

DATE: JANUARY 26, 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
MICHAEL KENNEY
SCOTT SWARTZ
TRACEY REX

MEMBERS ABSENT:

ATTORNEY: DAVID GRUENBERG

COMPTROLLER:

OTHERS PRESENT: KEN HOLMES, HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT
DONNA CONLIN, TOWN CLERK (*Arrived at 7:30 p.m.*)
BRIAN GOLDBERGER, LABOR ATTORNEY

Supervisor Dowds called the January 26, 2017 Town Board Meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and dispensed with roll call. All present as noted above.

Executive Session

C. Swartz made a motion at 7:03 p.m. to enter into executive session to discuss appointments in the Police 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 8:01 p.m. to adjourn the executive session. Seconded by C. Kenney.

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

Board Discussion

Highway Department: K. Holmes opened the meeting with an explanation of the purchase of a new truck. He is seeking to replace the 2002 International Tandem Dump Truck with the same model truck that was purchased last year. Estimated cost would be around \$210,000 which would be an approximate increase of \$5,000 from last year. C. Bult inquired if this new truck would replace the one that Alan Roehr is currently driving. K. Holmes said yes and added that the old truck would be kept as a back-up if needed in the future. S. Dowds asked if the purchase would be made through the Onondaga County Contract. K. Holmes said yes. He stated that under the contract, the truck chassis is initially discounted by 45 percent which equates to \$90,000. After that, additional items for the

truck including the transmission, dump body and other options are discounted by 30 percent. C. Swartz questioned if this purchase was budgeted and K. Holmes said yes.

Rocket Monitoring for Sewer District 8: S. Dowds noted that the monitoring contract with Rocket Monitoring System for Sewer District 8 would be discussed at the February 9th meeting. Currently, Glenn Camingo is monitoring Sewer District 5; however with this contract, the Town water/sewer personnel would be trained to monitor in-house to take over both Sewer Districts 5 and 8. This would create great savings for the Town.

K. Holmes interjected that they are having difficulty with DEC to obtain a small plant license. He stated that they were required by DEC to have a licensed sewer operator on staff which was met through the contract with Mr. Camingo. In order to have the Town take over operation, personnel must complete course work for sewer operation. To date, three employees have completed the required courses. He stated that the knowledge that they gained from the course work along with the experience of testing and operating the Town's plants should make them qualify but DEC requirements are too stringent and more suited to sewer plant operations. He is working with DEC to give them a better understanding of the size of the Town's system and requesting that they make an exception to issue a small plant license. The process will take more time.

Schodack Fueling Facility: C. Swartz asked when the contractors will bid for the Schodack Fueling Facility. S. Dowds stated that the date has been pushed forward from February 2nd to February 15th [Resolution 2017-78]. He continued that site visits will be coming soon for bidders. He spoke to Laberge who agreed to give more time to the bidding process but the completion date won't be until June. He added that the Town had requested additional funding for the Fueling Facility Grant for a temporary repair but were denied. In the meantime, credit cards are being obtained for each vehicle. This is a time consuming and expensive process but it is only temporary. The initial gas bill was around \$3,500. C. Bult clarified for the public, the necessity of the credit cards. He explained that the gas pump at the Highway fueling station had malfunctioned and is out of commission. Therefore, all gas vehicles must purchase gas from a station and will be paid via a credit card. M. Sherwood asked why the Town doesn't use the DOT Fueling Facility. C. Bult stated that would require an inter-municipal agreement which they don't have.

Castleton Volunteer Ambulance Workers Service Award Program: S. Dowds announced that this would be discussed at the February 9th meeting. He explained that the process involves the Ambulance Company providing a list of eligible members which is then approved by the Town Board by March 1, 2017. Once approved, the list is posted for 30 days by the Ambulance Company. At the end of set period, the Town Board reviews and signs the Sponsor Authorization Form which must be completed and submitted by May 1, 2017.

Trailer Renewals/Eastern Copy Agreements: S. Dowds explained that the Town Clerk's Office is in the process of preparing and sending out the trailer renewals for 2017 and working with Eastern Copy to obtain agreements for the 2017-2018 maintenance contracts. These items will be further discussed at the next meeting.

ASCAP Agreement: S. Dowds stated that this involved municipal rates for entertainment for Music in the Park for the season and will be discussed at the February 9th meeting.

Fire Department Consolidation: C. Bult updated the Board on the meeting he attended regarding the consolidation of the fire districts in the Town of Schodack. After that meeting, there were two fire districts that decided to not participate in the consolidation study. A question was posed if a smaller group wished to move forward, would the Town Board still act as lead agency. The Town Board would pay the consultant doing the feasibility study but will need signed agreements with the participating districts. S. Dowds explained that the Town would pay the full amount which would be roughly \$50,000.00 for the study and receive half back from the Department of State. The other half would be paid by the six fire districts over a period of 2 years (2017-2018) back to the Town. The total amount for each district would be around \$4,165.00. The feasibility study would focus on man power, operations, etc. Then the fire districts would make the decision to move to the second phase in which the state would then fund 90 percent of the consolidation up to \$1 million.

Burials: C. Swartz suggested that an ordinance against burials outside of designated cemeteries be set forth. Atty. Gruenberg mentioned that he had spoken to Donna Conlin (Schodack Town Clerk) about burials on private property and he thought it was not able to be done but there is no local law to prohibit it. C. Swartz explained that it puts a burden on future owners of such properties and should be addressed. Atty. Gruenberg said he would look into it.

Schodack School District Sewer Project: C. Bult explained that he had discussed with K. Holmes about the progress of the sewer extension from the Village of Castleton to the School. C. Bult said, since the line will be turned over to the town, our sewer operators should be involved during the installation process so they are familiar with the line placement. The Town will have the final okay for the completed project. K. Holmes added that the operators will be present at key points of installation. This is especially important since there are components such as valves that will not show on maps. C. Bult stated that keeping our operators involved may help prevent issues in the future. S. Dowds added that the estimated completion date would be in July or August of 2018. As of yet, the State Education Department (SED) has not approved the plans. Atty. Gruenberg asked why SED needed to approve them. C. Kenney explained that they will be paying for the project.

Dunkin Donuts: C. Kenney asked for an update on the Dunkin Donuts sewer issue. S. Dowds stated that they were waiting on certified tests from Bender Lab. K. Holmes interjected that they may already have the results. S. Dowds continued that the last pH readings taken by K. Holmes were 3.45 and 3.58. K. Holmes stated that Dunkin Donuts has had recent equipment failures that may be associated with the low pH. C. Kenney asked that they have answers for resolving the issue by the February 9th meeting or start charging fines. S. Dowds agreed.

Adoption of Resolutions:

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

C. Bult 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:**

2017-78) Amend resolution 2017-70 as adopted January 12, 2017 to reflect bid opening date of February 15, 2017 rather than February 2, 2017.

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. Kenney made a motion to adjourn the 01/26/17 Town Board meeting at 8:29 p.m., seconded by C. Rex. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra L. Curtis
Schodack Deputy Town Clerk