm, in the Village of Millbrook. The Village has an opportunity to participate in a shared services grant program through the New York State Department of State. The state is looking for communities to share costs. The village is going forth with a grant for \$200,000.00 to examine water and sewer options for the next 10, 15, 20 years. Since the Village serves a portion of the Town, as well as the Dutchess County facility, they are requesting that these two governments be co-signators. Mr. Lynch is not charging the village for the grant preparation, however he will manage the grant if it is successful.

The following resolution was offered by Councilman Rappleyea and seconded by Councilman Audia.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Village of Millbrook will apply for a grant under the New York State Shared Services Incentive Program, which has a December 14, 2007 deadline; and

WHEREAS, such application will request a grant to study the mid-term and long-term water and sewer services needed by our community; and

WHEREAS, Village Trustee Laura Hurley will be the Lead Agency Contact Person, and the grant application will be written by R. Stephen Lynch (RS Lynch & Co.) at no cost; if the grant is awarded, RS Lynch and Company will manage the study; and

WHEREAS, the Project Title will be “Water and Sewer Needs of Millbrook Area Residents” and the request will be for \$200,000.00; and

WHEREAS the Village of Millbrook will pay all of the ten percent (10%) local cost share, which will be \$20,000.00 if a \$200,000.00 grant is awarded; and

WHEREAS, if the grant is unsuccessful the Village of Millbrook will reapply for the grant under the same terms and conditions in the 2008/2009 grant cycle; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Washington hereby supports the Village of Millbrook in their efforts to obtain the aforementioned grant by being a co-applicant.

The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Prisco	Aye
Councilman Turletes	Aye
Councilman Rappleyea	Aye
Councilman Murphy	Aye
Councilman Audia	Aye

This resolution was duly adopted.

On a motion made by Councilman Murphy and seconded by Councilman Rappleyea, Ron Galente was reappointed to the Board of Assessment Review for an additional five year term. All ayes were recorded.

Historian Greenwood updated the Board on his activities for the past month. He had a public presentation of the Lyall Report, an early study of the concerns of the residents of Millbrook. He hosted a workshop and walking tour for students of the Oakwood School, that hopefully will be included in other school programs. Mr. Greenwood noted the recent fire at the Hitchcock Estate, where the stone and wood barn was destroyed. The Board expressed their appreciation to the fire department and the surrounding town fire companies that assisted at the scene. Mr. Greenwood is also working on a project about the Underground Railroad in the community, and a presentation will be made in March.

Mr. Greenwood pointed out to everyone that there is an addition to the Service bulletin case. Jeff Fisher, the son of the Revs. Douglas and Elizabeth Fisher, is serving in Americorps.

Trustee Morse said that the presentation by David Greenwood of the Lyall Report, which was the first Master Plan, was outstanding. Betsy Shequine is sponsoring a follow up at St. Peter’s church, and everyone should attend.

Supervisor Prisco reminded everyone of the following meetings:

- Jan 7th – Reorganization Meeting 7:00 PM
- Jan 10th – Regular Board meeting 7:00 PM
- Jan 14th – Public Hearing on Wetland 7:00 PM

Councilman Rappleyea reported that he owes Ellen Epstein a return call regarding the park development. He will follow up.

Councilman Audia said that he has arrangements can be made for the installation of the new phone system with Superior Telephone Systems. On a motion made by Councilman Rappleyea and seconded by Councilman Murphy the Board accepted the proposal from Superior Telephone Systems at a fee of \$7,456.15. All ayes were recorded.

On a motion made by Councilman Turletes and seconded by Councilman Murphy the Board authorized an RFP to be issued for the replacement of the wooden structure over the stairwell on the side of the Town Hall. All ayes were recorded.

On a motion made by Councilman Murphy and seconded by Councilman Audia the minutes of Nov. 8, 2007 were accepted as presented. Councilman Rappleyea abstained as he was absent at the November meeting. All other ayes were recorded.

On a motion made by Councilman Audia and seconded by Councilman Rappleyea the following claims were accepted as presented:

Gen Fund A	\$45,950.75
Gen Fund B	\$3,371.95
Youth Rec	\$4,856.62
Highway Fund DB	\$10,514.08
Fund T	\$2,099.50

All ayes were recorded.

There being no other business, on a motion made by Councilman Turletes and seconded by Councilman Murphy the meeting was closed at 10:20 PM.

Mary Alex, Town Clerk