

York Town Board Meeting
February 25, 2010

Present: Supervisor Gerald L. Deming, Council Members: Lynn Parnell, David Deuel and Norman Gates

Absent: Frank Rose Jr.

Others: Norman Barrett (Senior Water & Sewage Treatment Plant Operator), Robert and Linda Parnell, Melissa and Ryan Slater and Ronald Cicoria (Town Attorney)

Supervisor Deming opened the Town Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

MINUTES

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mrs. Parnell to approve the minutes of the February 11th regular Town Board Meeting and February 19th Special Town Board Meeting. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

HIGHWAY

Supervisor Deming reported due to weather conditions this evening, Highway Superintendent, Mr. Worden will not be attending, but did want to update the Board on two situations.

The new truck from Kenworth arrived this week and has experienced computer related issues already. The manufacturer will be sending a representative out tomorrow to view the matter and re-program the necessary equipment.

The new employee, Mark Sharpe is working out very well so far. Mr. Sharpe seems to be self motivated and very willing to do and learn all aspects of his new duties.

WATER/SEWER

1) Gail Laursen:

Supervisor Deming stated Town Clerk, Mrs. Harris received an email request from Gail Laursen to adjust and/or credit the water bill for her property. As discussed at the February 11th meeting, Mr. Barrett determined the leak on Tuttle Road to be our responsibility, and the Town Board agreed we need to rectify the last bill issued, as well as the upcoming April bill, due to the consumption recorded. Mr. Barrett stated the 2 inch line will be put near the road right of way, allowing any future expansion of the line to take place.

2) Tank restoration:

Mr. Barrett informed the Board that he received a quote in the amount of \$ 670.00 from Corpro Inc. to perform the cathodic protection maintenance to the water tank on Tuttle Road, if we decide to do it this year. Supervisor Deming stated, the Board spoke at

a previous meeting about the Water Department's plans to drain and clean the tank, so he believes this process will not be necessary this year. Mr. Barrett agreed.

3) Sam Swearingen:

Mr. Barrett reported we have a signed easement from Sam Swearingen for property he owns on Chandler Road regarding a service that needs to be installed. The easement clearly outlines Mr. Swearingen's and the Town's responsibilities and addresses cost sharing for materials needed.

** A second easement is for the Mandeville/Laursen property on Tuttle Road.

4) Tank experiment:

Mr. Barrett informed the Board of the recent THM reads taken at the shop for the tank experiment. The reads have been consistently decreasing through the process and we have also noticed that the Village of Geneseo's levels seem to be reduced as well coming to us. Mr. Barrett stated he has now completed the 150 gallon tank experiment, reporting a 86% reduction of THMs by using the aeration system, and notes he believes we are on the right track.

5) Consolidated Water:

Mr. Barrett asked if we have a written map of the "new" Consolidated Water District. After discussion with Town Clerk, Mrs. Harris he understands over the years when each district was formed, the bidding process required a map, plan and report to be prepared, which she has a copy of each (Districts: 2,3,4 & 5 plus the extensions as well), but does not have a copy of the newly created Consolidated Water District boundaries.

Supervisor Deming stated that a map and wording does exist and that Clark Patterson Lee would have such information. Mr. Barrett stated he contacted Eric Wies and was told they did not have such documents. Mr. Deming replied he will contact Rick Henry directly about the request and the need to have the proper paperwork at the Town Hall.

6) Training:

Mr. Barrett informed the Board in the bills two weeks ago Roger McCracken submitted a registration form to attend a training seminar, in the amount of \$ 16.00, which they approved. Within the next few weeks Rob Grant will also be submitting a registration form for a laboratory training class through NY Rural Water, in the amount of \$ 100.00, and asked the Town Board for permission.

RESOLUTION offered by Mrs. Parnell and seconded by Mr. Deuel authorizing Rob Grant permission to attend a one day training session on Tuesday, May 25th, 2010 in Verona, New York at the Turning Stone Casino, in the amount of \$ 100.00. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

OLD BUSINESS

1) Slater request:

Supervisor Deming stated Town Attorney, Mr. Cicoria spoke with a representative from the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets this week about the reply information they recently sent to Ms. Slater regarding her request for permission to connect to water. In the letter they referenced that the Town actually allows permission to connect, which was a bit reversed for us, that is why we needed to speak with them directly. Mr. Cicoria stated that they faxed a copy of a standard resolution used by most agencies, but was caught off guard that in addition to Town approval, Livingston County Health Department also had to approve such request.

Mr. Deming expressed to the Slaters and Parnells that the Town Board does not have an issue with their request. In their opinion the well water matter certainly classifies them as a hardship situation and having Melissa still taking part in farm operations, would allow the Town Board to approve the connection request, but still have to include the County Health Department in the process.

Supervisor Deming instructed Mr. Cicoria to contact Jim Mazurowski in the morning to get his view on the connection request.

2) Comptroller's remarks:

Mr. Cicoria informed the Board that he contacted the New York State Comptroller's office to verify with them the question posed by resident, Vince Burroughs pertaining to Town Board's responsibilities with the Fire Department. Mr. Cicoria stated he spoke with two representatives, each expressing that the contract prepared by the Town and signed by both parties, outlines what the Board requires of the department. We do not have authority over their day to day operation or purchases. We contract with the Fire Department to provide a service, as long as they continue to provide such service, they are fulfilling their obligations.

NOTE: Mr. Deming stated he met with Livingston County Administrator, Ian Coyle this week to discuss potential future plans for a countywide run ambulance service, due to the fact that towns & villages are struggling to get and keep volunteers.

3) Consolidation Grant:

a- Consultant:

RESOLUTION offered by Mrs. Parnell and seconded by Mr. Gates authorizing Supervisor Deming permission to begin the process to hire a Consultant with the funds obtained through the Consolidation Grant Program. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

b- Agreement:

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mr. Deuel to enter into an Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Leicester for the purpose of consolidation, as outlined in the original grant application. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

** The Towns of Leicester and York wish to continue on with the consolidation efforts, but the Village of Leicester has chosen to opt out.

4) SRO:

Supervisor Deming stated to the Board that York Central School Superintendent, Dr. Dan Murray and Business Manager, Howard Forsythe met recently with the School Resource Officer (SRO), Deputy Gene Chichester to inform him that the school will not be budgeting money for his position in the upcoming year. Sheriff York has scheduled a meeting next Wednesday, March 3rd at his office to discuss with school, county and town officials the situation, in hopes of a timely resolve.

5) Abstract software:

Supervisor Deming addressed the issue once again of a software program to assist in preparation and payment of claims. Currently a quote was obtained from Baldwin Business Services in the amount of \$ 150.00 to have Shelby train Norma and Patti on the excel format she uses. The quote from BAS is for software, installation/training and yearly maintenance fee, \$ 680.00 per year.

After a great deal of discussion...

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Deuel and seconded by Mrs. Parnell to approve either quote, but before a decision is made a demonstration from BAS must take place in order to verify that the program is what we need. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

** If BAS is not willing to provide a demonstration, the Town will approve the Excel training from Shelby Bennett of Baldwin Business Services.

NEW BUSINESS

1) Gail Laursen:

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mrs. Parnell to approve the water adjustment request submitted by Gail Laursen for the 4th quarter of 2009 and the 1st quarter of 2010 billing cycles. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

Water Billing Clerk, Mrs. Messana will calculate the adjustment.

2) Farmland Preservation:

Each Board member read a copy of Councilman Rose's remarks regarding a proposed Farmland Preservation Plan or Right to Farm Law. Councilman Deuel stated that he asked the Board two weeks ago to review the information he prepared in order to give their opinion this evening, and inquired as to what the remaining members feel on the subject. Mr. Deuel stated if the Preservation Plan is not prepared, we could still move forward with the Right to Farm law, which in essence is an extension of the New York State Ag & Markets Law, protecting farmland.

Councilman Deuel stated he would like to send out a survey to all residents in the town, explaining what is being proposed and asking for input on whether or not the interest and support would be there to move forward. The costs incurred for the survey packet would be minimal, copies prepared and the fee for the bulk mailing permit. Mr. Deuel stated the next committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 10th.

The Board addressed Mr. Rose's comments:

Councilman Deuel: “ I agree with Frank that we can not spend a great deal of money on ag. issues, but minimal funds would be needed to put in place a Right to Farm Law. Many of the updated ideas and suggestions were discussed at the last committee meeting on Feb. 17th, it was unfortunate he was unable to attend in order to hear the most recent information”.

Supervisor Deming: “ Last Wednesdays meeting was very informative, and showed changes from the initial plan prepared, which could be quite beneficial”.

Council Member Parnell: “ It was evident at the committee meeting that they had discarded the original plan and started again, ultimately incurring minimal cost to the residents”.

3) Resignation:

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mrs. Parnell to accept Floyd Anderson’s resignation as a member of the Town of York Board of Assessment Review, with regrets. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

** Mrs. Barefoot will send Mr. Anderson a thank you card on behalf of the Town Board for his dedicated service to the Town of York.

4) Town Clerk Conference:

Mrs. Harris informed the Board of the upcoming Town Clerk training session to be held in Saratoga Springs in April. Mrs. Harris asked the Board for permission to attend the annual 3-day conference, knowing that numerous State changes will be occurring in the upcoming months to stay current with. Supervisor Deming stated he believes Mrs. Harris’ attendance would be beneficial and commented that in the 21 years as Clerk, this is only the second time she has asked for such request.

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mrs. Parnell authorizing Town Clerk, Christine Harris permission to attend the annual New York State Town Clerk’s Conference in Saratoga Springs, New York from April 25th-28th. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

5) Census 2010:

Mrs. Harris reported she attended the “kick off” meeting today at the County building for the 2010 Census. Several presenters were on hand to outline the process and inform us of the importance of this program. Mrs. Harris commented that numerous agencies were represented today and that a great deal of information was obtained, the next few months will be very busy.

BILLS

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mr. Deuel to approve all claims brought before the Board. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

Consolidated Water	# 40-47	\$ 5,128.68
Sewer Districts	# 30-35	\$ 7,155.11
General Fund Claim	# 64-82	\$ 11,343.68
Highway Fund Claim	# 29-35	\$ 8,163.00

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mrs. Parnell to adjourn the Town Board Meeting until March 11th. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

Town Board Meeting closed at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine M. Harris, Clerk