

TOWN OF PLATTEKILL  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

November 19, 2014

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  
Councilman Putnam  
Councilwoman Delgado  
Councilman DePew

Councilman Farrelly was absent.

MINUTES

There were no minutes approved this evening.

ADDITIONS

Supervisor Croce stated that he had three additions to the evening's agenda; first he would like to go into Executive Session, second he received a request to transfer funds for the Assessor and third, he received a training request from the Planning Board.

1)Executive Session:

\* Supervisor Croce made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the employment history of an employee.

Councilman DePew seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

Time: 7:04 PM

Back: 7:30 PM

\* Supervisor Croce made a motion to close Executive Session and re-open the regular Town Board Meeting at 7:30 PM.

Councilman Putnam seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

2)Planning Board Training Request:

Supervisor Croce stated that he had received a memo asking that a Planning Board member, Katherine Beinkafner, be authorized to attend the Land Use Sustainable Development Conference on Dec. 5, 2014, from 8:00 AM to 6:30 PM, in White Plains, NY. The cost would be \$80.00.

\* Councilman DePew made a motion to allow Katherine Beinkafner to attend the Land Use Sustainable Development Conference at a cost of \$80.00 plus mileage.

Councilman Putnam seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

3)Assessor Request To Transfer Funds:

Supervisor Croce read a memo from the Town Assessor asking to transfer funds from the Assessor Payroll Budget Line to the Contractual Budget Line to cover some recent expenses in her department.

\* Supervisor Croce made a motion to transfer \$500.00 from budget line A1355.1 Assessor Services/Personnel to budget line A1355.4 Assessors Contractual to cover the cost of Assessor travel, training and software for the newly appointed Assessor. A copy of the complete transfer is attached to these minutes.

Councilman Putnam seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mrs. Esther Coppola stated that it was her honor, on behalf of the Plattekill Golden Years Seniors, the only Town Senior Club in the Town of Plattekill, to give a donation of \$300.00 to the Veterans Committee for the Memorial Fund. She stated that the Senior Club usually makes a donation to a worthy cause during the year and this year they have decided to give their donation to the Veterans Memorial Fund.

Supervisor Croce and the other Town Board Members thanked the Plattekill Golden Years Seniors for their generous donation.

There were no further comments or questions from the Public.

\* Supervisor Croce made a motion to close the Public Input Section of the meeting at 7:39 PM.

Councilman Putnam seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

SECTION 1 – POLICE MONTHLY REPORTS – SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2014

Supervisor Croce stated that he had received copies of two Letters of Commendation that have been given to two Officers who responded to an emergency call at the Plattekill Elementary School. They were the first two Officers to arrive on the scene and without their quick actions; things may not have worked out so well for the patient. He stated that this was the same incident that Councilwoman Delgado was also recognized for.

Supervisor Croce read the two Letters of Commendation; one was for Lieut. Smith and the other was for Officer Benincasa. He stated that the entire school staff should also be commended for their life-saving actions. He stated that Det. Riley was also there and Councilwoman Delgado, who had started doing CPR on the patient. When the ambulance arrived, Councilwoman Delgado could not continue in

the ambulance, so Officer Benincasa took over and the patient was revived just before they got to the hospital.

Councilwoman Delgado stated that the school aid had returned to work yesterday, so everything has worked out well.

Supervisor Croce stated that this situation worked out for the best because of many dedicated people who jumped in and started doing the right things that they had been trained to do.

Supervisor Croce read the Police Monthly Report from September 2014. The report stated that there were 317 documented calls for service and 131 traffic tickets issued. There were 6 motor vehicle accidents handled with 5 persons reporting injuries.

Supervisor Croce stated that he would not read the Arrest Blotter as it was quite lengthy and suggested that if anyone wanted a copy they could obtain one from the Town Clerk's Office.

Supervisor Croce continued reading that there were 5 Larceny Cases, 2 Burglary Cases, 2 Assault Cases and 1 Criminal Mischief Case that were worked by the Detectives. There were also 2 Fatal Motor Vehicle Accident Cases and 1 Personal Injury Automobile Accident Case worked by the Detectives and two cases were closed with an arrest.

Supervisor Croce read that most of the vehicles were reported in good working condition, but one was out for service due to a transmission slipping and the other one had a defroster not working.

Supervisor Croce read the Police Monthly Report from October 2014. The report stated that there were 328 documented calls for service and 164 Traffic Tickets issued. There were 5 motor vehicle accidents handled with 2 persons reporting injuries.

Supervisor Croce stated again that he would not be reading the Arrest Blotter as it was quite lengthy and again, if anyone would like a copy, they can obtain one at the Town Clerk's Office.

Supervisor Croce continued reading that there were 4 Burglary Cases, 1 Missing Person Case, 1 Stolen Property Case, 1 Grand Larceny and 2 Larceny Cases and 1 Assault Case worked by the Detectives. There was also one Medical Emergency Case. As for cases closed, there were 4 Burglary Cases closed, 1 Grand Larceny and 1 Petit Larceny Case closed and 1 Missing Person found.

Supervisor Croce stated that the vehicles were all in good working order except for the one car that needed a transmission and the Town Board is approving the purchase of the new transmission, in the vouchers, this evening.

Supervisor Croce stated that the PBA would be holding their annual Holiday Awards Dinner on Sat. Dec. 13, 2014 at the New Paltz Elks Lodge. Anyone wishing to attend should contact the Police Dept. and the tickets are \$25.00 per person.

## SECTION 2 – BUILDING DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT – OCTOBER 2014

Councilman DePew read the Building Dept. Monthly Report for October 2014. He read that there were 28 Field Inspections done, 0 Violations Issued, 0 Violations Closed, 3 Complaints taken and followed up on, 0 Structure Fires, 21 Building Permits Issued, 0 Certificate of Occupancy Issued, 2 Certificates of Compliance Issued, 5 Municipal Searches Done, 3 Pending Court Cases, 0 Site Plan

Reviews, 7 Fire Safety Inspections Done, 2 In Office Meetings Held and 11 Mobile Home Inspections and Re-inspections Done. These numbers do not include returning phone calls and residents coming in for assistance with codes, building permits and Zoning & Subdivision issues.

Supervisor Croce stated that what was not included in the report is that they have been working on the new software program and they are on target to start using it on December first.

SECTION 3 – DOG CONTROL MONTHLY REPORT – October 2014

Supervisor Croce stated that he did not receive this report from the Dog Control Officer.

SECTION 4 – ASSESSOR MONTHLY REPORT – OCTOBER 2014

Supervisor Croce read that the Assessor’s October 2014 Monthly Report states that there were 5 property transfers and 3 Arms-length transfers.

SECTION 5 – ADOPTION OF 2015 TOWN OF PLATTEKILL BUDGET

Supervisor Croce stated that he wanted to thank the Town Board again, and all the Departments, for their help in putting this budget together. It takes a lot of hours and we are trying to look out for the residents of this Town. He stated that he is grateful for everyone’s help in putting this document together.

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

**TOWN OF PLATTEKILL**

**2015 – BUDGET ADOPTION RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, The Budget Officer, Supervisor Croce, received the 2015 Budget Requests from all Town Departments and compiled the 2015 Tentative Budget, which was then presented to the Town Clerk on Sept. 30, 2014, and

**WHEREAS**, The Town Clerk presented the 2015 Tentative Budget to the Town Board Members at a regularly scheduled Town Board Meeting on October 1, 2014, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board met with all Town Departments to review and make adjustments to their 2015 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 5, 2014, at 7:00 PM, on the 2015 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 2015 Preliminary Budget as the Final Budget for the Town of Plattekill for the Year 2015 without any further changes or modifications.

Councilman Putnam 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 Delgado	X	
Councilman DePew	X	

Adopted: November 19, 2014

SECTION 6 – GIRL SCOUT THANK-YOU CARD

Supervisor Croce read a thank you card that he had received from the Girl Scout Troop that had used the Town Park for their animal care project. He stated that anyone who would like to see the card should come up to the front of the room after the meeting.

SECTION 7 – TOWN HISTORIAN REQUEST

Ms. Elizabeth Werlau, the Town Historian, was present this evening and stated that she had two requests for the Town Board.

Ms. Werlau stated that she realizes that space is at a premium and she has furniture piled to the ceiling in her small office. She stated that she wanted to suggest that she be allowed to loan some of these items out to area museums.

Supervisor Croce stated that he had suggested speaking with the Highway Superintendent to see if he had some room above his office since this area had recently been cleaned out and the floor has been repaired.

Ms. Werlau stated that she had two reasons for wanting to loan out some of the furniture. We can still store some items here, but besides the obvious point of making some room in her office so she can open file cabinets without moving everything out into the hallway, she would also like to loan out items like the school desk because they will be tagged that the item is from the Town of Plattekill and others will see that we have these artifacts. Right now no one knows that we even have these items.

Ms. Werlau stated that she would like to loan them out for maybe 3 or 6 months at a time, to a local museum, maybe the Hamlet of Wallkill or the Town of Lloyd or even the Ulster County Museum in Kingston, and she would make a form that the local museum would have to sign stating that the item would be kept in a safe and secure place. They would have to take responsibility for the item’s safety.

There was also a suggestion to take a picture of the item that was being loaned out for inventory purposes.

Ms. Werlau stated that she would be making an inventory of all the items which includes taking pictures of them. This way there is no mix up that the item belongs to the Town of Plattekill.

Councilman DePew stated that maybe she could put the pictures on our website and indicate where the items are going to be displayed. People will then see what we have and maybe even donate something from their families. He stated that he thought this sounded like a great idea.

Ms. Werlau stated that she also does not use her computer that is sitting on the desk in her office. She stated that she has used the scanner on occasion, but she usually uses her own laptop which has software that stores her information. She felt that if it could be used elsewhere in the Town Hall, then she would have more desk space.

There was a short discussion on finding out how old the computer was and getting it cleaned out for possible use in another office.

The Town Clerk stated that she was interested in using the computer for the DEC and maybe the new dog licensing system that she was looking to use from the same company that the Building Dept. is using.

Supervisor Croce stated that he remembered speaking with the Town Clerk about using the computer. We will have to have it checked the next time our computer people are here.

Ms. Werlau stated that the second thing she wanted to speak with the Town Board about was making a Facebook page for the Town Historian. She stated that she would like to post pictures of the items that we have and some of the pictures in hopes that others will go to the web page and see what we have. Again it is a good way to let people know that we do have these older items and pictures from Town and maybe they will download some of their pictures that we may not have. This would be an interactive page where people could go and look at what other people are posting about the Town.

Ms. Werlau explained that there is a person in Town who is writing a book about the old Villas that were in Town and he has had a Facebook page that people are downloading there pictures to. There is a lot being shared on line and the Town could benefit a lot from this type of page.

Councilwoman Delgado stated that there is another site called "We Chat" that is an international site and she may want to look into putting a page on here too.

Ms. Werlau stated that she would check it out.

Supervisor Croce stated that his fear is that someone will put something on the page that we do not want on there. He asked her if she would be maintaining or servicing the site?

Ms. Werlau stated that if there was something put on the site that was not appropriate, she would be able to remove it. She stated that she would be the one servicing the page.

Supervisor Croce asked if there was any cost to this project?

Ms. Werlau stated no.

Councilman DePew stated that he thought it was a great idea and that the Town should give it a try. It would be a perfect way to let people know what we are doing and they will be able to post items and share being a part of the Town.

The other Town Board members also felt that this was something the Town should try and that it was a great idea.

\* Supervisor Croce made a motion to allow the Town Historian to proceed with lending Town artifacts to other local museums and that she is also allowed to start a Town of Plattekill Historian Facebook page Councilwoman Delgado seconded.

Mrs. Coppola stated that she had a public concern. All these things are really important and she feels that the pictures and other items may be lost.

Councilwoman Delgado stated that the original pictures will be scanned in and then they can be stored away. The original pictures will still be here. The copies (scanned in photos) can then be printed or saved so that they can be retrieved by anyone using that media. We will still have the original pictures stored here. It is actually safer for the original pictures.

Mrs. Coppola stated that she just wants the pictures to remain here for the residents.

Ms. Werlau stated that she feels that by putting these items on line, everyone will know what we have and if something ever does get misplaced, we have proof that the item is/was ours. She stated that she felt this helps for accountability.

There was a short discussion on whether items should be loaned to the Town of Plattekill Historical Society which has just recently moved into the Grange building.

Ms. Werlau stated that the Grange building does not have a security system and she would not suggest putting anything there until the building is brought up to museum standards.

Ms. Werlau stated that there are several items that are old, but not necessarily having historic significance. She stated that she did not want to get rid of them, she just thought that maybe we could store them somewhere else.

Supervisor Croce stated that he would speak with Mr. Wager to see if there is any room above the office at the Garage. This area was renovated and there are now stairs and it is gated.

The Town Board all agreed that these things would be a positive move for the Town.  
On the vote: all ayes.

Councilman DePew stated that he wanted to thank Ms. Werlau for all that she does for our Town.

#### SECTION 8 – PLATTEKILL FIRE DISTRICT

Supervisor Croce stated that Mr. James Hoppenstedt, a Commissioner from the Plattekill Fire District, was present this evening to ask the Town Board about putting in a “radio stick with a repeater system” on the property jointly owned by the Town of Plattekill and the Plattekill Fire District.

Mr. Hoppenstedt stated that the Fire District was looking to locate a “radio stick” on the west side of the Thruway that would also have a repeater system so that the radios would get better reception. He stated that it was not a tower and was much smaller than a tower. It would have to be secured but it could also have co-locators on it for the police or other fire departments in the area.

The Town Board started to ask questions such as how much ground space the stick would take and how high it would be.

Mr. Hoppenstedt stated that he did not have those answers at this time. He stated that he wanted to come to the Town Board to get permission to gather all that information. He stated that he wanted to get an idea of whether the Town would be willing to do this, before he spent a lot of time on researching it.

Supervisor Croce asked if he was considering using the wetlands property off of Church Street to access the property?

Mr. Hoppenstedt stated that he had thought about going in that way; however there is another property owner that may give permission to them to cross his property. This is something else that has to be worked out. He was just looking tonight to see whether the Town Board would entertain the idea of putting in this radio stick. He stated that it would be too expensive to try to locate on the Dembroski Tower and with this radio stick other people will be able to use it like the police and highway. There are a lot of dead spots in Town and it is not safe. It is a small stick and we will just need to get electric to it.

Mr. Hoppenstedt stated that he would start researching this and keep the Town Board informed on what happens. He was just looking for permission to continue with the idea.

The Town Board agreed that this could help other fire departments and other agencies in Town.

Councilman DePew asked how much property was on the west side of the Thruway?

Mr. Hoppenstedt stated that it is approximately 34 acres.

Councilman DePew stated that he would just suggest not putting it in the center of the property.

Mr. Hoppenstedt stated yes, he would not do that. It would be near the Thruway and we will have to get all the proper permits.

\* Supervisor Croce made a motion that the Town Board has no objection with the Plattekill Fire District moving forward with obtaining information to put in a radio stick on the jointly owned property on Church Street.

Councilwoman Delgado seconded.

Mr. Hoppenstedt stated that the radio stick would not be as expensive as a tower to put in.

On the vote: all ayes.

The Town Board thanked Mr. Hoppenstedt for coming in this evening.

#### SECTION 9 – BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW - APPOINTMENT

Supervisor Croce stated that Mr. Joseph Egan's term on the Assessment Board of Review ended on September 30, 2014. He has contacted Mr. Egan and has received a letter from him stating that he would like to stay on this Board and would like to be re-appointed to a new term. When he is re-appointed, he will have to go for training again and he is prepared to do so.

\* Councilman DePew made a motion to re-appoint Mr. Joseph Egan to the Board of Assessment Review for a five year term to end September 30, 1919.

Councilman Putnam seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

#### SECTION 10 – VOUCHERS

\* Councilman DePew made a motion to pay the Voucher Detail Report dated 11/19/2014, which includes: the General Fund amount of \$23,768.28, the Highway Fund amount of \$84,816.64 and the Trust & Agency amount of \$4,414.79 for a total amount of \$112,999.71 recognizing that the Audit Committee has reviewed the claims and found them acceptable for payment.

Councilman Putnam seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

#### ADJOURNMENT

\* Supervisor Croce made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 PM.

Councilman DePew seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

Supervisor Croce wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!