

TOWN BOARD TOWN OF WASHINGTON

July 12, 2007

The Town Board of the Town of Washington held its regular meeting on Thursday, July 12, 2007, at the Town Hall, Reservoir Drive, Millbrook. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Florence Prisco with the following present: Councilmen Allan Rappleyea, Michael Murphy and Robert Audia, Town Clerk Mary Alex, Highway Superintendent James Brownell, Bookkeeper to the Supervisor Laura Hurley and Recreation Director Warren McMillan, Attorney for the Town John Gifford and Rebecca Valk, also an attorney with Van de Water and Van de Water. Councilman Turletes was absent due to an illness.

Others present were: Mitch Trinka, Elizabeth Baravalle, Howard Schuman, David and Nancy Hathaway, Stan and Mary Morse, Frank Genova, Nigel and Julia Widdowson, Ilana Nilsen, Mickey Prisco, Scott Tumblety, Eve Propp, Jay and Maris Van Alan, Kate Farrell, Catherine Webb, David Dunlap, Debra and Fletcher Coddington, Town Historian David Greenwood, Alex Pandaleon, Eve Propp, Didi Barrett, Thomas Bieler, Hester Weeden, Fernando Nottebohm, Tony Sloan, Debra Scheer and Ken Lilley.

Supervisor Prisco opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Monthly reports were received from the Town Clerk, Justice Clerk, Zoning Administrator and Building Inspector.

Mrs. Hurley presented the Board with the monthly Bookkeepers report. It included a Memo from Justices Shequine and Aubin regarding an audit of their bank accounts, as required by the New York State Justice Department. The fee for the audit by Accounting Associates is \$500.00 per justice. The bank balances are available through June 30, 2007. Mrs. Hurley further reported that she had meet with Mr. Pozniak of Accounting Associates and the CD ladder program that had been previously established, now has specific funds associated with each account. Income and Expenses have been posted through the end of June.

Mrs. Hurley requested that the Board approve the mid year budget amendments as presented. On a motion made by Councilman Rappleyea and seconded by Councilman Audia the following Budget amendments:

To:	A 8161.0100	Landfill Clerk	\$3,500.
	A 8161.0800	Landfill Soc Sec	\$600.
From:	A 8161.0400		\$4,100.
To:	A 1910.0400	Unallocated Ins	\$138.00
	A 1950.0400	Taxes	\$26.
	A 3310.0400	Traffic Control	\$83.
	A 6510.0400	Veterans Services	\$25.00
	A 9010.0800	State Retirement	\$1,603.

From: A 1990.0400 Contingency \$1,875.

All ayes were recorded.

Supervisor Prisco advised the Board that the Jim Tyger has submitted a voucher for to be compensated for mileage in his capacity as Building Inspector and Assessor. She wanted to know if the Board would prefer to have him use one of the old town trucks rather than pay mileage. After a brief discussion the Board decided that to continue to pay the mileage.

Recreation Director McMillan announced the names of the two recipients of the Guertin Scholarship fund. They are Kevin DelBene and Ashley Guertin. They will each receive \$300.00.

He reported that summer camp is going extremely well and believes that it may be his best summer yet. The camp is full with 200 campers and 80 counselors and adult staff members. The pool is well used, and they are very close to the anticipated revenue amounts for the summer. Mr. McMillan advised that in the future the town might see more stringent Health Department rules for the operation of a pool. The town will address them as required.

Rebecca Valk reported that Judge Brandts granted the relief that the Town had requested in the matter pertaining to a dog owned by Mrs. Scantlebury. Also, the judge ordered that the town is not responsible for legal fees or other support for the dog. The Town is required to submit an order of seizure to the judge. Hopefully, the dog can be returned in an easy manner. Mrs. Scantlebury and Ed Adams have both been notified of Judge Brandts decision.

Supervisor Prisco said that two weeks ago the Town thoroughly discussed the Comprehensive Master Plan Committee. The Town has received several emails from citizens concerned about the committee, and this afternoon Kate Farrell delivered a petition that has been circulated online and signed by residents.

Councilman Rappleyea said that the language of the document that is being circulated is troubling and fundamentally misleading. He stated that it is bothersome to him that the positive things that the Town Board has accomplished are not shared in the same manner, and cited the problems at the pool and how the town worked with the DC Health Department to work out a more cost effective and environmentally wiser way to alleviate the problem. Councilman Rappleyea also mentioned the Town's entering into a PDR with Bos Haven Farm.

Councilman Murphy spoke to the question of the credentials of the individuals on the Master Plan Committee. The members of the committee include a NYS forester, an agronomist, a farmer and environmentalist that was recently highly praised by town residents, several businessmen, a sports enthusiast familiar with slopes, a teacher, a person affiliated with Vassar College, youth groups and children. There residents represent all different parts of the town, including the village, and also represent a diversity in the size of land holdings.

Supervisor Prisco opened the meeting to comments however she said if it becomes redundant, she will end the comment period. Councilman Murphy added that there has been much discussion on the committee, but wanted everyone to know that the whole process will take several years. The Town Board expects that the steering committee will filter out to form sub-committees to encompass the expertise beyond the original committee members. There will be public hearings, a community survey and open meetings where the whole community will have the opportunity to provide input. The committee members are Dr. Thomas Beaumont, Donald Hanson, James Shequine, Frank Genova, Tim Marshall, Dan Weller, Jerry Baker, Karen Mosca, Maureen King and Bob Audia as the Town Board liaison.

Mr. Pandaleon agreed with Councilman Rapplelea in that there is no reason for unnecessary negativity. He expressed that perhaps people felt that has happened with the Bennett proposal and the perception is that the same thing will happen here. The process can be open thru the newspaper and community suggestions.

Mr. Nottebohm said that this is political. What do the residents want as the final product? A census should be taken of what the community wants. The community expects the best professional advisors that the town can get. Supervisor Prisco said that the town will bring in professionals as required. A community survey is one of the first things that will happen, and the committee will be reaching out to the community for input. The public should not be fearful. Councilman Murphy said that as Chairman of the Wetlands committee, he reached out to professionals. He directed the meeting, typed the document and administered the meetings. He would be shocked if the Master Plan didn't happen in the same way.

Mr. Sloan said that he has been involved in planning since the 1960's in the Philadelphia area. He said that in a Comprehensive Plan, scoping is standard. A scope identifies the goals for the program: fiscal, open space, visioning, what the town expects as deliverables. The town should have an outline for itself before spending money. He would be glad to work with the town.

Councilman Audia said that is what the town did the last time and will be doing again. The process will be open and the committee will listen to everyone. If there was a spot to volunteer, they did not turn anyone away.

Ms. Farrell asked how the committee was selected. The Town Board had asked the Planning Board to suggest a committee. It is the job of the Town Board to approve the committee. Ms. Farrell suggested the Town contact Sally Masserelli or review the Rhinebeck master Plan website for suggestions.

Mrs. Widdowson said she lobbied for a Master Plan update. She was surprised at how suddenly the town moved on this. Councilman Murphy said that at recent zoning update meetings members of the Planning Board and Zoning Board suggested that the town begin the review of its Master Plan. Mrs. Widdowson said that the Town should

publish exactly what you are doing and the bios of the committee members. Mr. Widdowson said that the town can expect that the people give a bio.

Mr. Van Alan said he would like to volunteer. Letters should be sent to the attention of the Town Clerk, but addressed to Dr. Beaumont or Supervisor Prisco. Mrs. Alex will ensure that all correspondence is copied and disseminated.

Mrs. Baravalle said she attends many of the Town Board and Planning Board meetings, and she has asked if the Town would be updating its Master Plan. The Planning Board minutes do not reflect them being asked to suggest people for the committee. There are groups in the community that are not represented: IES, Millbrook Matters, Democrats. She asked that the Town pause before moving forward to ease some concerns. Mrs. Baravalle felt that there is a big difference between being on the committee and being on a sub committee. Councilman Audia and Supervisor Prisco both said that the Board is open to adding people to the committee.

Mrs. Nilsen said that when she ran for a position on the Town Council the Master Plan was one of the things she ran on. She is disappointed that the same people are represented. There are many people anxious to participate.

Mr. Sloan reiterated that he thought a scope should be outlined prior to naming the committee. Mrs. Coddington agreed with him. She said that the demographics of the community have changed. Do it in a smart comprehensive manner.

Mrs. Widdowson asked what assurance the community has that this will be open and that the committee will reflect all of us. Supv. Prisco said that it is the citizens that make things happen. The Board is here to assure you that you will be heard.

Mr. Van Alan said that he has concerns that like the Public Hearing for Bennett in the Village, where the developer was given an open ended time period, the residents were only able to speak for 3 minutes. That is a fear of the people.

Mrs. Scheer said she volunteered to serve on the last Master Plan committee. The town can get assistance from Dutchess County and professionals. She said that she did not feel that the things that were important to her were represented.

Mr. Schuman suggested that the Board table the decision and seek more applicants. Mrs. Hathaway agreed and said that she wouldn't want to begin this with a feeling of distrust.

Mrs. Morse said that she has recently become involved with local politics because of the situation at Bennett. She hopes that people will get a good feeling about this, and they will finish with something the community will be proud of.

Councilman Rappleyea said that when he read the petition he was upset. How the Town Board is affiliated politically has never mattered. We have always tried to do

things in a fair way. He does not believe that there will ever be a Wal-Mart in Mabbettsville, as the zoning does not allow for it. Suggesting fear to illicit fear is unfair. He asked that if people attended Bennett meetings, not to allow them to scare you. If you came here, you will see that that is not how this Town Board does things. We consider it a privilege to serve our community. The goal is not to be exclusive.

Mrs. Nilsen said that fear is not the same as a concern.

Mrs. Van Alan stated that there are fears out there, but we agree on many matters. She would like to see the discussion remain open and the Board adds some people to the committee.

Supv. Prisco said that tonight the room is full, which she likes to see. The meetings are open and have always been. Councilman Murphy said that the Board has the list of ideas from Kate Farrell. They Board will review those names, with other ideas as well. The Town Board chose to table the decision for the evening. They will allow the opportunity for other letters to be sent.

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

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING TOWN JUSTICES ELIZABETH SHEQUINE AND BRUCE AUBIN TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE STATE OF NEW YORK UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM UNDER THE 2007 JUSTICE COURT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

BE IT RESOLVED that Elizabeth Shequine and Bruce Aubin, Justices for the Town of Washington are hereby authorized and directed to file an application for funds from the State of New York Unified Court System Office of Court Administration under its Justice Court Assistance Program, in an amount not to exceed the amount authorized by New York State Unified Court System JCAP awards, and on approval of said request to enter into and execute a project agreement with the State for such financial assistance to this Town of Washington for upgrades to the Justice Court System including but not limited to security, records access and general court room aesthetics.

All ayes were recorded. This resolution was duly adopted.

Historian Greenwood noted that the display case in the lobby now features John Marona and the scrapbook of residents serving in World War II that he donated earlier this year.

Mr. Greenwood also discussed the DC Historical Society Pilgrimage, which is now known as the Silver Ribbon Tour. As historian, he will be working with the library to recreate an exhibit underwritten many years ago by Mr. Flagler.

In other business, Mr. Gifford advised the Board that he is working on the zoning amendments that had come about through meetings earlier this year. They will be available for Board review at the next meeting, with the ability to schedule Public Hearings in September.

Mr. McMillan asked that the Board complete a resolution authorizing the recreation department to apply for funds through the Dutchess County Youth Bureau. The town will be applying for funds for the after school program and the youth employment program.

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

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE TOWN RECREATION DEPARTMENT TO APPLY TO THE DUTCHESS COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU FOR FUNDS FOR THE AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM AND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Be it resolved that Warren McMillan, Recreation Director for the Town of Washington is hereby authorized and directed to file a grant application with the Dutchess County Youth Bureau for funds for the After School Program and the Youth Employment Program.

All ayes were recorded. This resolution was duly adopted.

On a motion made by Councilman Audia and seconded by Councilman Murphy the minutes of June 4 and June 14, 2007 were accepted as presented. All ayes were recorded.

Councilman Murphy reported that there are no outstanding issues to report in regard to the Planning Board or the ZBA. The Wetlands Committee focus group has all received copies of the proposed ordinance. The group will be pulled together in the next several weeks. It is possible that a public hearing can be scheduled at the September meeting.

Councilman Rappleyea advised that the Parkland Committee has met at the park. The goal was to look at the park as a whole. Two areas were ruled out for field location, one due to a grove of trees and the other because of the septic system. The group discussed the possibility of the park being used as a location for the "Ben Boice Memorial Invitational" for the cross country team. They also discussed the possibility of dredging and cleaning out the silt from the reservoir, as the area fills in less water is able to be held in the reservoir. Dirk Rosse will have more information for them.

Mr. Coddington said that he has been approached by the fire department about using his property to access the land sold to the town for a tractor pull event the department wishes to hold as part of their 100th anniversary celebration. He has said he will grant them the access they requested.

Councilman Audia reported that he has spoken with an engineer to look at the air conditioning system to improve flow and make improvements in the Town Clerk's and Supervisors office. He has spoken with contractors and will be receiving bids for painting as well as siding the eaves. The fire escape is completed and the railings in the front of the building shall be finished soon. He has not yet had the opportunity to meet with Jim Brownell for a walk through of the highway garage.

Mr. Tumblety stated that he was opposed to using vinyl on historical buildings and that it was preferable to preserve the wood. Councilman Audia said that the Board will take into consideration the cost versus the historical value.

Mrs. Barrett asked if the Board could provide an update on the Dutchess County Infirmary property. Supervisor Prisco said she has contacted the County Executive's office and to date has not received any information. Mrs. Fettes has not been able to provide any information either. Ms. Farrell said she has "Foiled" information and she will be happy to share that with the Town. She will bring the info to the town hall for it to be copied. She said that nothing estimates the clientele that will be served by the 50-80 employees. It appears that there haven't been any traffic studies completed. Mr. Genova said questions need to be asked, but that doing nothing will make the building worse.

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

General Fund A	\$31,943.01
General Fund B	\$257.07
Highway Fund DB	\$54,046.43
TOTAL	\$86,246.51

All ayes were recorded.

Supervisor Prisco reminded the Board that she would not be able to attend the next meeting due to hip replacement surgery. She wanted to make sure the Board would all be able to be present in order to have a quorum. Councilmen Murphy and Rappleyea had personal conflicts and it was decided the meeting would need to be changed. Supervisor Prisco will discuss this with Councilman Turletes to reschedule the meeting.

There being no other business, on a motion made by Councilman Murphy and seconded by Councilman Audia the meeting was closed at 10:05 PM. All ayes were recorded.

Mary Alex, Town Clerk

