

DATE: MAY 23, 2019

KIND OF MEETING: TOWN BOARD

WHERE HELD: SCHODACK TOWN HALL

CLERK: DEBRA L. CURTIS

PRESIDING OFFICER: JAMES E. BULT (*Deputy Supervisor*)

MEMBERS PRESENT: MICHAEL KENNEY
SCOTT SWARTZ
TRACEY REX

MEMBERS ABSENT: DAVID B. HARRIS

ATTORNEY: CHRISTOPHER LANGLOIS, ESQ.

COMPTROLLER:

OTHERS PRESENT:

Deputy Supervisor Bult called the May 23, 2019 Town Board Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and dispensed with roll call. All present as noted above. Supervisor Harris was absent.

New York Energy Solution Presentation

Shannon Baxevanis, from New York Transco, gave a presentation regarding the New York Energy Solution (NYES) project. She was joined by Tal Rappleyea, Esq. and Nicole Marnon of Burns & McDonnell. Ms. Baxevanis said it was the intention of New York Transco to open the dialogue regarding the project through informational meetings. She noted they were in the permitting stage of the project which was divided into two segments: Segment A, which runs from Marcy to Rotterdam and New Scotland, was developed by LS Power & New York Power Authority (NYPA) and Segment B, which extends from Schodack to Pleasant Valley, was developed by New York Transco. Segment B will upgrade aging electric infrastructure to relieve congestion, facilitate renewable energy and enhance the reliability of our electrical grid. The project will run along existing rights-of-way and property owned by National Grid, extending fifty-four miles (2.5 miles will run through the town of Schodack) through eleven towns. A total of 693 existing structures will be removed and be replaced by 448 new towers. This project has the potential to create tax revenue for the town as well as create jobs during the construction. Ms. Baxevanis noted a switching station would be installed on utility owned property on Knickerbocker Road within the town of Schodack. The property is approximately eleven acres and will include an access road into a forty foot by sixty foot fenced in area. This station would lack transformers that are typically found in substations and would be surrounded by vegetation to make it more esthetically pleasing. The eighty year old lattice structures that currently support the 115kV transmission lines will be replaced by monopole structures to support the new 345 kV transmission lines. The height of the structures will be increase from eighty to ninety feet, depending on the topography. Along with the addition of a switching station being installed, nineteen structures will be removed and will be replaced by twenty-one. This will be a net increase of two structures within the town. Ms. Baxevanis explained NY Transco was

awarded the contract for segment B in April of 2019 and have begun communicating with local municipalities and stakeholders. The next step involved filing an Article VII application as well as apply for other permits under the Army Corps of Engineers, FAA, NYS DOT and local municipalities. She added that survey work had also begun in the area and letters had been sent to landowners informing them of NY Transco's intent for the project. Future public involvement will take place in August of 2019.

Board Comment: C. Swartz asked what the size of the switching station would be. Ms. Baxevanis said that was not known as of yet. C. Swartz asked if the remaining eleven acres that was currently used for agricultural purposes would remain as so. Ms. Baxevanis said she was not aware of any changes to current agreements regarding farm land use. C. Swartz noted work had been done years ago and residents had complained as workers had crossed onto private land without landowner approval. He asked that these workers remain on the right-of-way or ensure that landowners are properly notified in advance of private land access required. Ms. Baxevanis said, in some cases, access will be needed and assured the board that the landowners will be notified. N. Marnon said the plans for the project will show the areas where the workers will be so everyone will be aware.

GPS Tracking Presentation

Chris Diaz of Verizon Connects GPS gave a presentation regarding GPS tracking of vehicles within the town. He explained he had overseen half of Rensselaer County as well as over a hundred other townships who have instituted this program. He noted there were four benefits to this program, as follows:

1. Mileage Monitoring – Mr. Diaz noted that the program would allow the town to create geo-fences and whenever a town vehicle went out of the area, the miles could be calculated. This would aid in billing for any inter-municipal agreements as well as monitor where plow trucks had been. He said, in the event of a natural disaster, the mileage could be calculated for federal funding reimbursement.
2. Complaints and Liability – Mr. Diaz said the program could track data such as the speed of vehicles and note exact locations of incidents, if they occur. This would be helpful during snow storms to track where plow trucks had been in the event a complaint arose about a road not being cleared.
3. Maintenance – Mr. Diaz said this feature could be a cost savings to the town. The program would have the ability to run diagnostics to pin-point any issues with the fleet by supplying the proper coding to allow the mechanics to make repairs. They would also have the opportunity to schedule maintenance for the vehicles and would be alerted to any recalls.
4. Safety – Mr. Diaz said this feature would be most beneficial with the police and highway. It would alert the administrator of any incidents of hard braking, potentially alerting the administrator to the exact location of an accident. It would allow for fire and emergency medical services to minimize arrival time.

Board Comment: C. Swartz asked if the diagnostic feature was provided under a basic service plan. Mr. Diaz said yes, with no added cost. C. Swartz asked, in the event of a need for a tow truck, who determined the company who would be used. Mr. Diaz said they

generally worked with Allstate who would dispatch a tow company from their list. C. Rex asked would there be potential for insurance cost savings. Mr. Diaz said it would depend on their insurance provider and recommended contacting them. D.S. Bult asked if the town would be leasing the equipment or own it. Mr. Diaz said, as they would be covered under NYS OGS contract, the town would own the system. The town would have the option to suspend or terminate the program with no penalty. The monthly cost would be \$18.95 per unit/vehicle. He added that data, which was included in the cost, would never be purged. C. Swartz asked if there would be a hardware cost. Mr. Diaz said there would be a cost of \$110.00. C. Rex asked if there was potential for the system to become outdated. Mr. Diaz said the system would be powered by 4G LTE and should not need any upgrading for many years. He noted that upgrades have been covered in the past; however, he was not certain if that would be the case later on. D.S. Bult questioned how easy the installation was. Mr. Diaz said the unit was universal and would plug into any style of vehicle. The unit would simply be plugged in under the steering column and would send an alert if it were tampered with. D.S. Bult asked how alerts would be sent. Mr. Diaz stated by text message or email. He said the administrator could designate who would receive the alerts, depending on department. He added that there would be no cost for training and support. D.S. Bult asked if any aspects of the program could be disabled. Mr. Diaz said not at this time.

Review of Resolution

D.S. Bult explained resolution 2019-182 was a proclamation that S. Harris had presented to the Ladies Auxiliary of the Castleton Fire Company on May 18, 2019 commending them for their sixty years of service to the community.

Board/Public Comment: None.

Open Discussion: None.

Adoption of Resolutions

The resolution voted upon reflects additions, deletions and amendments approved by the consensus of the majority Board.

EXPLANATION: Bracketed and strikethrough indicates language that was stricken from the resolution when adopted. Underlined indicates language that was added to the resolution when adopted. A WITHDRAWN resolution is so noted and italicized.

C. Swartz made a motion to adopt the following resolution, seconded by C. Kenney:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF SCHODACK DOES HEREBY:

2019-182) Ratify and affirm adoption of the following proclamation (this was presented Saturday, May 18, 2019 at their 60th Gala, Rensselaer Elks 4-8pm):

WHEREAS, it is the sense of the Schodack Town Board to act in accord with its longstanding traditions, honoring the achievement of those who have given so

generously to their community, exemplifying the ideals and values cherished by this great Town, and

WHEREAS, The Ladies Auxiliary of the Castleton Fire Company was organized on March 15, 1959 with approximately 32 members and tasked with providing support for the firefighters and their community, and

WHEREAS, March 2019 marked the 60th anniversary of the Castleton Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary, and

WHEREAS, the Ladies Auxiliary maintain a stock of food and supplies, ever ready to provide immediate support to the firefighters, 24 hours a day, 365 days each year when need to respond arises, and

WHEREAS, when alerted the Ladies Auxiliary members provide "Code 100's" which consist of refreshments at the alarm scene for the firefighters and over the years, all firefighters have appreciated the cool drinks at summer alarms and the hot coffee at winter alarms, and

WHEREAS, Firefighter training sessions and social events also benefit from the efforts of the Ladies Auxiliary, and

WHEREAS, the Ladies Auxiliary receives no tax dollars, their activities must be supported by fund raising. Many fund raising functions have been held to raise the money used to support the firefighters and to help the needy in the Castleton community, spaghetti suppers along with pancake breakfasts have been fundraisers for the past 60 years. Other popular fundraisers have included, Card Parties, the sale of homemade Clam Chowder, Elvis Nights, Craft Fairs and sales of Ladies Auxiliary Cookbooks, and

WHEREAS, in addition to supporting the firefighters during alarms and training sessions, the funds raised by the Ladies Auxiliary are used for the Lucy Morton Memorial Scholarship, Backpack Program, Adopt-a-Child Program, The Anchor, and other charitable purposes in the Village of Castleton and Town of Schodack

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Legislative Body of the Town of Schodack commends and congratulates Castleton Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary upon its 60 years of service, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor forward a certified copy of this resolution suitably engrossed to Castleton Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary.

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

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business before the Board, C. Kenney made a motion to adjourn the 05/23/19 Town Board meeting at 7:35 p.m., seconded by C. Rex. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra L. Curtis
Schodack Town Clerk

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