

September 4, 2018 – Workshop Meeting

The workshop meeting of the Gardiner Town Board was held this evening at 7 PM. Present were Supervisor Majestic, Councilwoman Walls and Councilman Dukler & Wiegand. There were approximately 10± audience members. Councilman Reynolds was absent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 8 – Gardiner Day from 11 AM to 4:30 PM. This year the event will be taking place throughout the town at various locations.

September 7-9 – Annual Library Book Sale. Friday 5 to 7, Saturday 10 to 4 and Sunday 11 to 2.

September 19 – Town Hall and Transfer Station will be closed in observance of Yom Kippur.

September 28 – Budget Workshop meeting at 10 AM at the Town Hall.

PLANNING BOARD LOCAL LAW PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing on the new Planning Board Law will be held on September 11 at 7 PM.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER RESIGNATION

A letter has been received from Andy Lewis resigning from the Dog Control Officer position.

TILLSON LAKE DAM UPDATE

On August 29th a meeting was held with Palisades International Park Commission (PIPC) regarding the future of Tillson Lake dam. Present were Jim Hall of PIPC, a representative from John Faso's office, Senator John Bonacic, 2 representatives from Assemblyman Cahill's office, representatives from Friends of Tillson Lake, Ulster County Legislator Tracy Bartels, Supervisor Majestic and Councilwoman Walls. The purpose of the meeting was to brainstorm on how to save/fix the dam in lieu of removal.

SCENIC BY-WAY MEETING

Supervisor Majestic and Councilwoman Walls attended a Scenic By –Way meeting on August 29th. Discussion included updating the brochure for the By-Way. Once printed the brochure will be placed in various locations throughout the area. Ulster County Dept. of Tourism has agreed to placing the brochures at several Thruway stops. They will be also updating their website. There are 10 towns as members, 8 in Ulster County and 2 in Orange County.

RAIL TRAIL

The Wallkill Valley Rail Trail Association has installed new signs along the rail trail. Still missing are stop signs.

CLIMATE SMART UPDATE – COMMUNITY SOLAR

The contract between NYSERDA and the Town of Gardiner has been sent to attorney Paul Kellar for his review. He has come back with 2 pages of comments and suggestions and these have been forwarded to the Climate Smart Committee to address. Supervisor Majestic commented that the table for Gardiner Day for sign up to a specific solar company is not advisable, however promoting the concept would be acceptable. Councilman Dukler stated that no money will be spent by the Town – all fees are paid by the grant received by the Climate Smart Committee. Competitive bidding is not necessary since the Town is not offering services just a platform for solar services. NYSERDA has a vetting process to review and endorse a specific company. There is an agreement between NYSERDA and the endorsed company. Mr. Dukler suggested that Mr. Kellar and the company's attorney speak with each other.

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION

The location of the EV Charging Station has been moved to the Library property. With the new location an easement will be needed from the Library. The town attorney has reviewed the easement and has sent back comments. It is now in the hands of the Library.

HIGHWAY EMERGENCY PURCHASE

Superintendent Stiscia is in need of a part for the 1995 International dump truck. He has located a part and needs approval to purchase. On motion of Councilman Wiegand, seconded by Councilwoman Walls and carried, authorization for purchase of this part, in the amount of \$2,857.15 from AMBAC International located in South Carolina was given.

ESTABLISHING A DRAINAGE DISTRICT

Copies of resolutions from the Town of Plattekill and Town of Shawangunk regarding drainage district policies were given to board members. The repair of these drainage easements has become quite costly. A Drainage District could be created with each new subdivision and repair costs can be assessed to the annual tax bill. More research is needed to move forward.

PARK PAVILION BID DISCUSSION

Spreadsheets were created by the Supervisor outlining bid information for the 3 bids received for the park pavilion. Bid results ranged from \$155,000 to \$394,114. Lowest bid was from Casa Builders at \$155,000. Funding will come from a \$30,000 grant received for repair of the pavilion with the remainder coming from the Tax Stabilization Fund. No decision was made this evening.

NOISE LAW UPDATE

The initial noise law proposal presented at the August meeting is now back at the drawing board. There have been many complaints on the noise coming from the Lazy River Campground. Supervisor Majestic, Councilman Wiegand and resident Suzanne Levirne hiked down to the property line of Ms Levirne's to measure the decibels with the Town decibel reader. Many factors need to align in order to get an accurate reading. Research will continue. Other complaints were also voiced regarding the industrial park.

TRAVEL TRAILER AND TOURIST CAMPS

The Town Municipal Code indicates that a travel trailer park and tourists camps must have an annual license. This will be researched further.

485-B TAX ABATEMENT EXEMPTION

Councilwoman Walls discussed with the town board the 485-b exemption which allows for a tax exemption on new construction and renovations to business, commercial and industrial property owners exceeding \$10,000. Ms Walls is suggesting that the current exemption should be reduced to \$0 with room for negotiation on an "as need" basis. Councilman Dukler suggests creating a sub-committee to research this and seek information from the Association of Towns.

2019 BUDGET DISCUSSION

Supervisor Majestic is still waiting on budget requests from several departments. A budget meeting was scheduled for Sept. 28 at 10 am.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Sam Cristler – inquired about the noise law and spoke at length with Town Board members.

Ralph Erenzo – complainant about the amount of signs throughout the Town. Many lawn signs advertising special causes, businesses, etc. This is a violation of the law and is asking for enforcement of it.

Scott Mosher – Agrees – way too many signs.

Scott Bittner – commented that sandwich board signs are also a violation of the law.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilman Wiegand, seconded by Councilwoman Walls and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle L. Mosher
Town Clerk