

DATE: FEBRUARY 23, 2017

KIND OF MEETING: TOWN BOARD

WHERE HELD: SCHODACK TOWN HALL

CLERK: DEBRA L. CURTIS

PRESIDING OFFICER: DENNIS E. DOWDS

MEMBERS PRESENT: JAMES E. BULT
SCOTT SWARTZ
TRACEY REX

MEMBERS ABSENT: MICHAEL KENNEY

ATTORNEY:

COMPTROLLER: PAUL HARTER, COMPTROLLER

Supervisor Dowds called the February 23, 2017 Town Board Workshop Meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and dispensed with roll call. C. Kenney and Atty. Gruenberg were absent.

Briefing of Agenda

The Supervisor began the meeting with an overview of the agenda. In regards to the Battisti Water System that is currently owned and operated by Robert Keller, S. Dowds explained that the Town had received notice that Mr. Keller is considering abandonment of the system. According to the letter received from Mr. Keller's attorney, he has been in contact with the NYS Public Service Commission (PSC) regarding options for the system. S. Dowds gave a brief summary of the four options offered. Based on the given information, the Supervisor stated that the Town believes the residents would be best served with option two. This option would require the residents to petition the Town to take over the system by forming a new water district or connecting to an existing one. A minimum of 51 percent of the assessed valuation users would be required to participate. An expensive upgrade to the aging infrastructure and a large rate increase would be necessary. C. Bult suggested that an information session be scheduled for a future workshop to inform the residents of the process and potential significant increase in costs. S. Dowds agreed and suggested a meeting in April or May. Conversation ensued among the Board members. S. Dowds summarized, that regardless of which option is chosen by the residents, there will be a large cost involved.

The Supervisor explained that the Time Warner Property Tax Bill, Summer Grounds appointments, and the Schodack Fuel Canopy Bids would be discussed at the next meeting. C. Swartz inquired, in regards to Time Warner, if they were considering an expansion in the Town. S. Dowds stated that he had no knowledge and added that the Town has not signed a contract extension in years. He said that the PSC advised against reopening the contract because to get service, the number of residencies on a road is 35 as opposed to the 20 in our existing contract. C. Swartz asked if the original contract had been fulfilled regarding the offer of service to residence. The Supervisor said yes. S. Dowds

mentioned that for the Summer Grounds appointments, K. Holmes was considering moving a current flagger to Summer Grounds. C. Bult asked if they would be filling the flagging position or leave it empty. S. Dowds explained K. Holmes may prefer to forego filling the position and swap as needed. The Supervisor explained that bids had been received for the Schodack Fueling Canopy. The winning bid was from Northeast Petroleum Technologies, Inc. Upon completion of the Canopy, all credit cards will be transferred to department heads and will be used for emergency use only. All vehicles will then have a designated identification for fuel use.

Open Discussion

Dunkin Donuts: S. Swartz inquired about progress with the Dunkin Donuts sewer. The Supervisor stated the he had been in contact with their attorney who had until today to respond. As of now, no fines been levied and has been turned over to the Town Attorney. C. Bult asked if our certified lab results from Bender Labs were shared with the owners of Dunkin Donuts. S. Dowds said yes and continued that, by law, we are unable to have a pH below 6.0 and our recent certified lab tests showed the pH coming out of the Dunkin Donuts Bakery to be at 3.9. He continued that he has tried to work with the owners and has gained nothing. Both the Town and Dunkin Donuts have had to deal with damaged equipment.

Police Vehicle Purchase: The Supervisor announced that the police's purchase of a new Ford Interceptor will be discussed at the March meeting.

Transfer Station Backhoe: S. Dowds proposed that funds be used from the sale of the 2001 International Dump Truck (\$25,000.00) and recycling containers from the Transfer Station (\$4,500.00) to purchase a used backhoe for the Transfer Station. He explained that currently the backhoe from the Highway Dept. is being shared between the Transfer Station and Highway. C. Bult stated that used equipment tends to have little life left in it and would not be cost effective for the Town. He suggested instead that a schedule be worked out for use between the two departments and plan the purchase of a new backhoe for the Highway Dept. for the 2018 budget. The old backhoe could then be sold to the Transfer Station. S. Dowds asked P. Harter, Comptroller, if the funds from the sale of the Truck and sale of the containers can be earmarked for the purchase of the old backhoe for the Transfer Station. Mr. Harter stated that funds must be used for their given classification and can't be used for another. For example, funds from DB fund cannot be used for A fund purchases. Therefore, only the \$4,500.00 could be earmarked unless a capital reserve fund were set up.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

C. Bult made a motion at 7:41 p.m. to enter into executive session to discuss appointments to the Assessor, Highway and Building Departments. Seconded by C. Rex.

5 Ayes 0 Noes. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ayes – J. Bult, M. Kenney, S. Swartz, T. Rex, D. Dowds. Noes – 0.

C. Bult made a motion at 8:49 p.m. to adjourn the executive session. Seconded by C. Rex.

5 Ayes 0 Noes. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ayes – J. Bult, M. Kenney, S. Swartz,

T. Rex, D. Dowds. Noes – 0.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business before the Board, C. Swartz made a motion to adjourn the 02/23/17 Town Board meeting at 8:49 p.m., seconded by C. Rex. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra L. Curtis
Schodack Deputy Town Clerk

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