

Regular Town Board Meeting
March 10, 2014

The Regular Meeting of the Town of Cambridge, was duly called and held the 10th day of March, 2014 at 7:30 PM at the Town Hall, the following were present:

Supervisor Catherine Fedler
Councilman Douglas Ford
Councilman Robin McMurray
Councilman Gerald Skiff
Councilwoman Susan Herrington

Others present: Heather Greenawalt Town Clerk, Alan Davis Highway Superintendent, Terry Hamilton, Bruce Rolleston, Bruce Bailey, Ashleigh Morris from the Eagle.

Supervisor Fedler called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and immediately led in the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

Auditing of the Bills

General	#41 – 59	\$3,175.03
Highway	#26 – 44	\$11,787.09

Resolution #15

Approving Minutes

Councilman Skiff motioned, Seconded by Councilman McMurray to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2014 Town Board meeting with two corrections. The first correction on page 2 at the bottom, it should read the total amount collected up to February 1st not January. The second correction was on the top of page 2: The minutes read He also mentioned that if you do have zoning then the Town should have a comprehensive plan to back the zoning up. This should be reworded without zoning the comprehensive plan is unenforceable, the plan will not hold up in court.

Vote: Ayes – 5 Noes – 0

Resolution #16

Supervisor's Report

Councilman Ford motioned, Seconded by Councilwoman Herrington to approve the February 2014 Supervisor's Report.

Vote: Ayes – 5 Noes – 0

Town Board

Supervisor Fedler reported that she had spoke with Jason from Hudson Valley Wireless several times and they are having problems with the tower off of Willard Mountain. They are trying to bounce off of other towers to correct the interference problem. They are doing all that they can to correct the problem, he is working with the FCC and his lawyers.

Councilwoman Herrington said that she had spoken with a couple of people that were concerned about drug issues in the Town of Cambridge. Councilwoman Herrington also spoke with Police Chief George Bell and he said that both Greenwich and Salem were discussing dissolving the Villages into the Town. The Police Chief said that he was concerned that this would have a major impact on the Fire and Police. He was voicing

Regular Town Board Meeting

March 10, 2014

his concern to Councilwoman Herrington in hopes that she would inform the Town Board.

Councilwoman Herrington also mentioned social media was a topic for one of the training workshops. She mentioned that this could be an issue and that it should not influence the vote of the Town Board. She used the Comprehensive Plan as an example: she stated that the Town Board couldn't base their vote on the populist's vote of the social media or tweets. Town Board must base their vote on their guidelines and beliefs.

Assessor

Supervisor Fedler reported that the Assessor is working on getting the exemptions in order.

Town Clerk

Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt reported that she was having problems with the Internet and also with the DEC computer system for hunting licenses sales. She mentioned that she would call the IT gentlemen again and talk with him because April 1st is the opening day of fishing season.

Planning Board

Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt said that she was unable to open her emails and print the Planning Board report due to the problem with the internet.

Highway Report

Highway Superintendent Alan Davis reported that they had plowed and sanded a lot during the last month. They have also replaced the air line and dump cable on truck 4, the serpentine belt on truck 8 and the turbo on truck 3. The culverts were cleaned and the banks have been pushed back to get ready for the heavy rains. In between the storms the trucks were washed, greased and the furnace has been repaired in the shop. They also have gotten the broom already for sweeping. The grader has been serviced and is ready for spring grading. Highway Superintendent Alan Davis also submitted to the Town Board a Proposed Purchasing Schedule per request. Highway Superintendent Alan Davis mentioned that he had spoken with Delurey and a couple of other Truck Dealer's because in 2014 a Single Axle Dump Truck (used) is on the purchase schedule. The truck that this would be replacing would be Truck #4.

Code Enforcement

Supervisor Fedler reported that Code Enforcement Officer LaVerne Davis had fallen and broken his wrist but he is doing fine.

Communications

The Town Board discussed the Policies and procedures and it was decided that the only changes that needed to be made were the update of the new Supervisor. The Ethics policy must be changed to amend the gender to him/her.

Regular Town Board Meeting
March 10, 2014

Supervisor Fedler said that per Councilman McMurray's request she had requested an accident report come down from the county.

Supervisor Fedler reported that some changes and updates had been made to the NYMIR Insurance Policy and that they are still within budget.

Supervisor Fedler mentioned that everyone had been given the Best Value Sample Laws from the Association of Town's. The Supervisor would be meeting with the Town Attorney on Thursday, March 13th and she would like to be able to give her some direction.

The Town Board is also reviewing the Trailer Ordinance. Supervisor Fedler asked if there were any changes or questions on the Trailer Ordinance. Councilman Ford mentioned that he believed that the rule that you can't bring any trailer over 5 years old will not hold up in court. Supervisor Fedler also mentioned they might want to change the rule that every time there is new tenant paperwork will have to be filled out. She said that this may not be acceptable with the Ag Law. LaVerne Davis Code Enforcement Officer said that he would like to see 5 years changed to 10 years for the age of the trailer. LaVerne Davis had mentioned the way the trailers are built now they will hold up longer. It was also mentioned that the trailers must pass federal code before they are brought in the Town. The Board was not sure if they could put an age in the law, may have to put just that have to pass the code. This will have to be discussed with the Town Attorney.

New Business

Supervisor Fedler mentioned the Governor's proposed property tax freeze program. This may look good on paper however it is a definite work in progress. The Supervisor said that she is constantly getting emails from both sides. The municipal Associations have some good points. If you pay your taxes then you can hope to get a check back, but if your tax levy stays flat or goes over 2% you do not get a check back. If you stay within the 2% and meet all the qualifications you may or may not get a check. This program is too complex to administer, does not take into consideration the small businesses, disaster or State Mandates. The first year is simple however the second year a lot of requirements and proof is required. The Supervisor just wanted to let everyone know that this property tax freeze proposal is out there.

Supervisor Fedler said that Councilwoman Herrington is interested in doing community projects. The Supervisor has delegated her as the person that does the picnics, parades, Veteran's recognition and other functions that involve the community.

County Report

Supervisor Fedler reported at the Committee meeting they have been reviewing staff, patterns and goals in each department. The department heads have been challenged to set goals and encouraged to look outside the box. This is the first year that they have implemented a plan like this.

Supervisor Fedler reported that Dick Wilson from the County Highway Department had a

Regular Town Board Meeting
March 10, 2014

stroke. He has a good backup man, things are running and he has probably five to six months of recovery.

The Supervisor's are elected to do County Meals on Wheels on the 18th of March.

There has been discussion on what to do with the remaining PVI property. Supervisor Fedler mentioned that there are so many programs with the Health and Community Services. She mentioned that each school is allowed a certain amount of money when they work with the Health Services.

The Supervisor's also met with Christine Hoffer and the Tourism Department. The Supervisor learned that the majority of the tourists that come to the county for information and tours are bikers.

County has a new program out and they are looking for community volunteers. The name of the group is NOW. They are looking for people in the community that are willing to be trained to help look for elder and child abuse. They are looking to find 25 people in the county that are willing to be trained. In the future they will go into satellite communities and train. No Education or College Degree is required, looking for solid volunteers that want to help.

Privilege of the Floor

Highway Superintendent Alan Davis mentioned that last Wednesday the 5th of March the Highway Superintendents went to Albany to meet with the legislators and senators about CHIPS money. They are asking for another 50 million, the big concern is the condition of the roads due to the harsh winter. Highway Superintendent Alan Davis says that it is possible that State Route 372 will be repaired this spring as soon as the weather breaks.

There being no other business before the Town Board, the meeting was moved and carried for adjournment at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Greenawalt
Town Clerk/Town of Cambridge

<http://www.townofcambridgeny.org/>