

March 3, 2020 – Workshop Meeting

The workshop meeting of the Gardiner Town Board was held this evening at the Gardiner Town Hall at 7 PM. Present were Supervisor Majestic, Councilmen Carucci, Dukler & Wiegand and Councilwoman Walls. There were approximately 25± audience members.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

03/14/20 – Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner at the Gardiner Firehouse. Serving is between 5:00 PM and 7:30 PM. This is sponsored by the Gardiner Day Committee.

03/21/20 – The Gardiner Climate Smart Task Force is hosting a Go Green Expo to be held at the Gardiner Firehouse from 11 AM to 3 PM.

### **EV CHARGING STATION**

The charging station has been installed in the Library parking lot. We are now waiting on Central Hudson to install the electric service.

### **SEWER I AND I STUDY**

Supervisor Majestic announced that the I and I study has begun for the Sewer District. They are currently locating manholes and evaluating them. Unfortunately, many manholes have been paved over and they are difficult to find.

### **ROUNDTABLE – CORONAVIRUS**

Supervisor Majestic is participating in a roundtable discussion with County officials, Town Supervisors and Mayors regarding the Coronavirus and the County's response plan. This is being held in Kingston tomorrow, March 4 at 2 PM.

### **DARK SKIES PRESENTATION**

Jim Brigagliano, a resident of Gardiner, presented a program to the Town Board about Dark Skies. This presentation is specifically aimed at lighting in the Town. Mr. Brigagliano addressed light pollution namely sky glow, light trespass and glare. Sky glow in particular prevents more than 1/3 of the global population from seeing the Milky Way. A suggestion to tone down the light pollution is changing light fixtures. Criteria for the fixtures should included a fully shielded light that is only on when needed. There should be minimal blue light and the fixtures should be a fixed mount style. Mr. Brigagliano also discussed color temperature which is also a key factor in light pollution. He offered his services to the Town to help create a lighting code.

Councilman Wiegand suggested making a presentation to the Planning Board,

### **SHAWANGUNK SCENIC BYWAY UPDATE**

Councilwoman Walls update the Town Board about plans that the Scenic ByWay is putting together. She spoke about a tourism marketing plan that will include students from SUNY New Paltz and Marist College. Tourism marketing plan would be specific to each of the 11 towns along the ByWay. It should take about a year to complete. Data will be generated by the students and each community will decide how and what they will do with it.

### **PARKS & RECREATION APPOINTMENT**

On motion of Supervisor Majestic, seconded by Councilwoman Walls and carried, Ilka Casey was appointed to the Parks & Recreation Committee, replacing Joshua Platt who recently resigned. Ms Casey's term will expire on July 31, 2020

**ASSESSMENT BOARD OF REVIEW**

There are currently 2 openings on this board. We only have one applicant. Supervisor Majestic asked the Town Board to conduct the interviews with just 2 Board Members. Councilman Wiegand and Councilwoman Walls volunteered.

**CAMPGROUND LICENSE FEE**

Supervisor Majestic commented that campgrounds need to be informed about the new amendments that were adopted. Any property that the Town knows of that is operating a campground illegally will be required to apply for a Campground Floating District and special use permit from the Town. There needs to be significant outreach to the residents regarding this.

Board members discussed how to structure the fee schedule regarding campground licenses. There were many suggestions on how to structure the fee. Supervisor Majestic suggested to the Board members to have some sort of plan that they are comfortable with and to be ready to discuss and adopt it at the next meeting.

**SUMMER RECREATION FEES**

The Ulster County Pool is doubling their entrance fees for 2020. Camp Director Brian Edelstein is suggesting increasing the fees by \$50 per child both resident and non-resident. A brief discussion and on a motion of Councilwoman Walls, seconded by Councilman Dukler and carried, the Board members agreed to \$500 for the first child with a \$25 reduction for each additional child in the family for residents of Gardiner. Non- Residents are increased to \$600 per child. With the same motion they approved an increase in campers by 25 children.

**RESOLUTION CUPCAKE FESTIVAL**

Offered by Councilwoman Walls

**Whereas**, the Town of Gardiner has adopted certain rules and regulations governing outdoor musical entertainment, amusement and assemblies in order to provide for public order and the protection of safety, health and well-being of persons and property within the Town known as Chapter 107 of the Municipal Code, and

**Whereas**, Wright’s Farm has proposed to hold an event known as “Gardiner Cupcake Festival” on Saturday May 16, 2020 on property know as Wrights Farm which is reasonably expected to attract more than 1000 persons, and

**Whereas**, the applicant has provided the Town Board with information concerning the purpose of the event, the hours of operation, the provision of adequate off-street parking, the provision of toilet facilities, and copies of notices sent and letters received from area police agencies, fire departments and rescue squads, and

**Whereas**, the Town Board is satisfied that adequate provisions have been made by the applicant and that planned event will not disturb the public order and safety, then

**Resolved**, the Town Board of the Town of Gardiner hereby grants a Mass Gathering Permit for an outdoor assembly known as “Gardiner Cupcake Festival” to be held on Saturday May 16, 2020, between the hours of 11:00 P.M. and 5:00 P.M. on property known as Wrights Farm in the Town of Gardiner in accordance with the application presented to the Town.

Seconded by Councilman Dukler and carried.

Councilman Wiegand suggested setting an application fee for a Mass Gathering Permit.

**TILLSON LAKE DAM UPDATE**

On February 14, Supervisor Majestic, Councilwoman Walls, Superintendent of Highways Brian Stiscia along with representatives of Friends of Tillson Lake and Palisades Interstate Park Commission (PIPC) representatives met to discuss funding for the repair and upkeep of the dam. Governor Cuomo is placing a Bond Act proposal on the November ballot and may not include park funding in the 2021 budget while waiting to see if the Bond Act passes. If it should not pass then there is no funding for 2021.

Supervisor Majestic stated that the Town has received a draft agreement to be signed by the Town of Gardiner and PIPC along with a draft management plan for Tillson Lake and the Town Gardiner. These were discussed at the meeting and 2 of the baseline responsibilities were not accepted by the Superintendent of Highways.

Friends of Tillson Lake have 500 members strong. There are many members who would be willing to step up to do maintenance/work on the property. PIPC has agreed to repair the parking area and create trails at their expense but to be maintained by the Town of Gardiner. At this point we wait for the release of the 2021 State budget and the outcome of the Bond Act vote.

**SHORT TERM RENTAL (STR)**

Board members have received a new draft of the law. The main discussion was about primary residence definition. Councilman Carucci believes that the definition needs to be tighten up. He also feels that the law should allow for a primary resident plus 1 for rentals.

Councilman Wiegand thinks that the new draft simplifies the law and it is a very clear solid draft. Supervisor Majestic stated that the issue with short term rental is a land use issue.

Councilwoman Walls commented that she had received a phone call from Todd Baker of the Short-Term Renters Association of Gardiner (STRAG) to discuss with her an amnesty period for current renters so they can come into compliance. Mr. Baker was given the floor to discuss this with the board.

Other discussions included total number of short-term rentals in Gardiner, getting a map divided into zoning districts marking where each rental is located, participation of the STR community with donations to be put in a preservation fund and setting a precedent when choosing amnesty to short term rental property owners.

Supervisor Majestic will contact the attorney to obtain legal opinions on tonight's discussion.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

Comments were made by Iris Gillon and Ralph Erenzo about the short-term rental law.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On motion of Councilwoman Walls, seconded by Councilman Carucci and carried, the Town Board entered into executive session at 8:55 PM for the purposes of discussion personnel. The Board will return to regular session only to adjourn.

Respectfully,

Michelle L. Mosher  
Town Clerk