

Minutes of the Town Board Worksession held at Town Hall on November 14, 2011 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; Timothy Arone and Marilyn Prestia,
Councilperons-Elect; Robert Kwiatkowski, Police Chief; Michael Queenan, Village Mayor;
Maria Hunter, Village Planning Board

1. Discussion – Opposition to Orange & Rockland Rate Increase:

Supervisor Burke stated he has been contacted by the attorney representing the Municipal Consortium that is opposing the rate increase applied for by Orange & Rockland. They are once again asking Woodbury to join their group. Councilman Haviland explained the history of this issue and stated he does not be anything has changed since the Board last discussed it. Councilman Palermo stated he feels the letter that was written last time was effective (*NOTE – a resolution was adopted and mailed to the Public Service Commission in February 2011, not a letter*) and feels the same should be done now. It was noted that the cost to join the consortium is \$4000, \$1000 more than earlier this year, and that some municipalities have dropped out. Councilman Levine stated he would choose to join the consortium but will agree with the consensus of the Board. Supervisor Burke stated he would contact the consortium’s lawyer and state Woodbury will not participate.

2. Discussion – Emergency Communication Proposal:

Supervisor Burke stated he and Mayor Queenan have been looking into the possibility of engaging the services of a company that can provide a warning system which would improve communication to residents. This would be a joint effort between the Town and Village, each sharing the cost 50/50. The program that has come highly recommended is CodeRed which is a high-speed notification system by Emergency Communications Network. Mayor Queenan explained in detail what the system provides and how it will benefit the community, noting it could be used for all notifications including water restrictions, states of emergency, events cancelled at the parks, etc. The cost proposed is \$6320 for a three year license and \$6004 for a five year license. All agreed that this type of communication would be an asset to the community but the cost was an issue. It was agreed that Supervisor Burke and Mayor Queenan would contact other companies to compare programs and costs.

3. Discussion – Proposed Local Law Regarding Refuse Collection Cans:

Supervisor Burke stated correspondence was received from a resident stressing her concerns about the appearance of the Town in relation to the garbage cans. Cornwall has a law that requires cans to be placed out by a certain time and removed by a certain time. It also requires that they not be placed in the street. The Board discussed this issue and it was determined that currently the Supervisor or Refuse Clerk calls a resident when a complaint is received about their cans being out too long and this system seems to be working. However, if there is a law enacted it will provide strength if a resident does not comply with the verbal warning. Question arose about enforcement and Chief Kwiatkowski first stated it would fall under Code Enforcement but then stated the police could handle the enforcement on the weekends if need be. Motion was then offered by Councilman Palermo, seconded by Councilman Levine, to ask the Village Board to adopt a law addressing this issue but no vote was held on this motion. Chief Kwiatkowski suggested the judges be asked to determine if this law has any constitutional limits to it prior to enacting. The Board then suggested both the Town and Village Boards adopt the same law relating to this issue. Clerk Potvin note that doing so would cost the taxpayers double since both Boards would need a public hearing and pay for publication in their Codebooks.

8:20PM – Executive Session:

Motion was offered by Supervisor Burke, seconded by Councilman Levine, to enter into an executive session pursuant to Article 7 of the Public Officers Law to discuss one item relating to litigation involving the Village of Kiryas Joel, et al., vs. the Village of Woodbury, et al.

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

Councilpersons-Elect Arone and Prestia attended the executive session.

Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss, a motion was offered by Councilman Levine, seconded by Councilman Skoufis, to end the executive session and adjourn the meeting at 9PM.

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

Desiree Potvin, Town Clerk