

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held at Town Hall, 511 Route 32, Highland Mills, New York on July 16, 2009 at 7:30PM

Present: John Burke, Supervisor
Geraldine Gianzero, Councilwoman
Amidee Haviland and Carlton Levine, Councilman

Absent: None

Also Present: Richard Liberth, Attorney for the Town; Peter Stabile, Highway Superintendent; Robert Kwiatkowski, Police Chief; Maria Hunter, Village Planning Board

I. Administrative Business:

a. Appointment of Board Member/Administration of Oath of Office:

Motion was offered by Supervisor Burke, seconded by Councilman Levine, to appoint James Skoufis to the vacancy on the Town Board that was formerly held by Michael Queenan.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Gianzero, Haviland, Levine
NOES 0

Clerk Potvin administered the Oath of Office to Councilman Skoufis and congratulated him on his appointment.

b. Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion was offered by Councilman Levine, seconded by Councilwoman Gianzero, to accept the minutes of the regular meeting held June 30, 2009.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Gianzero, Haviland, Levine
ABSTAIN 1 Skoufis

Motion was then offered by Councilwoman Gianzero, seconded by Supervisor Burke, to accept the minutes of the worksession held July 10, 2009, with a typographical amendment.

ADOPTED AYES 3 Burke, Gianzero, Haviland
ABSTAIN 1 Levine, Skoufis

c. Approval of Abstract:

Motion was offered by Councilman Levine, seconded by Supervisor Burke, to approve Revised Abstract 12 by voiding Voucher 20091179 (Check #19300) in the amount of \$1100. The total of the abstract is now \$121,487.91.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Gianzero, Haviland, Levine
ABSTAIN 1 Skoufis

Motion was offered by Councilwoman Gianzero, seconded by Councilman Haviland, to approve Abstract 15, Vouchers #20091431 - #20091591 (less vouchers 20091486-20091488 and checks 1001-1012 and 1118-1125 which were used for printer alignment), totaling \$241,269.37.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Gianzero, Haviland, Levine
ABSTAIN 1 Skoufis

d. Budget Modification:

Motion was offered by Councilman Haviland, seconded by Councilman Levine, to approve a modification to the budget of the General Fund by increasing A599 (Appropriated Fund Balance) by \$4665 and increasing A9050.800 (Unemployment Insurance) by \$4665.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Burke, Gianzero, Haviland, Levine, Skoufis
NOES 0

Motion was then offered by Councilman Levine, seconded by Supervisor Burke, to approve a modification to the budget of the Highway Department by increasing DB599 (Appropriated Fund Balance) by \$6041 and increasing DB9050.800 (Unemployment Insurance) by \$6,041.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Burke, Gianzero, Haviland, Levine, Skoufis
 NOES 0

e. Modification to Existing Union Exhibit "A" Step/Grade:

Motion was offered by Supervisor Burke, seconded by Councilwoman Gianzero, to modify the existing "Union Exhibit 'A' Step/Grade" schedule by eliminating the title "Assistant Account Clerk" from Grade V, creating the title "Account Clerk" under Grade V, creating the title "Account Clerk B" under Grade IX and renaming the existing "Account Clerk" title under Grade XI to "Account Clerk A".

ADOPTED AYES 3 Burke, Gianzero, Levine
 ABSTAIN 2 Haviland, Skoufis

Supervisor Burke noted that these modifications have been approved by UPSEU.

f. Change in Personnel Grade/Title – Supervisor's Office:

Motion was offered by Supervisor Burke, seconded by Councilman Levine, to change the title of Maxine Saracino from Account Clerk on Grade XI to Account Clerk A on the same Grade.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Gianzero, Haviland, Levine
 ABSTAIN 1 Skoufis

Motion was then offered by Supervisor Burke, seconded by Councilman Levine, to change the title of Laura Morrissey from Assistant Account Clerk on Grade V to Account Clerk B on Grade IX.

ADOPTED AYES 3 Burke, Gianzero, Levine
 ABSTAIN 2 Haviland, Skoufis

Supervisor Burke noted that these changes have been approved by UPSEU.

g. Schedule Special Meeting – July 27, 2009:

Motion was offered by Supervisor Burke, seconded by Councilman Haviland, to schedule a special meeting to be held on July 27, 2009 at 7:30PM to receive and possibly award the bids for the improvements to the Central Valley Pond.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Burke, Gianzero, Haviland, Levine, Skoufis
 NOES 0

Supervisor Burke stated the bid opening for the CV Pond Improvements that was to be held this afternoon was postponed until July 23 at the suggestion of Town Engineer. This will give the bidders an opportunity to submit a well researched quote.

II. Old Business:

There was no old business to discuss.

III. New Business:

There was no new business to discuss.

IV. Department Reports:

a. Supervisor's Report:

Motion was offered by Councilwoman Gianzero, seconded by Councilman Levine, to approve the June 2009 Supervisor's Report with receipts totaling \$147,717.87 and disbursements totaling \$1,229,462.05.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Burke, Gianzero, Haviland, Levine, Skoufis
 NOES 0

b. Town Clerk's Report – June 2009

c. False Alarm Report – May 2009

d. Parks/Recreation Minutes – July 8, 2009

e. Animal/Goose Control Report – June 2009

f. Police/Communications Report – June 2009

- g. Beautification Commission Minutes – None Received
- h. Library Minutes – None Received
- i. Budget vs. Actual – June 2009

V. Public Comment:

Councilman Skoufis thanked the Town Board for the opportunity to serve the community. He realizes that he has a lot to learn and will work as hard as he can to make a large contribution. A majority of the Board members congratulated Councilman Skoufis on his appointment, as did Superintendent Stabile and Chief Kwiatkowski.

Superintendent Stabile updated the Board on the road improvement project status.

Chief Kwiatkowski stated his department will be enforcing the speed limit on the newly paved roads.

Jonathan Swiller stated the County has decided to file an Article 78 against the amended FEIS that was filed for the Kiryas Joel pipeline. He thanked Supervisor Burke and Mayor Queenan for leading the regional municipal leaders in approaching County Executive Diana and the Legislature. He then stated the same attention is needed for the proposed water master plan prepared by the County. This plan envisions linking all the municipal water systems in the County (as printed on page 23 of the plan). He fears this would be administered as poorly as the current Orange County Sewer District is.

Frank Palermo thanked the Board for giving the public an opportunity to apply for the vacant seat, citing past Board would meet behind closed doors with their political party and appoint an individual.

Supervisor Burke acknowledged all the individuals that spoke at the recent public meeting hosted by the County regarding the pipeline FEIS. He believes the comments and presentations made helped move the Article 78 decision forward.

VI. Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss or comments received, a motion was offered by Supervisor Burke, seconded by Councilman Skoufis, to adjourn the meeting at 8PM.

ADOPTED	AYES	5	Burke, Gianzero, Haviland, Levine, Skoufis
	NOES	0	

Desiree Potvin, Town Clerk

The Board entered into a closed session with Attorney Liberth after adjournment.