

TOWN OF PLATTEKILL
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

November 20, 2013

Time: 7:00 PM

SALUTE TO FLAG

Supervisor Croce opened the meeting with a salute to the American Flag.

ROLL CALL

The following Town Board Members were present:

Supervisor Croce
Councilwoman Morano
Councilman DePew

Councilman Putnam and Councilman Farrelly were absent.

MINUTES

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the October 16, 2013 regular Town Board Meeting.

Councilwoman Morano seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to accept the minutes from the October 16, 2013 regular Town Board Meeting.

Councilwoman Morano seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

Presentation:

Supervisor Croce explained that Tyler Scott, from Boy Scout Troop #79, was present this evening to show some pictures and explain how he finished his project replacing the Plattekill Library sign.

Mr. Scott explained that he had removed the old sign and replaced it with a new one. He had a metal sign made so that it would last longer than the older wooden one and then put in new solar lights to light it during the night. He also planted new flowers around the base and put in a border around the garden.

Supervisor Croce stated that the sign looks wonderful and Mr. Scott did a very, very nice job. He suggested that everyone make a point to drive by and see how great the new sign looks.

Supervisor Croce congratulated Mr. Scott on completing this project and read a letter from the Town Board thanking him for his efforts.

ADDITIONS:

Supervisor Croce stated that he had one addition to the evening's agenda.

1. Cub Scout Pack #195 – Collection For Veteran's:

Supervisor Croce stated that the Town Board had received a request to allow Boy Scout Pack #195 to put a box in the hallway of the Town Hall to collect items for the Veterans at Castle Point Hospital in Beacon. He stated that the Boy Scouts have had this donation box at the Town Hall in the past.

* Councilwoman Morano made a motion to have a donation box, from Cub Scout Pack #95, in the Town Hall for the collection of items needed by the Veteran's.

Councilman DePew seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mrs. Pearl Morse stated that she wanted to thank the Town Police, the Ulster County Sheriff's Dept. and the Stated Police for working together and quickly finding the person who is believed responsible for putting our whole Town on alert. She appreciates all that they did to calm everyone's fears.

Supervisor Croce stated that he agreed with Mrs. Morse. He stated that Chief Ryan had kept him up on everything that was going on and there was a lot of cooperation and a lot going on behind the scenes. We were all glad that this matter was taken care of so quickly.

There were no further comments or questions from the audience.

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to close the Public Input Section of the meeting at 7:09 PM.

Councilman DePew seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

SECTION 1 – POLICE MONTHLY REPORT:

Chief Joseph Ryan was present to read his monthly report from October 2013. He read that there were 427 service related calls with 138 traffic tickets issued. There were 20 motor vehicle accidents handled by the Plattekill Police with 4 persons reporting injuries.

Chief Ryan stated that a good majority of these accidents were deer related. He cautioned everyone to be extra careful as this is the time of year when deer are most active.

Chief Ryan stated that the Department has just received another grant that we piggybacked on with the Sheriff's Dept. We will be receiving two High-Tech, portable radios.

Chief Ryan also stated that the Department has completed the firearms qualification for this year on October 20th. He stated that he wanted to publicly thank the Bethlehem Rod & Gun Club for allowing the Department to use their facility. They have always been very supportive of the Police Dept. and they appreciate their generosity.

Chief Ryan stated that he too wanted to thank the Ulster County Sheriff's Dept. and State Police for their quick actions on this matter. Everyone worked well, some days up to 20 hours. The case is before the Grand Jury now and it looks like the subject should be going away for a while. He stated that he feels this is an isolated case and hopes the person involved is doing well and god is watching over her.

He has heard that she is at home and doing as well as can be expected. It is tragic, but all the agencies worked well together and got this taken care of.

SECTION 2 – BUILDING DEPT. MONTHLY REPORT:

Councilwoman Morano read the Building Dept. monthly report for October 2013. She read that there were 32 Field Inspections, 1 Stop Work Order issued, 9 Violations issued, 1 Violation closed, 2 Court cases that are still pending, 3 Complaints taken, 1 Structure Fire investigated, 17 Building Permits issued, 1 Certificate of Occupancy issued, 2 Certificates of Compliance issued, 12 Municipal Searches done, 5 Fire-Re-inspections done and 4 Office Meetings held. These numbers do not include returning phone calls and residents coming in for assistance with codes, building permits, zoning and subdivision issues and FOIL Requests.

SECTION 3 – DOG CONTROL MONTHLY REPORT:

Supervisor Croce read the Plattekill Dog Control monthly report for October 2013. He read that there were 60 plus calls mostly involving adoptions and adoption inquiries. There were 11 calls from the Police Departments, 4 open cases, 9 dogs impounded or seized, 2 dogs redeemed, 10 dogs adopted or transferred to rescue agencies, 0 appearance tickets issued and there are currently no dogs in the kennel. The report stated that there was 1 potential Dangerous Dog Hearing under investigation and they have successfully reached an agreement in lieu of a dangerous dog hearing with a resident who was the victim of an attack by his own dog, which resulted in serious bodily injury.

Supervisor Croce read the last portion of the report which indicated that there has been a dramatic in-flux or stray dogs over the past 60 days. The Dog Control Officer was asking that if anyone noticed dogs being dropped off or abandoned, to try to obtain a license plate or a description of the vehicle. He stated that the dogs are being dropped off primarily in the southeastern area of Plattekill, bordering Marlboro and the Town of Newburgh. They seem to be dropping off the dogs between 5:00 and 8:00 PM, during the work week.

If anyone sees anything suspicious, please call the Dog Control Officer at 845-443-3356.

Supervisor Croce stated that he had spoken to Mr. McKee, our Dog Control Officer, and he stated that he had been away for about three days. Bethany O'Dell, Mr. McKee's volunteer Deputy Dog Control Officer, responded to most of these calls and he wanted to give her a "pat on the back" and say thank you for doing a great job.

Supervisor Croce stated that he agreed with Mr. McKee and wanted to say thank you to Bethany for doing a great job for the Town. We appreciate her efforts.

SECTION 4 – 2014 BUDGET ADOPTION

Supervisor Croce stated that the Town Board must adopt the 2014 Budget for next year. The Public Hearing was held on Nov. 6th and he has a resolution prepared for this evening.

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to adopt the following resolution:

TOWN OF PLATTEKILL
2014 – BUDGET ADOPTION
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Budget Officer, Supervisor Croce, received the 2014 Budget Requests from all Town Departments and compiled the 2014 Tentative Budget, which was then presented to the Town Clerk on Sept. 30, 2013, and

WHEREAS, The Town Clerk presented the 2014 Tentative Budget to the Town Board Members at a regularly scheduled Town Board Meeting on October 2, 2013, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board met with all Town Departments to review and make adjustments to their 2014 Budget Requests and the Preliminary Budget was drafted and reviewed by the Budget Officer with any changes or modifications made at that time, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board held a Public Hearing on November 6, 2013, at 6:00 PM, on the 2014 Preliminary Budget which notice of said Public Hearing was duly published in the Southern Ulster Times, the Town Newspaper, and comments and questions were received on the Preliminary Budget,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Plattekill, Ulster County, New York hereby adopts the Preliminary Budget as the Final Budget for the Town of Plattekill for the Year 2014 without any further changes or modifications.

Councilwoman Morano seconded.

On the Vote:	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstained</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Supervisor Croce	X			
Councilman Putnam				X
Councilman Farrelly				X
Councilwoman Morano	X			
Councilman DePew	X			

Adopted: November 20, 2013

SECTION 5 – E-WASTE RECYCLING

Councilman DePew stated that he had been in contact with a recycling company in Port Jervis and they have all the DEC and State permits to recycle our e-waste. He stated that what he does know right now is that we would have to have pallets that we would put our e-waste on and then they would get shrink-wrapped with plastic. After we do business with them for 1 year, we would then be able to sign an agreement with them. Every time we have 6 or more pallets, they will come and take the pallets.

Councilman DePew stated that they have an extensive list of what products they will take. They will not be paying us to take the waste, but we will be getting their services for free. There was also discussion that if we wanted to have a day during the year when people could come and drop off items, they would also be able to help us with that.

Supervisor Croce stated that he was at a Supervisor’s Meeting in Kingston and people from the UCRRA were present at the meeting. Ms. Bergkamp, a representative from the UCRRA, stated that she

could give us a list of important questions that we should be asking these e-waste companies to help with choosing the best one for us to use. He also stated that Mr. Valk, the Supervisor from the Town of Shawangunk, has the name of another company that we could look into using.

Supervisor Croce stated that he would try to obtain this list of questions, and the names of some other companies to check into using, from Ms. Bergkamp and get them to Councilman DePew. He stated that at this meeting, the UCRRRA cautioned everyone about using a company that does not actually recycle the components. He stated that some companies are just stockpiling the items or sending them to China. Both of these manners of disposal are not acceptable.

Supervisor Croce stated that he has an idea to try to get several Towns in the area to use the same company and this way we could perhaps obtain a better deal.

Councilman DePew stated that he has heard that other Towns are asking for people to sign off on liability issues due to what can be obtained off of old hard drives that are dropped off for recycling. These are all issues that we need to deal with.

Supervisor Croce stated that another issue is that the Towns are supposed to provide free recycling.

There was discussion on not taking certain recycled products and that the stores that sell these items are supposed to take them for recycling.

Supervisor Croce stated that he would contact Mr. Valk and Ms. Bergkamp to get the list of questions and the names of the other companies.

SECTION 6 – TRANSFER STATION HOURS

Supervisor Croce stated that he wanted to bring up the issue of changing the Transfer Station hours again. He stated that he did not think the Town Board could come up with a decision this evening; however he wanted to ask the Town Board to think about what we should do. He stated that we don't take in much on Thursdays, but on Sunday mornings we take in two to three times as much. He is thinking that we should change our hours to Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. He would like to keep the two attendants so that one could cover for the other if one is sick or can't work a day. He was not sure how to break up the hours. Maybe one could do 2 days and then the next weekend they could switch and the other could do 2 days. Does anyone have any suggestions?

Supervisor Croce stated that the Town was definitely working at a deficit and we should think about doing something to spend less or make more income. He was thinking that maybe we should sell stickers to use the facility. This has been done in the past.

The Town Clerk stated that during the early 1990's we charged \$20.00 for a one year sticker and then we sold it for \$10.00 to seniors age 65 and over. We had the ones that ran from January to December and we prorated it to \$10.00 after half the year was over. At another time we had the months printed on the stickers and they were good for a year from the month punched.

Councilman DePew stated that he did not like to put stickers on his car and knows that there are others who do not like to do this either.

Supervisor Croce stated that the biggest reason for doing the stickers would be for revenue.

SECTION 7 – BUDGET TRANSFERS

Supervisor Croce explained that the Highway Dept. had requested several transfers at the last meeting and he had forgotten that we should do the transfers with a Notice of Appropriation Transfer. He would like to re-do these transfers using the proper documents.

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to transfer \$2,000.00 from the General Fund Budget line item #A7110.1 Parks Personal Services to the General Fund Budget line item #A1640.1 Central Garage Personal Services, to cover the unforeseen payroll for the remainder of the 2013 Year. A copy of the complete transfer is attached to these minutes.

Councilwoman Morano seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to transfer \$20,000.00 from the Highway Fund Budget line item #DA5110.4 General Repairs Contractual Expense to the Highway Fund Budget line item #DA5142.4 Snow Removal Contractual Expense, to cover any unforeseen shortages that this account may accumulate before the end of the 2013 Year. A copy of the complete transfer is attached to these minutes.

Councilman DePew seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to transfer \$10,000.00 from the Highway Fund Budget line item #DA5110.4 General Repairs Contractual Expense to the Highway Fund Budget line item #5130.4 Machinery Contractual Expense to cover any unforeseen shortages that this account may accumulate before the end of the 2013 Year. A copy of the complete transfer is attached to these minutes.

Councilwoman Morano seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to transfer \$46,779.00 from the Highway Fund Budget line item #DA5110.4 General Repairs Contractual Expense to Highway Fund Budget line item # DA5130.2 Machinery Equipment to cover the cost of the Town Board approved purchase of the 2014 Ford F-550 Dump Truck on October 2, 2013. A copy of the complete transfer is attached to these minutes.

Councilwoman Morano seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

SECTION 8 – ADOPTION OF U.R.G.E.N.T RESOLUTION FOR 2014

Supervisor Croce stated that the Town has been a member of the URGENT Task Force for seven or eight years and is looking to continue being a part of this program. He stated that they have given us a new agreement for 2014 and the Chief of Police also agrees that we should sign the new agreement for next year. He stated that the Town received \$20,000.00 last year to be used by our Police Dept.

Chief Ryan stated that the Town of Plattekill has received the most back from being a part of this program. He stated that any money or items seized, goes into a fund, and those funds are divided up

between the Sheriff’s Dept., the DA’s Office and those Town’s that are a part of this program. He stated that for the Town of Plattekill to have its own drug task force would be very expensive. With this program the entire County is involved and everyone is working together.

The Town Board agreed that this was a worthwhile program.

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF PLATTEKILL
 ULSTER REGIONAL GANG ENFORCEMENT NARCOTICS TEAM
 November 20, 2013

WHEREAS, various Town and Village police departments in the County of Ulster together with the Ulster County Sheriff’s Office and the Ulster County District Attorney’s Office, as Member Agencies, seek to operate and act collectively as a task force team pursuant to Federal policies and guidelines, such task force known as the Ulster Regional Gang Enforcement Narcotics Team (hereinafter referred to as “URGENT”), and

WHEREAS, the mission of URGENT is to achieve maximum coordination and cooperation, through utilizing the combined resources of Member Agencies, to primarily investigate gang members and affiliates involved in criminal enterprises, as well as investigate narcotic related offenses and the possession and sale of illegal firearms in Ulster County, and

WHEREAS, membership in the URGENT task force will benefit the Town of Plattekill in that it will provide a specialized unit to combat gang violence and narcotic trafficking within the Town and the County of Ulster, and

WHEREAS, THE Town board has reviewed the inter-municipal Cooperative Agreement (Ulster Regional Gang Enforcement Narcotics Team) proposed by the Ulster County District Attorney and the Ulster County Sheriff, a copy of which is annexed hereto and made a part of this resolution, and

WHEREAS, the Police Chief of the Town of Plattekill has also reviewed the annexed inter-municipal Cooperative Agreement and has recommended that the Town Board approve the agreement,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Plattekill hereby approves the annexed agreement and membership in the task force, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Police Chief of the Town of Plattekill is authorized to execute the annexed agreement on behalf of the Town.

Councilwoman Morano seconded.

On the vote:	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Supervisor Croce	X			
Councilman Putnam				X
Councilman Farrelly				X
Councilwoman Morano	X			
Councilman DePew	X			

Adopted on November 20, 2013

SECTION 9 - HIGHWAY – LETTER TO TOWN BOARD

Supervisor Croce read a letter from the Highway Department employees thanking the Town Board for recognizing the priority of the repairs that needed to be done to the Highway Garage roof. The letter stated that they truly appreciate the efforts put forth by the Town Board for going out to bid and consulting with the Town Attorney along with assuring the safety of the employees and public while the project was taking place. The employees stated that they realized this project was no small task and they did not want their efforts to go unnoticed. A copy of this letter is attached to these minutes.

Supervisor Croce stated that he was happy to receive this letter from the Highway employees and stated that this was a very nice gesture.

Mr. Robert Wager, the Highway Superintendent, jokingly stated that the employees are happy they don't have to dance around the leaks anymore.

SECTION 10 – VOUCHERS

* Councilman DePew made a motion to pay the Voucher Detail Report dated 11/20/2013 which includes the General Fund amount of \$30,559.09, the Highway Fund amount of \$36,160.66, the Capital Projects amount of \$700.00 and the Trust & Agency amount of \$1,000.00 for a total amount of \$68,419.75 recognizing that the Audit Committee has reviewed the claims and found them acceptable for payment.

Councilwoman Morano seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

SECTION 10 – ADJOURNMENT

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 PM.

Councilwoman Morano seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

The Town Board remained in the room to sign papers for the High School students who had to attend a Town Board Meeting for their "Participation in Government" class.