

TOWN OF CATHARINE
TOWN BOARD MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING
MARCH 20, 2018
7:15 P.M. (Public Hearing) 7:30 p.m. Board Meeting

Members present: Supervisor John VanSoest; Councilpersons: Ronald Hoffman, Jamee Mack; Highway Superintendent: William Morgan, Deputy Superintendent Martin Vondracek; Code Enforcement Officer Harold Russell; Guests: Amanda Rodriguez (SCOPEd) Bruce Bruckner, Daryl Pokorney, Wayne Chapman, Wanda Cooper and Herb Cooper, Emily Peckham (Schuyler County Public Health), Tom Ruocco, Colin Marsh, Colin's Dad, Gary Smith

Public Hearing: The purpose of the Public Hearing was to hear comment on the proposed Local Law 2018-1 -Amending Local Law 2 of the year 2013 in relation to Real Property Tax Exemptions available to Cold War Veterans.

Supervisor VanSoest asked for comment from the public or board.

There being no comment, the public hearing was closed with a motion by Jamee Mack, seconded by Ronald Hoffman at 7:25 p.m.

Regular Board meeting was called to order at 7:28 p.m.

PUBLIC BE HEARD:

Daryl Pokorney—Is here to request that the town remove the permission from the groomers of the snowmobile trails to groom Connecticut Hill Rd.. It causes a lot of problems and he plows the road on his own. They now groom on the side of the road and causes ditches and lots of water running down into the road causing many issues. John said that we tried to work this out before, but it hasn't been accomplished. We would prefer that the grooming be done off the side of the road. Daryl commented that someone needs to show them where they need to groom so that they aren't infringing on the road right of ways.

Amanda Rodriguez: Opportunity Grants are available to our town—there will be a link at SCOPE'S website on Wednesday to get information about these . These grants can be used for about anything in our town. It doesn't have to be private. They are actually low interest loans that are great for private companies who can't get funding anyplace else.

Wanda Cooper: She and her husband are here to explain the project that they want to do on St. Rt. 228. They want to put a repair shop on St. Rt. 228. They met with the Planning Board and now have come to the Town Board with their paperwork—they think they have met all the "Floating Business Zones" criteria. The Town Board has the right to make the decision as to whether or not we could/would set up the zone. There would be a hearing that we would schedule for the April meeting. We will give them relief from the distance rules. John said that this is the type of things we want to happen in our town so virtually they could have all the "I's" dotted in one month from tonight.

Emily Peckham: Public Health Specialist for Schuyler County. She came to update us on the happenings in the County Health Department. On April 10 there will be an emergency drill at the County building. This drill requires that they see approximately 80 "victims" during the 2 hours event. If you are able to volunteer to go down, on April 10th they would welcome your participation. On April 7 there is a rabies Clinic. Speaking of Rabies, if there is a bat in the house please safely catch it and call the County so it

can be tested. If you release the bat and have been bitten, you will need to go through the rabies series. They are also noticing a lot of people caught in between dogs fighting. They realize that it's hard to watch as your dog fights, but if you get bit, and one of the dogs didn't have a valid rabies shot, you would have to go through the rabies series. The County is also offering RADON testing kits. You can pick one up, return it to the Health Dept. and they will send it in to you. Kits are free.

There is a move in the state to raise the age to 21 for Tobacco purchasing. They will be presenting this to the legislature as in the last survey of young people, our youth are smoking more than the national average. They have heard that it's not right that an 18 yr. old can fight for his/her country, but not buy tobacco products, but the military is looking to ban tobacco use in the ranks as they are spending millions on tobacco related illnesses.

Alan McIlroy: Alan came to talk to the board about the grievance day date. Back in 2013, the Board had a resolution to hold the Assessment Review Board Grievance Day on the 3rd Thursday of May, but we were just informed that the State says it must be held on or after the 4th Tuesday of May. He had planned to hold our Grievance day on the 4th Thursday (May 24th) The Training for new members of the ZBA is scheduled for May 16 from 6-9 at the Human Services Bldg. in Montour Falls.

Supervisor VanSoest introduced Colin Marsh to the audience. Colin is the Boy Scout who made the beautiful benches that are in front of our Town Hall. This was his Eagle Scout project and he was responsible to organize and direct those who worked on the project. John explained that sometimes Government works slower and his certificate is not ready yet. We will get it to him shortly!

Additions to the Agenda:

Unfinished Business- status of soft ball fields

New Business -nominate Carol for a Historian's award

Assessment Review Brd. Dates/resolution

Jamee would like to offer the suggestion that the minutes posted on the website be posted as unapproved so that people realize they've not been approved by the board.

RESOLUTION 2018-14

RESOLVE that the minutes of the February meeting be approved with the addition of "Jamee Mack requested that the Procurement Policy be given to her in electronic format".

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by Jamee Mack

VOTE 3 ayes, no nays

RESOLUTION 2018-15

RESOLVE that the Clerk's report be accepted as presented to the Board

RESOLUTION by Jamee Mack, seconded by Ronald Hoffman

VOTE 3 ayes, no nays

Zoning Report:

Harold Russell reported that he had an issue with a complainant. The caller stated that there was no building permit for a structure that had been built on some property in our town. He claimed that he was in fear that the house would collapse. He sent a bunch of pictures that didn't show any obvious problems. Upon searching the records, there was indeed a building permit issued in 2013. Harold called the owner to get permission to go look at the house and found out there were some "sour grapes" between family members.

He also had another problem. He had a set of plans with no stamps on it but the contractor did have stamped plans. There were some things that weren't as stated in the plans. He called the engineer/architect and they said the differences was okay.

He has more training coming up in the next few weeks. John asked if there were any other projects going on but he's not aware of any. Tom Ruocco asked if the house on the corner of Swan Hill and CR 11 has been condemned. Harold asked to speak with him after the meeting.

RESOLUTION 2018-16

RESOLVE that the Justice Report be accepted as submitted to the State Comptroller and the Supervisor RESOLUTION by Jamee Mack, seconded by Ronald Hoffman

VOTE 3 ayes, no nays

Supervisor's Report:

The report is 2 months into the year and we still have revenues to collect—mortgage tax and revenue sharing. On the B side, there are some areas that need to be collected from other towns (Carmella will get those invoices out). On the DA side have received almost all the money (\$174 remaining). We will probably run short of money in the snow removal. Jamee asked if we do run short where the money would come from—John said probably from the account for equipment. John explained that the only thing that hasn't been done is to transfer the money from General Fund to the Employee's benefit fund (for retirees)

RESOLUTION 2018-16

RESOLVE that the Supervisor's report be accepted as presented to the board by the Bookkeeper and Supervisor

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by Jamee Mack

VOTE 3 ayes, no nays

Highway Superintendents report: Bill gave the CHIPS project form to the board for approval.

Grant Rd to CR 10 one coat chip seal—\$12,146

Park Rd from Grant Rd. double coat—1 st stone—\$7776.01

Beardsley Hollow Rd. from CR14 1.3 miles one coat Chip Seal \$19859.42

Oak Hill from CR11 for a distance of .8 miles -one coat Chip Seal \$12,308.42

Cottatg Rd. from St. Rt. 228 a distance of .6 miles one coat Chip Seal \$7474.79

Texas Hollow Rd. from Village line for a distance of 1.2 miles to Halpin Rd. \$18,349.48

Steam Mill Rd. from St. Rt. 228 for a distance of .5 mile Chip Seal \$9710.00

Remaining funds will be used for emergency/unforeseen projects if they crop up (\$2375.57)

John asked if there are any other roads that need attention. Bill said there are none that they know of.

RESOLUTION 2018-17

RESOLVE that the board approve the planned CHIPS projects for Summer 2018 as presented by the Town Highway Superintendent.

RESOLUTION by Jamee Mack, seconded by Ronald Hoffman

VOTE 3 ayes, no nays

Equipment updates:

The one-ton ended up with a radiator leak, along with a bunch of other issues. The cost of repair was \$1100. The one ton broke on the 3rd nor-Easter again—broke down during each of the storms! It's all repaired now and they have cautioned Cory to drive slower.

The excavator now has a knock in the motor that is pretty audible—they will keep their eyes open for a used machine that they can get ahold of. John said that we have over \$500,000 in needs of equipment,

and the only way to do that is a dramatic tax increase and no one is in favor of that—for now, we will try to rent/lease an excavator when we need one. If we were in a bind and needed to buy an excavator could we limp along for a while yet. Bill said probably. Jamee suggested we use more shared services. Bill told the John Deere dealer to keep his eyes open for a used vehicle. 2008 pickup had a wheel bearing go out. Still no word on the new truck.

Ron said Kudo's to the highway departments for the jobs they have done during the extreme storms this winter. During the 2018 Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Meeting, Bill was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award. Congrats to Bill for that. The award is given to someone who helps out when Soil and Water need help doing projects around the county.

Landfill Report: There is a new secretary to the Landfill –she will be sending minutes via email to the town and our representative (who is the rep now??) Wayne indicated that he has resigned and is no longer the representative for the Landfill commission. John asked Bill if maybe he'd be interested in doing that representation. Bill will think about it. Jamee asked what would happen if we just walked away? Wayne indicated that the State says we can't as it's a legal obligation of the Towns.

RESOLUTION 2018-18

RESOLVE that the following vouchers be paid A53-67 in the total of 7047.99 and H31-39 in the sum of \$20,507.12 within funds according to the totals

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by Jamee Mack

VOTE 3 ayes, no naves

UNFINISHED Business:

Ball Fields: Jamee was looking at the budget and wondered what we did with the money in the park. She thinks that maybe the softball people don't know how to put together a proposal—and if the town could give them an estimate of how much money they could expect from the Town that might help. John indicated that he suggested that they form a committee of 3 people to meet with either the planning board or the town board. Jamee will talk to Kristen Field to see if they can put things together and get moving again. Ron said that he thinks when there is a plan that we put money toward those fields. Do they expect to have exclusive use? Our Board doesn't think it should be that way if the Town puts money into it—they should have first option to use the fields though. John said that the same thing happened with the soccer stuff and nothing moved on that. Carmella indicated that the soccer people we concerned about the kids' safety being that they were told hunting goes on out there. There still needs to be public input.

Website update—for \$2500 we would get a professional looking website that could be updated by the town personnel. The Board would like to see examples of her work and have an initial meeting with her. It's possible that we can do a resolution at the next meeting.

Phone system upgrade. Because there is no estimate from Empire Telephone, we will postpone the discussion on upgrading phone systems at this point. It is estimated that we are approximately 3-6 months from getting fiber-optics out to the Town Hall.

New Business:

Bill Fagnan is nominating Carol for Historian of the Year and would appreciate some information from the Town to help put together the nomination form. Carmella will get information together for him.

Assessment Review Board: The County request that we move our date to the 4th Thursday of May to stay within the State guidelines.

RESOLUTION 2018-19

RESOLVE that the Town Board rescind the Resolution 21-2013 and replace it with Resolution 2018-19 setting the Assessment Review Board meeting date as the 4th Thursday of May from here on.

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by Jamee Mack

VOTE 3 ayes, no naves

RESOLUTION 2018-20

RESOLVE that the Town of Catharine join with the Schuyler County Industrial Development Agency for the purpose of providing support for the nomination and creation of Opportunity Zones for the Census Tracts 9503 and 9505 located in Schuyler County.

WHEREAS, by Title 1 of Article 18-A of the General Municipal Law ("GML") of the State of New York, as amended, and Chapter 21 of the Laws of 1971 of the State of New York, as amended (hereinafter collectively called the "Act"), **SCHUYLER COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY** (the "Agency") was created with the authority and power to own, lease and sell property for the purpose of, among other things, acquiring, constructing and equipping industrial, manufacturing and commercial facilities as authorized by the Act; and

WHEREAS, the Agency supports the economic development of all of Schuyler County and specifically areas of the county with high job loss, high unemployment, significant poverty, and that have been underserved; and

WHEREAS, Opportunity Zones are a new community development program established by Congress in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 to encourage long-term investments in low- income urban and rural communities nationwide; and

WHEREAS, the Opportunity Zones program provides a tax incentive for investors to re- invest their unrealized capital gains into Opportunity Funds that are dedicated to investing into Opportunity Zones designated by the chief executives of every U.S. state and territory; and

WHEREAS, an Opportunity Fund would provide funding for diverse economic development and redevelopment projects including but not limited to public infrastructure improvements, job creation initiatives, and real estate development; and

WHEREAS, the Agency voted to approve the purchase and redevelopment of Camp Monterey for \$300,000 at the January 10, 2018 meeting and Camp Monterey is located in Census Tract 9503; and

WHEREAS, redevelopment of Camp Monterey could utilize funding through an Opportunity Fund set up for use in the Opportunity Zone.

WHEREAS, the Agency desires to support the nomination and creation of Opportunity Zones in Census Tract 9503 and Census Tract 9505.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE SCHUYLER COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Chairman, Vice Chairman and/or Chief Executive Officer of the Agency are hereby authorized, on behalf of the Agency, to support the nomination and creation of the opportunity zones.

Section 2. These Resolutions shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by Jamee Mack
VOTE 3 ayes, no naves

RESOLUTION 2018-21

RESOLVE that the Town Board appoint Wayne Chapman to the Zoning Board of Appeals to take the vacant position that became available on January 1 of 2018 and goes through December 31, 2022

RESOLUTION by Jamee Mack, seconded by Ronald Hoffman

VOTE 3 ayes, no naves

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 p.m. was made by Jamee Mack and seconded by Ronald Hoffman

Respectfully submitted:

Carmella Hoffman
Town Clerk/Collector