

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held at Town Hall, 511 Route 32, Highland Mills, New York on February 18, 2010 at 7:30PM

Present: John Burke, Supervisor
Amidee Haviland, Carlton Levine, Frank Palermo and James Skoufis, Councilmen
Absent: None
Also Present: Richard Liberth, Attorney for the Town; Robert Kwiatkowski, Police Chief; Maria Hunter, Village Planning Board

I. Administrative Business:

a. Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion was offered by Councilman Palermo, seconded by Councilman Skoufis, to accept the minutes of the regular meeting held February 4, 2010.

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

Motion was then offered by Councilman Haviland, seconded by Councilman Levine, to accept the minutes of the special meeting held February 8, 2010.

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

b. Approval of Abstract:

Motion was offered by Councilman Levine, seconded by Councilman Skoufis, to approve Abstract 4, Vouchers #20100272 - #20100367, totaling \$401,646.08.

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

c. Appointment of Consultant/Engineer:

This item was tabled for further discussion at the next worksession.

EXTRA ITEM – Budget Modifications:

Motion was offered by Councilman Palermo, seconded by Councilman Haviland, to approve a modification to the budget of the Parks Department by increasing A2705 (Gifts and Donations) by \$8000 and increasing A7110.404 (Playground Equipment) by \$8000.

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

Motion was then offered by Supervisor Burke, seconded by Councilman Levine, to approve a modification to the budget of General Fund by increasing A599 (Appropriated Fund Balance) by \$4000 and increasing A1220.462 (Computer Supplies/Checks) by \$4000.

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

Motion was then offered by Councilman Skoufis, seconded by Councilman Palermo, to approve a modification to the budget of the Buildings/Grounds Department by increasing A599 (Appropriated Fund Balance) by \$2500 and increasing A1620.491 (Senior Center OCCD Grant Patio) by \$2500.

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

II. Old Business

a. Discussion/Vote on AVL (Automatic Vehicle Locator):

Councilman Levine stated he has some serious reservations about this program. He spoke with an officer who also stressed their concerns. He believes these types of monitoring systems are generally

used inappropriately and feels it is unnecessary for the Town due to the small size of our force. He also feels that the Town will realize some costs in the future (noting training and additional equipment that may be needed after the initial installation). Councilman Haviland stated he would like some assurances that the Town will not be required to invest financially in this system in the future. He also noted that the primary function of this program is to get emergency personnel to a scene quicker based on location of different agencies. Councilman Palermo stated he has no problem with the program and understands all costs associated as it is spelled out clearly in the proposed Inter-Municipal Agreement. As far as the system being abused, he believes we are lucky to have a great Police Department and does not feel that should be a concern. Councilman Skoufis stated he believes that, if the program saves just one life, it is worth having it. Chief Kwiatkowski stated the County is fully aware that they are to bear all costs related to this program or the departments participating will withdraw. He also stated he takes exception to the comments made by Councilman Levine. He has kept the PBA and Sergeants aware of the program as it was being created and no issues were raised by either group. He believes the program is necessary for public and officer safety. With no further comments, a motion was offered by Councilman Palermo, seconded by Councilman Haviland, to authorize the Supervisor to sign an Inter-Municipal Agreement with the County of Orange for the Police Department to participate in an Automatic Vehicle Locator Dispatching System (AVL).

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

Councilman Levine stated he is abstaining due to his comments made earlier.

III. New Business:

a. Resolution – Terrorist Trials:

Supervisor Burke stated a resolution has been presented by the County Executive’s Office which opposes the holding of the trails of the alleged September 11, 2001 terrorists anywhere within Orange County. Councilman Haviland stated he feels this issue is above the Town Board’s area of responsibility and should remain on the County level. Councilman Levine stated he is concerned by the NIMBY (not in my back yard) factor that is occurring here. He added he is not fully convinced that there may not be a suitable site in Orange County for the trials to be held and does not feel the Board should entertain the resolution. Councilman Skoufis stated he feels there are some valid points made in the resolution and believes the Town Boards influence on the issue it worth considering. Supervisor Burke asked the Board members to review the resolution and a discussion will be held at a future meeting. Councilman Haviland noted the issue could be resolved by the Federal government by the next worksession and it may be mute regardless.

b. Discussion – Library Board Vacancy Interviews:

Supervisor Burke stated three letters of interest were received by the deadline and one was received several minutes afterwards. He noted that one individual that submitted a letter of interest currently serves on the Parks Commission. Councilman Skoufis stated he is open to interviewing all that applied but would like to see someone not currently involved serve. All Board members agreed the letter that was received a few minutes after the deadline should be considered as well. Supervisor Burke stated the interviews will be scheduled for the March 15 worksession.

c. Receipt of Audit of 2007 Records:

It was noted for the record that the audit of the 2007 Financial Statements has been completed and was received on February 8, 2010. Councilman Levine commended Supervisor Burke and the employees that worked with the auditors so that the report could be completed quickly. Supervisor Burke stated money has been budgeted in the 2010 budget for the audit for the 2008 records. Motion was offered by Councilman Palermo, seconded by Councilman Levine, to authorize the Supervisor to contact Sedore & Company to determine their costs to conduct an audit of the 2008 financial records.

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

IV. Department Reports:

a. Supervisor's Report:

Motion was offered by Councilman Levine, seconded by Councilman Palermo, to approve the Supervisor's Report for January 2010 with receipts totaling \$6,294,709.89 and disbursements totaling \$784,525.67.

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

b. Town Clerk's Report – January 2010

c. False Alarm Report – December 2009

d. Parks/Recreation Minutes – January 12 and February 9, 2010

e. Animal/Goose Control Report – February 2010

f. Police/Communications Report – February 2010

g. Beautification Commission Minutes – None Received

h. Library Minutes – December 29, 2009

i. Budget vs. Actual – January 2010

V. Public Comment:

Councilman Palermo commended the Village Board on turning down the County with regards to the Inter-Municipal Agreement involving Kiryas Joel and the sewer/pipeline "swap". He believes this is the reason Woodbury is against the Water Authority and County controlling our water.

VI. Adjournment:

With no further comments received or business to discuss, a motion was offered by Councilman Palermo, seconded by Councilman Levine, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10PM.

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

Desiree Potvin, Town Clerk

After adjournment, a closed session with Attorney Liberth was held.