

Town of Washington

Town Board

August 13, 2009

The Town Board of the Town of Washington held its regular meeting on Thursday, August 13, 2009, at the Town hall, 10 Reservoir Drive, Millbrook. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Supervisor Florence Prisco with the following present: Councilmen Stephen Turletes, Robert Audia and William Murphy, Town Clerk Mary Alex, Laura Hurley Bookkeeper to the Supervisor and Rebecca Valk, Associate Attorney.

Also present were Howard Schuman, Tim Marshall, Dutchess County Legislator Margaret Fettes, Frank Genova, Jerry Baker, Joan Trombini, Louis Spagnola III, Kate Farrell, Scott Tumblety, Leslie Tumblety and David and Nan Greenwood.

Supervisor Prisco opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

County Legislator Fettes updated the Town Board on what the Legislature has been working on. The formation of a Citizen Advisory Commission on Small Business has passed, they are working on additional easements to extend the Rail Trail, and they have funded \$31,000.00 for an Electrical Licensing Board. Mrs. Hurley asked if there is anything the Town should be aware of as we begin our budget preparation? Does she have information or projections Election costs or Sheriff Department funding? Legislator Fettes said that they have not received any information yet from the County Executive.

On a motion made by Councilman Turletes and seconded by Councilman Turletes, the Board moved to appoint Diane Parker to the Zoning Board of Appeals. All ayes were recorded. Mrs. Parker will fill the unexpired term of Brad Roeller.

On a motion made by Councilman Audia and seconded by Councilman Turletes the Board moved to appoint Louis Spagnola III to the position of Constable. Mr. Spagnola is required to complete a training class prior to taking on his official duties. All ayes were recorded.

Supervisor Prisco advised those present that a special meeting has been scheduled for August 31, 2009 to review the Timber Bridge bid results that are due on August 14th. The meeting will begin at 7:00 and will be held at the Town Hall.

Supervisor Prisco announced that the Town Board has hired Tim Miller and Associates to assist the Wetland's Committee on the review and updating of the proposed legislation. The Board had interviewed four firms and the Board was pleased with the experience Tim Miller and Associates had.

Supervisor Prisco discussed the possible consolidation of court room space. Mayor Ciferri and Supervisor Prisco have talked about bringing the Village Court space but not to combine the Town and

Village Judicial systems. There will be a meeting scheduled at a later time with the Judges, Court Clerks and Village and Town representatives to further discuss the proposal.

Tim Marshall and Jennifer Cherry, from the Dutchess Land Conservancy, appeared before the Board to discuss the application made by Mr. Marshall, as Bos-Haven Farm, for the Purchase of Development Rights. The application was made in 2006 to the Department of Agriculture and Markets. Dutchess County, the Town of Washington and the Town of Union Vale had all agreed to participate in the program. The Marshall's had committed to the program and after a five month wait the Department of Agriculture and Markets came back to the Marshall's and said they did not want to go through with the plan that had been originally presented. The Marshall's were offered three options:

Go forward with the original plan knowing that it might be denied;

Resubmit the application with more land committed to the plan and begin the application process again;

Go forward with the current grant with only the land in Union Vale.

Ms. Cherry said that the Marshall's have decided to go forward with the easement in Union Vale, and that the DLC is working with the Marshall's on options to preserve the piece in Washington. Councilman Audia asked why the change at this time and Ms. Cherry said that it has nothing to do with the County, the DLC, or the Town. The State is questioning whether future neighbor will support agricultural projects. She also said that the State would prefer to have the whole farm included.

Mr. Marshall said that this has been a three year project and he appreciates the Town Board's time and support of his project. The Public Hearings were well attended and the citizens were supportive of his request. Supervisor Prisco said that this was good for the community and the Town was proud to be doing this. Citizens present expressed their sorrow to Mr. Marshall for the project not being successful in Washington.

Historian Greenwood said that he has been actively involved in a historic preservation project regarding the Nine Partners School, whose records have been retained at Swarthmore College. They hold records and student works and have created an inventory of photographs and student works from 1795 - 1825. Mr. Greenwood requested that the Town pay \$580.00 for copies of the documents on hand. Swarthmore College wants to be assured that the documents will not be used for commercial purposes; however they could be used for projects such as the annual calendar. The Board approved the request with the funds coming from the CAC historic projects line.

Mrs. Hurley presented the Board with the monthly Bookkeeper's report. The Board received revenue and expense reports, as well as monthly bank balances. A revenue of note is the \$56,791.00 mortgage tax received this past month. The Town has received \$9,000.00 as a result of the grant from Greenway. The final money will be received when the project is complete. Budget requests from each department are due by September 8th, with the first budget meeting scheduled for September 21st.

Highway Superintendent Brownell reported that the repaving of Hammond Hill Road has been completed. The cost for the completed work is about \$72,000.00 which was \$15,000.00 less than anticipated.

Mr. Brownell had three bids for the replacement truck engine which were \$4,291.00 from Jasper, \$4,671.00 from Napa and \$4,887.00 from Fleet Source. On a motion made by Councilman W. Murphy and seconded by Councilman Turletes the Board accepted the proposal from Jasper. All ayes were recorded.

Town Clerk Alex reported that monthly reports were received and filed by the Town Clerk, Court Clerk, Building Inspector, Zoning Administrator and Transfer Station Clerk.

Mrs. Alex advised that she has been working with the Comprehensive Plan Committee to coordinate the printing and distribution of the community surveys. There has been 120 surveys returned to date, and data entry of the returned documents has been started.

The E-news system has been installed and to date has received positive input. Updates to the system will be made as needed.

Town Clerk Alex notified Supervisor Prisco, as required by the Office of the State Comptroller, that her husband is a partner in the Chazen Companies, a company that has a contract with the Town.

Councilman Turletes said he attended the last meeting of the Recreation Commission. They were reviewing summer camp feedback from the parents, and by all accounts it was favorable. The Committee is gearing up for the soccer season with a magnificent number of children participating. As Warren becomes more enlightened on the budget, the recreation department is responding all the time to make programs better and more affordable.

Councilman Audia said that Barnes Construction is behind schedule due to the rainy weather. He anticipates that they will be on site to do the soffit work within a week.

Councilman W. Murphy reported on the park progress. The installation of the silt fence is 95% complete. Mr. Coddington has signed the agreement allowing the town to access the site from his parking lot. The town is extremely appreciative of this courtesy. The bid opening for the Timber Bridge is scheduled for August 14th. The Town Board scheduled a special meeting for August 20th, at 7:00 PM to review the bids for the bridge.

Mr. Genova asked that the Town to take a moment and pay tribute to Thurston Greene, who passed away at 101. Mr. Greene was a concerned and active resident, keeping an eye on Planning and Zoning issues within the town.

Mr. Tumblety encouraged the town to look into companies that specialize in bio-mass and the reclamation of garbage. There are ways to go green, rather than just sending everything up in smoke. Hwy. Sup't. Brownell agreed that there are companies that will take the materials, but the town must decide the cost effectiveness of the programs.

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

Gen Fund A	\$20,436.31
Gen Fund B	\$7,875.44
Rec Fund CR	\$9,901.67
Highway DB	\$73,929.93
Fund H	\$30,966.96
TOTAL	\$143,110.31

All ayes were recorded.

There being no other business, on a motion made by Councilman Audia and seconded by Councilman Turletes, the meeting was closed at 11:00 PM. All ayes were recorded.

Mary Alex, Town Clerk