

DATE: APRIL 24, 2014

KIND OF MEETING: TOWN BOARD

WHERE HELD: SCHODACK TOWN HALL

CLERK: DONNA L. CONLIN

PRESIDING OFFICER: DENNIS E. DOWDS

MEMBERS PRESENT: FRANCIS CURTIS
SCOTT SWARTZ
JAMES E. BULT
MICHAEL KENNEY

MEMBERS ABSENT:

ATTORNEY: DAVID GRUENBERG

COMPTROLLER:

OTHERS PRESENT:

Supervisor Dowds called the April 24, 2014 meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and dispensed with roll call. All present as noted above.

Items to be discussed:

1. **Town Center Plan public hearing:** S. Dowds opened discussion of the previously authorized public hearing date of May 8, 2014 for the town center plan. The Town Clerk stated that she has not noticed the hearing yet. Based on information given by the engineers at the informational meeting held recently, she wondered if the Board would have the finalized plan by the May 8th date. C. Curtis said NYSDOT is supposed to begin the repaving of Rt. 9 & 20 by May 5th which is a concern. Board members did not want to push the date too far into the future, and possibly limit the time to comment on the road diet concept. They also felt that, based on the number of people that attended the informational meeting last night, it should be held in a larger facility. As the discussion continued regarding the date and venue, it was the consensus of the Board to rescind the first resolution and authorize the Town Clerk to notice hearing for a date in mid-May, preferably the 14th or the 15th, depending on the availability of Green Meadow School. The Supervisor's secretary will confirm the date tomorrow with Green Meadow. Resolution to follow. C. Curtis stated that NYSDOT should be notified that the Board will not be making any decisions until after the hearing. C. Curtis asked if the Town Board had to hold a public hearing or simply have another informational meeting. Atty. Gruenberg said since it is not a local or zoning law, he didn't believe there was a legal requirement to hold a formal public hearing; however, it is an important issue that has generated a lot of public discussion so he felt it was better to err on the side of caution and provide more opportunity to comment on the proposed plan.

Motion

C. Bult made a motion to add a resolution to the agenda, seconded by C. Swartz.

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

Adoption of Resolution

C. Curtis 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:

2014-122) Rescind resolution [2014-110] and authorize the Town Clerk to publish legal notice of a public hearing to seek public comment on the proposed Town Center Plan to be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 14, 2014 at the Green Meadow School Auditorium, 234 Schuurman Rd., Castleton, NY 12033.

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

2. Youth Program titles and hourly rates: The Supervisor explained that due to new federal regulations related to the health care system (Affordable Health Care Act), the summer recreation employees have to have their status changed to hourly rates. This will allow the Comptroller to calculate the Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) to determine how the Town fits into the new federal health care system. This will not alter the budget; it simply changes these salaried employees to hourly. There will be a resolution on the next agenda to support this change. C. Bult asked who would manage the time sheets, as it seemed that they were adding a lot of additional labor to the management staff. The Comptroller said they have been tracking time for the last few years for retirement reporting so they already fill out daily time sheets. She noted that some of the Directors, under the Fair Labor Standards Act, are classified as exempt and therefore, can be salaried, but they will still report the hours.

3. NYALGO Training – The Town Clerk stated that she is not sure that anyone will be attending the conference this year. Since it will be held in the capital district if she or her deputy wants to attend, they will submit a travel request as the amount would be under \$100.00.

4. BAR secretaries – The Supervisor said they will be appointing secretaries to the BAR for the grievance procedures. Melissa Knights has accepted and they are looking for a back-up person in the event Ms. Knights cannot attend.

5. Debt Service – The Supervisor noted that specific debt service payments for various water/sewer districts will be authorized at the next meeting.

Board Discussion

C. Swartz asked the Comptroller if she could show the total amount of a voucher when she prepares the abstract. She said she would be happy to accommodate his request as she has the ability to run such a report from the software and will email it to him. She

explained that she used to produce that type of report, but a prior Board member requested that it be shown by department and continued that practice. If he would like to talk to her after the meeting, she could show him what type of reports she can produce.

C. Bult requested that all written comments regarding the town center plan be emailed to the Board Members. The Supervisor said everything he has received thus far has been forwarded.

C. Bult said that during the budget process they considered moving forward with purchasing a compactor for the transfer station and asked if any measures had taken place to achieve that goal. The Supervisor said originally they thought there was grant funding available for that, but found out it was not eligible under the application. C. Bult encouraged the Supervisor to move forward with the incentive because he felt it would be very beneficial towards the efficiency of the transfer station operations.

C. Bult said during the meeting last night, it was mentioned that the Board should be looking at taking the next steps towards getting water infrastructure from Rt. 9 & 20 to Exit 12. He agreed and felt getting water in that area is essential if they want to attract business development when the economy improves. The Supervisor said, unfortunately, there are not a lot of funding opportunities to help communities to construct infrastructure right now. He said they have had general discussions about this before so perhaps they should move forward and begin reviewing this with an end goal in mind. He said they could begin looking at a town-wide water district with multi-tiers – those who are currently being serviced (direct benefit) pay one rate; those who could potentially be in the district (indirect benefit) because they border infrastructure would pay a slightly lower rate and then those who would never get water (indirect benefit) would pay a very minimal rate. This would give us the ability to cover debt service to improve the infrastructure. The Board was in agreement that the Supervisor should call Atty. Ryan to begin serious discussion on this issue.

C. Curtis asked the status of the change order for Dunkin' Donuts. It was his understanding that the contractor only brought the line as far as the police station and didn't go under Rt. 9 & 20. It had something to do with a revision of the plans. The Supervisor said he hadn't heard about that and thought the project was on target. He will contact Laberge and find out what is happening with the project.

C. Bult reported on the symposium he attended recently at HVCC regarding the heroin epidemic in our area. He would like to discuss this issue with the Chief and how it is impacting our governmental resources. He would also like to talk to the Chief about upcoming departmental changes. The Supervisor said he will ask the Chief to attend the May 22nd workshop.

Executive Session

C. Curtis made a motion at 7:49 p.m. to enter an Executive Session to discuss potential litigation from property owners. Seconded by C. Swartz.

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

At 8:55 p.m. C. Curtis made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session, seconded by C. Kenney.

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

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business before the Board, C. Bult made a motion to adjourn the 04/24/14 Town Board meeting at 8:55 p.m., seconded by C. Swartz. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna L. Conlin
Schodack Town Clerk/RMC/CMC