

TOWN OF PLATTEKILL
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

May 20, 2015

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.

PUBLIC HEARING – ANNUAL SPEDES – MS4-STORMWATER REPORT

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to open the Public Hearing on the 2014 Annual SPEDES – MS4-Stormwater Report at 7:04 PM.

Councilwoman Delgado seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

Supervisor Croce asked if anyone had any questions on the MS4-Stormwater Report?

A resident asked what the report was for?

Supervisor Croce explained that this was a report that the Town is required to do for the DEC and is a Stormwater Management Plan. It is rather lengthy and he works on it with the Town Engineer and then it is filed with the DEC and the Town Clerk's Office. It is also available on the Town website.

There were no further questions from the public.

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to close the Public Hearing on the 2014 Annual SPEDES-MS4-Stormwater Report at 7:05 PM.

Councilman Putnam seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

MINUTES

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the May 6, 2015 Regular Town Board Meeting.

Councilwoman Delgado seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to accept the minutes from the May 6, 2015 Regular Town Board Meeting.

Councilwoman Delgado seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

ADDITIONS

Supervisor Croce stated that he had quite a few additions for this evening.

1. Assessor Monthly Report:

Supervisor Croce stated that he did have the Assessor's Monthly report, but had not put it on the agenda. He will read the report when the other monthly reports are read.

2. Memorial Day Parade:

Supervisor Croce stated that he wanted to remind everyone that the Memorial Day Parade was scheduled for this Saturday, May 23rd. He stated that line-up was at the Town Hall at 12:00 noon and step-off was at 1:00 PM. He stated that the Veteran's Committee was in charge of the Parade and he would encourage everyone to come and either march or watch the Parade and then join in the short ceremony that was being held at the Town Park with refreshments to follow. He stated that this was a good way to honor our veterans for the wonderful job they have done and others continue to do.

3. Circus:

Supervisor Croce stated that he did contact the Circus Company that was here last year and they stated that they could get here again this year in August somewhere between the 9th and the 13th. He asked the Town Board if they felt this was a good time and if they wanted to have the Circus back in Town. He stated that he wanted to ask the Town Board again if this was something we wanted to do and they would be calling back next week with a firm date.

Mr. Wager, the Highway Superintendent, stated that there were no issues last year when they were here.

Supervisor Croce stated that they were in and out in no time and they took care of their animals and port-a-potties and cleaned up any garbage that was generated by them.

Councilman DePew stated that he would like to see them return again this year.

* Councilman DePew made a motion that the Supervisor proceed with working out a date for the Circus to return in August 2015.

Councilwoman Delgado seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

4. Mowing of Town Properties:

Supervisor Croce explained that the Town Board had awarded the Bid for the Mowing and Trimming of Town Properties, at the last Town Board Meeting, to Hudson Hills Contracting. He stated that since starting with them, there have been some problems and he is not sure that things are working out. He stated that he just wanted everyone to know that there have been some issues and he may have to speak with the Town Attorney if things do not get better. He stated that he was not sure if we can take the second bidder and how all that works. It is late at this point if we would have to go out to bid again.

Mr. Wager stated that he has spoken with the owners and the foreman of the company. He stated that the first time cutting took them 4 days to do all the properties. He stated that he feels the Town should give them one more chance and if they don't work out, then the Town Board can look to take some action. It seems that they only have two employees and there is a lot of mowing to be done. He stated that he spoke to the foreman and explained what the Town expected. The foreman was more receptive to the Towns' needs than the owners were. We will have to see how things work out this week.

Councilman DePew asked if he felt the mowing would get done for this weekend coming up?

Mr. Wager stated yes, they are supposed to be back mowing tomorrow.

Councilman DePew stated that he felt that the Town needed to document what is going on in case there is a question later and that we should contact the Attorney ahead of time to know what the options are.

Supervisor Croce stated that Mr. Wager went with the foreman and showed them what we are expecting so we should know more at the end of this week. He stated that companies in the past have been able to mow all the properties in one day. We have not had to deal with this situation in the past. The Stune house property did not get mowed until this past Monday.

Councilwoman Delgado asked if there was wording in the bid package to cover this type of situation? Does it say it should be done in a timely manner?

Mr. Wager stated that he was not sure about the wording in the bid package.

Supervisor Croce stated that they tried to write it off that the grass was higher than normal and that was the problem, but the owner was at the bid opening and knew that we expected the mowing to be done right away and not to wait a week where the grass would have been taller. So we are cautiously optimistic and we will see what happens this coming week.

5. Transfer of Funds For Computers:

Supervisor Croce stated that he would like to add in another transfer for this evening. The price quote for the new computers came in yesterday and the Town Board has already approved the purchase at a previous Town Board Meeting. He stated that he would add this additional transfer in at the end of the meeting.

6. Ulster County Veterans Memorial of Honor:

Supervisor Croce stated that he wanted to make everyone aware that the County would be honoring all the Veterans from previous wars at a new Memorial being dedicated this Sunday at the Ulster County Office Building in Kingston at 1:00 PM. Our County Executive, Mike Hein, will be hosting a dedication ceremony and everyone is invited to attend. The County is asking for all Town Officials to RSVP so that there can be plenty of room for everyone.

The rest of the Town Board stated that they had other events that they were attending on Sunday and Supervisor Croce stated that he would be attending to represent the Town of Plattekill.

7.Modena Fire Dept. Veterans Breakfast:

Supervisor Croce stated that he wanted to remind all veterans that the Modena Fire Dept. would be serving breakfast on Sunday morning, May 24, 2015, for any veterans and their families, free of charge. The breakfast would be served at the Modena Fire House from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM.

8.Veterans Memorial – Aloha Home Acres:

Supervisor Croce stated that there will also be a Veterans Memorial Service at the entrance to Aloha Home Acres on South Ohioville Road on Monday morning at 11:00 AM. All are welcome to attend this ceremony that is held at the entrance to the mobile home park.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mrs. Sis Morse stated that she had two items to discuss. The first one was to ask approval for a new member of the Veteran's Committee. She stated that Michelle Carballo has worked for the Veterans Administration for more than 30 years and would like to volunteer to have an outreach program one day a week at the Town Hall to help Veterans navigate the Veteran's system. She stated that Michelle can stop in the Town Hall during the week to work out the details on the best day and time. She stated that she felt this would be a great program because a lot of Veterans get lost in the process of receiving the help that they need.

Supervisor Croce stated that he felt this would be a great program to offer our Veterans and he would help to set up a good time when there is room at the Town Hall.

* Councilman DePew made a motion, on the recommendation of Mrs. Morse, to have Michelle Carballo as a member of the Veteran's Committee and to do an Outreach Service Program at the Town Hall.

Councilman Putnam seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

Mrs. Morse stated that she also had information on the Flag Drop-off box that had been approved by the Town Board at a previous Town Board Meeting. She stated that the mail-box was being painted and we should be able to set it up very soon. The location of the north side of the entrance to the Town Hall had been designated for this box and it will be maintained by the local Boy Scouts. She stated that everything is being donated so there is no cost to the Town. Mr. and Mrs. Laskowsky generously donated the mailbox for this purpose.

Supervisor Croce stated that having this Flag Drop-off Box will be a good thing for the Town and for the Scouts to maintain. He stated that he felt, besides the Boy Scouts having a key to the box, that the Town Clerk or the Highway Superintendent should also be given a key to keep in the vault so that we have one here just in case we need access to the box.

Mr. Wager suggested that the key be kept in the Town Clerk's vault.

Everyone agreed that this would be a good idea.

Supervisor Croce stated that a big thank you goes out to Annette and John Laskowsky for their donation.

Mrs. Morse continued saying that the Veteran's Committee Annual Golf Tournament was held last Saturday and they raised over \$3,000.00 towards the Memorial Fund. Everyone who attended had a great time. She stated that there is also a Hawaiian Luau scheduled to be held in August at Primo's in Ardonia. More information on this event will be coming soon.

Supervisor Croce thanked Mrs. Morse for all her time and energy that she puts in to all that she does for the Town and the Veterans.

Mrs. Nancy Gilman, a resident from Rt. 32 in Modena, asked the Town Board about the continuation of motorcycle events at AK Farms in Modena. She stated that she understood Mr. Kalamucki was looking to get the Town to allow him to continue having motorcycle events on his property. She stated that she thought that the settlement that the Town and County Court agreed to, gave Mr. Kalamucki 14 years to have races to recoup any money owed to him. Then no more races would be allowed. Now she understands the Town is considering allowing him to continue. How can this be done after the Court Settlement stated he could only be there for 14 more years and then he would have to stop?

Supervisor Croce stated that he has met with the Town Attorney and Mr. Kalamucki and his Attorney to try to sort out any options that would be available. That is the last he has heard of this issue. He stated that they reviewed the issues that lead to the determination and settlement and he realizes that it affects her and her quality of life. He stated that he did not want her to think that this is a done deal, but he does feel this track is a little different because this is how Mr. Kalamucki makes his living.

Mrs. Gilman stated that he was given 14 years to make his money and she has been patiently waiting for this time to pass.

Supervisor Croce stated that they are in a very preliminary stage of discussion and it never hurts to discuss possibilities. If the Town Board were to be satisfied with conditions set forth in an agreement with Mr. Kalamucki, then he feels this should be something the Town Board should consider.

Mrs. Gilman asked why?

Supervisor Croce stated that he knows that she would not agree with him and the argument has gone on for many years, but there are benefits to his events. He stated that the Modena Fire Dept. ambulance has been asked to stand by at events and then he makes a generous donation to the Rescue Squad. He does also offer some jobs to the Community and he does bring tourism to local businesses. He stated that he was not sure how to gage the impact, but there are people stopping at Stewarts, Hannaford's and other places.

Mrs. Gilman stated that she wanted to point out that it is the Quads that make the most noise; more than the motorcycles. And; the open practices on Saturday are worse than the Sunday races. She stated that just knowing that there is thought of having them continue is overwhelming. She asked when they would be talking again?

Supervisor Croce stated that he was not sure. He stated that he told Mr. Kalamucki that the ball was in his court. He would bring up the issue with the Quads when they do speak again.

Mrs. Gilman asked if the other Town Board members had read the settlement agreement?

Councilman DePew stated that he had not read the 14 year agreement as yet, but he intended to read it before making any decisions.

Councilwoman Delgado stated that she has read it.

Supervisor Croce stated that he did not understand why reading the agreement was being questioned.

Mrs. Gilman stated that she did not want to bring out any dirty laundry, but we all know why he got this agreement.

Supervisor Croce stated that he did not know anything about this.

Councilwoman Delgado stated that she did know what she was talking about as she had to be in Court for this case.

Supervisor Croce stated that he would make copies for the rest of the Town Board. He stated that he only knows it was taken to Court and he won that the Town had to pay him \$85,000.00 and that he could stay there until the end of the 14th year. That is the end of this year.

Supervisor Croce stated that he wanted to try to assure her that this Town Board would not attempt to make anyone's life miserable. He stated that the Town Board has to consider both sides of the argument.

Mrs. Gilman stated that the argument was decided 14 years ago.

Supervisor Croce stated that this is an opportunity, if it can be reasonable, that the Town can have something in Town, that is not such an intrusion on people, like her, and people can go there and enjoy themselves. He stated that there are people who like these events. He stated that he wanted to assure her that the Town Board would be very judicious in any agreement, if there is an agreement. It is not a done deal.

Councilman Putnam asked if they could do something with the mufflers. He stated that he knows someone who hunts on a 4-wheeler and it is quiet.

Councilwoman Delgado stated that changing the mufflers was tried in the past. They are loud and there is not much you can do about it. They are meant to be loud. They are a different type of bike than a street bike.

Supervisor Croce stated that he wanted her to know that they are in the very preliminary stages of discussion and he thanked her for coming in to discuss her concerns.

Mr. Mark Schiba stated that he lives about a half a mile down the road from the race track and he can hear them too.

Supervisor Croce stated that he can hear the motorcycles at his house too.

Mr. Schiba stated that he and his wife have been coming in to complain about the Farm next to them for a little over a year now and nothing has been decided. He stated that he thought maybe he was doing something wrong, so he came to the Town Hall to make a formal complaint. He stated that he asked for a complaint form and was told that one does not exist. There should be a complaint form. He stated that the Town sent a Stop Work Order to the other Farm in Clintondale and..

Supervisor Croce stopped Mr. Schiba and stated no, the Town sent them a letter that they were not code compliant, not a Stop Work Order. We told them that the Building Inspector had made a determination that those events were not allowed in the Zoning Codes for their area.

Mr. Schiba stated OK, call it what you want. He read a section of the Town Code where it states that the Code Enforcement Officer shall keep a record of all complaints received. He stated that when he made a complaint, it was written on a little yellow sticky. He stated that the Town Board stated that they have gone to view the Farm in Clintondale, but no one has come to his house even though the invitation was offered.

Councilwoman Delgado stated that she has been down by his home to see what it looks like.

Councilman DePew stated that he had stopped in the Town Hall and gotten his address and his phone number and he fully intends to contact him and stop down. He stated that he is very familiar with the property and he can assure him that the Town Board is looking at the property diligently. He stated that he personally knows the property very well and has spent a lot of time in the house that he lives in. He stated that Mr. Schiba's property and the Hurd property were once together as one property. He is very familiar with what is going on.

Mr. Schiba stated that he just feels that his complaint record should be kept and it appears that the only record currently is from the Public Input section of the minutes from these meetings.

Supervisor Croce stated that in response to his statements, he believes that the Building Inspector has met with the Hurds and the DOT and there were no problems. He continued saying that his wife had asked the Town to do a safety check before letting the Summer Camp use the facility and a safety inspection was done on Monday of this week and any problems will be addressed before they open. There will be another inspection.

Mr. Schiba's wife, Tara, asked if she could see the inspection reports?

Supervisor Croce stated that she would have to contact the Building Dept. and maybe submit a FOIL Request.

Mr. Juan Figueroa stated that he wanted to let everyone know that the 2nd Annual Latino American Heritage Festival was going to be held at the Town Park on July 26th. He stated that this was a non-political event and he wanted to cordially invite the members of the Town Board and any others who would like to attend.

Supervisor Croce thanked him for the invitation.

Mr. Figueroa stated that the Town Park is beautiful and he wondered why there were no basketball courts set up there?

Councilwoman Delgado stated that when she was previously in office, the Town Board and the Rotary had discussed putting in basketball courts somewhere on the Park property, but it was decided not to do so at that time as we were experiencing a lot of vandalism at the Park. She stated that the Police were also not sure they could continuously monitor at the Park, so it was decided to leave the basketball courts here at the Town Hall. This was the safer location. She stated that we were getting a lot of people that were not from Plattekill using the Park and they were staying later into the evening, past Dusk. Our Park is open from Dawn to Dusk.

Mr. Figueroa stated that that was back then. He stated that he felt the basketball courts should be moved to the Park.

Gladys Figueroa asked if there was a report on domestic violence that occurs within the Town?

Supervisor Croce stated that she would have to contact the Plattekill Police Station or she could request copies of the Police Monthly Reports as there are arrests in the arrest blotter section of the report that he does not usually read at the Town Board Meetings.

Mr. Figueroa asked the Town Board if they would consider moving the basketball courts to the Park?

Supervisor Croce stated that the Town Board would consider any request. He stated that the decision last time was not decided by just the Town Board. The Highway Dept. and the Police also were in on the decision. He explained that another reason that the courts were not moved to the Park was that there is a playground with young children there. He stated that he played basketball when he was in his youth and sometimes the language can get pretty salty or foul. It is just the nature of the game being played by men in their teens and twenty's. It was decided to try to keep this type of language away from the young children. There was also the safety and monitoring of the area as well as the cost of construction, maintenance and lighting of the area.

Councilwoman Delgado stated that she was in office when there were a lot of decisions being made about what we wanted to have at the Park for facilities. The cost was very expensive to build a court with high fences and a good floor base. They originally looked at putting it down at the bottom driveway below the baseball field, but then there was an issue of parking too. When the Pavilion was first put up, there was a lot of vandalism and we were not sure the basketball courts would not be vandalized too. We can take a second look at it and maybe work something out.

Mr. Wager stated that he sends Highway Dept. personnel to clean-up the Park every day of the week. He stated that he would love to see them up there, but there is more and more garbage and destruction as it is. He stated that they are constantly maintaining the facilities. He stated that they are trying to keep the Park as low maintenance as possible. We do not have any sidewalks or stairs with handrails to maintain. We have installed a camera security system on the Pavilion now due to things happening. Then the Police can follow up by using the video tapes.

Mr. Figueroa thanked them for explaining what has been going on.

Supervisor Croce asked if there were any further questions or comments from the Public?

There were no further comments or questions.

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to close the Public Input Section of the meeting at 8:07 PM.

Councilwoman Delgado seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

SECTION 1 – POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT – APRIL 2015

Supervisor Croce read the Plattekill Police Dept. Monthly Report for April 2015. He read that there were 318 documented calls for service with a total number of 155 traffic tickets issued. There we 10 motor vehicle accidents handled by the Plattekill Police Dept. with no one reporting injuries.

Supervisor Croce did not read the Arrest Blotter and reminded everyone that a copy of the Police Monthly Report could be obtained from the Town Clerk’s Office.

Supervisor Croce read that there were 11 cases worked by the Detectives including a Missing Person, Petit Larceny, Grand Larceny, ID Theft, Criminal Possession of Stolen Property, Criminal Mischief, Burglary and Fraud. The Detectives also closed 6 cases including a Missing Juvenile, Attempted Assault, Burglary, Garand Larceny and Fraud.

Supervisor Croce read that Chief Ryan had attended the Law Enforcement Traffic Safety Conference in Syracuse in April. Officer Annacone was still reported as out on medical leave.

Supervisor Croce announced again that the PBA was holding the Annual Bruce Loertscher Memorial Scholarship Pig Roast on Sunday, June 7th at 1:00 PM at the Town Park. There will also be a car show and music. Come out for a great day and a great cause.

Supervisor Croce read that the Seat Belt Mobilization Program would be taking place on May 18th thru May 31st. There is a zero tolerance for not wearing your seatbelt during this period.

Supervisor Croce ended by reading the vehicle condition report which stated that all the vehicles were in good running order with only usual maintenance needed.

SECTION 2 – DOG CONTROL MONTHLY REPORT

Supervisor Croce stated that the Dog Control Officer was on vacation this week and we will catch up with his reports when he returns.

SECTION 3 – BUILDING DEPT. MONTHLY REPORT – APRIL 2015

Supervisor Croce stated that the Building Dept. is still trying to compile a general monthly report that will give us the information that we are looking for. This month’s report was done in the same format as those for the past year.

Supervisor Croce read that there were 13 Field Inspections done, 11 Violations issued, 2 Violations closed, 11 Complaints received, 18 Building Permits issued, 3 Certificates of Occupancy issued, 13 Certificates of Compliance issued, 11 Municipal Searches done and 4 Fire Safety Inspections done. These numbers do not include returning phone calls and residents coming in for assistance with codes, building permits, and Zoning and Subdivision issues.

SECTION 4 – RECREATION DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT – MAY 2015

Supervisor Croce read that the T-Ball Program started on May 7, 2015 with 21 children. This is a 4 week program on Tuesday nights at 6:00 PM.

Supervisor Croce read that the Soccer Program started on May 11, 2015 with 18 children. This is also a 4 week program on Monday nights.

Supervisor Croce read that there are 68 campers signed up for Summer Camp so far. All the field trips have been arranged and 4 bus companies have submitted price quotes. On June 6th there will be an open house for more registrations and for those who will be attending Camp to meet staff and find out more about the programs being offered. Camp Staff members are being finalized and T-Shirts are being ordered.

Supervisor Croce stated that he would like to thank Councilman Farrelly for sitting in on all the Camp Staff interviews. Ms. Doland will be making her selections for counselors in a week or so.

Supervisor Croce read a request from Stephanie Doland, the Assistant Recreation Director. She was asking for the Town Board to appoint her as Camp Director and to appoint Christine Benken as the Assistant Camp Director.

Councilwoman Delgado asked if she would be receiving a separate pay for this position?

Supervisor Croce stated yes, as the Assistant Recreation Director position does not cover her being in charge of camp all day long.

* Councilman Putnam made a motion to appoint Stephanie Doland as Summer Camp Director and Christine Benken as Assistant Summer Camp Director for the 2015 Summer Camp season. Councilman DePew seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

Supervisor Croce stated that Stephanie has also asked for permission to start a Facebook Recreation Page that will give information to parents of Summer Camp children and other Town Programs. She stated that about 80% of camp parents use Facebook and it will be an easy way to notify camp parents of inclement weather or other changes in the camp schedule.

Supervisor Croce stated that she had already asked for and received approval for this Facebook page at a meeting earlier in the year. The Town Board had agreed to have the Facebook page as long as it was a secure page.

SECTION 5 – ASSESSOR MONTHLY REPORT – APRIL 2015

Councilman DePew read the Assessor's Monthly Report for April 2015. He read the Sales report stating that there were 24 transfers, 1 foreclosure, 5 arm's length transactions, 11 for vacant land, 6 for residential and 1 for commercial. He read that the sale price of residential homes only was \$265,490.

SECTION 6 – PLATTEKILL FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mr. James Hoppenstedt was present to speak with the Town Board on the request from the Plattekill Fire District to purchase the Town's half of the property that they jointly own. He stated that the Town's Attorney and the Fire District's Attorney had spoken and they had agreed that an agreement could be written to allow the Town access and use of the unused portion of the property, in the future, if a use presented itself.

Supervisor Croce stated that the Town Board would have to decide if they wanted to give up the half ownership of the property, if so, what compensation would be asked and if they were interested in having a right-of-way or easement agreement.

Councilman DePew stated that he felt the Town should convey their portion of the property to the Plattekill Fire District. It would be in the best interest of the residents as the intent is to build a training facility, a helicopter pad and a radio tower that can be used by other agencies besides the fire departments. He stated that he would like to see the Town compensated for the money that they put out to originally purchase it and he would like to see the Town enter into an agreement for a future easement.

Supervisor Croce stated that he was not sure an easement was what the Town would have. He stated that the Attorneys will have to work on the wording.

Councilwoman Delgado stated that she did not have a problem with selling the property to the Fire District. She stated that the Town hasn't done anything with the property in 15 years and we don't have any intentions for it at this time. The Fire District does have a use for it.

Mr. Hoppenstedt stated that he already has permission from the Fire District Board to pay the \$18,000.00 that was originally paid by the Town. Once we get this done, then we can begin to apply for grants.

Councilman Putnam stated that he agrees with the sale, but he is part of the Plattekill Fire Department and probably should not vote on this issue. He stated that some of the building funds will also come from Orange County as the Plattekill Fire District also includes part of Orange County.

Supervisor Croce stated that he agreed that Councilman Putnam should not vote on this issue.

* Councilman DePew made a motion to proceed with a letter of intent to sell the property to the Plattekill Fire District, so that we will have something to sign, including the payment amount of \$18,000.00 and that the Town will have a future entitlement to the property.

Councilwoman Delgado seconded.

On the vote: Supervisor Croce	Yes
Councilman Putnam	Abstained (he is part of Plattekill Fire Dept.)
Councilwoman Delgado	Yes
Councilman DePew	Yes

Supervisor Croce stated that he hoped Mr. Hoppenstedt realized why the Town wanted to move cautiously. He stated that he should have the Fire District's Attorney draw up a formal proposal for the Town Board to sign.

Mr. Hoppenstedt stated that he would have his Attorney contact Mr. Keller to get this started.

SECTION 7 – AWARD OF HAY BID

Supervisor Croce explained that the Town Board had not received a bid on the Haying of the Town Field so a legal notice was put in the newspaper again and one bid was received.

Supervisor Croce stated that on May 18, 2015 at 10:00 AM, one bid was received from Jody DePew and opened. The bid was for \$20.00 and included a non-collusion form.

* Councilwoman Delgado made a motion to award the Haying of the Field bid to Mr. Jody DePew and he will be paying the Town \$20.00 to hay the field.

Councilman Putnam seconded.

On the vote: Supervisor Croce	Yes
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Councilman Putnam	Yes
Councilwoman Delgado	Yes
Councilman DePew	Abstained (Jody DePew is a relative)

SECTION 8 – NEW COMPUTERS

Supervisor Croce stated that he has obtained a price quote for the three new computers which are from the State Bid. He stated that the Town Board has approved the purchase of these three computers and a transfer of funds will be done at the end of the meeting when we will be approving other transfers.

SECTION 9 – BUDGET AMENDMENT – POLICE VEHICLE PURCHASE

Supervisor Croce explained that the Town had received insurance money for one of the police cars that was in an accident and with this insurance money and a small amount from the Police Seizure Account, we were able to pay off a new replacement vehicle. The Town Board has to approve a budget amendment to transfer the funds to pay for the car.

RESOLUTION

Budget Amendment

Supervisor Croce made a motion to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Plattekill has approved an increase of expense line A3120.2 Police Equipment of \$33,639.30 and an increase in the revenue line of A2680 Insurance Recoveries in the amount of \$32,206.00 and A2770 Miscellaneous Revenues in the amount of \$1,433.30, and

WHEREAS, the increase will be used to pay for the purchase of a new police vehicle,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Plattekill, Ulster County, to amend the year 2015 General Fund Budget Line A3120.2 Police Equipment in the amount of \$33,639.30, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that funding will be supported by the receipt of monies in the amount of \$32,206.00 in insurance recoveries and \$1,433.30 from the Police Seizure Account.

Councilman DePew seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

SECTION 10 – HEPWORTH FARM

Supervisor Croce stated that Annie Hepworth was present this evening to speak to the Town Board about an Agricultural Exemption that she was looking to receive from the Town on property that she was leasing to raise crops.

Ms. Hepworth stated that last year she leased property at Plattekill Brook Farm which is partly in Gardiner and partly in Plattekill. She stated that she had received an ag exemption from Gardiner and Mr. Dunham had given her an ag exemption on the part of the property in Plattekill. Now she was back this year planting on Rt. 44-55 and Freetown Highway and she was expecting an ag exemption on this property also. She stated that she has leased this property for a long term and feels that they and the

Town of Plattekill are very fortunate that Mr. Brooks, the owner of the property, has chosen to lease this property to her for agricultural purposes. She stated that she has planted over 7 miles of tomato plants and has spent a lot of money to do so. She will be spending a considerable amount more to grow the plants and harvest the crops. She will also need workers to help and that is opening up jobs in the community. Her vegetables go to local stores.

Ms. Hepworth stated that at Hepworth Farm, they have a mission statement to increase food security and give to food growth. They have 200 to 300 acres. She stated that the Town of Plattekill is setting a precedent for not giving a family farm an ag exemption. She stated that agriculture is important to the lifestyle of a community and she would really like the Town to give them an ag exemption. She stated that they are really upset that the Town has decided not to give them the exemption.

Ms. Hepworth stated that she has already been in touch with the State and they are pro-agriculture. The State has taken the stance that they are in favor of agriculture. She stated that they are looking at changing the wording of the law so that this will not happen again.

Ms. Hepworth stated that they are an established farm and the exemption will make this affordable for them to keep the fields open and producing. Idle land is not really good for a Town and they want to feed people healthy food. She stated that they care about their employees and Mr. Brooks, who owns the property, is very supportive of what they are doing. She stated that they do not require any services of the Town and they will be purchasing goods and fuel to run the equipment from local stores. This is a win – win for the Town of Plattekill.

Supervisor Croce stated that he has contacted the Association of Towns, in Albany, for an opinion on the exemption law and they are in agreement that you would have to show 2 years of receipts before you can get an ag exemption. He stated that someone has told him that the Town Board could adopt a resolution to allow the exemption, but he has not validated this yet. He stated that he would contact Tom Jackson and see what he says. He stated that this is not an anti-agriculture Town. He stated that he did not have a problem with giving an ag exemption, but for every exemption given, the money has to be raised by others.

Ms. Hepworth stated that she felt that the Supervisor had a short sighted view of what will actually happen. People are so happy to see the land being used for agricultural purposes. They had an exemption at Plattekill Brook Farm in the first year. She stated that she was certain that Plattekill was setting a precedent. She stated that they made money last year and it didn't go into a bank; it went back into the community. She stated that they will be spending about 2 million dollars here this year and she can not understand why this is not being offered to them. Their reputation is very good.

Mr. Brooks, the owner of the property on Rt. 44-55 stated that he acquired the property in 2007 and he pays nearly \$30,000.00 in taxes on this vacant land. He stated that he cleaned up the property, got rid of the squatters, the Police have used the old buildings for training and then they were burned down. He stated that he has put up with a lot of squatters, trespassers and motorcycles. He stated that he has had people calling him to use the property for many intrusive things. He decided to lease to Hepworth Farm and they are going to plant crops.

Supervisor Croce stated that it is up to the Assessor to give an exemption or not.

Ms. Hepworth stated that there is no tax on food. There should not be any tax on growing the food. The whole State of New York is behind this.

Supervisor Croce thanked her for her comments.

SECTION 9 – SALT SHED REPAIRS

Supervisor Croce stated that the Highway Superintendent, Mr. Robert Wager, was present this evening to speak to the Town Board about repairs that are needed to the Salt Shed.

Mr. Wager stated that the Salt Shed was built approximately 30 years ago and is in need of repairs. He stated that the roof has been patched in the past, but the wind picks it up and it will only get worse. There are shingles that need to be replaced as well as needing to replace some of the outer sheeting. He stated that the posts and trusses seem to still be in good shape. He stated that these repairs can not be done in-house and will require prevailing wage. He was looking for approval to move forward by putting together a bid package. We can then go out to bid to see how much the repairs will cost. Once we have an idea of the cost, we can decide how to proceed with the repairs.

* Councilman DePew made a motion to authorize the Highway Superintendent to proceed to move forward with the bid package to fix the Salt Shed.

Councilman Putnam seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

SECTION 10 – TRANSFERS

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to transfer \$7,500.00 from the Highway Fund Budget line DA5110.4 General Repairs Contractual to the Highway Fund Budget Line #DA5120.4 Bridges Contractual to cover the cost of culvert pipe replacements. A copy of this complete transfer is attached to these minutes.

Councilwoman Delgado seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to transfer \$3,950.00 from V0200 the Landfill Debt Service Account to #A0200 General Fund Cash Account to cover the additional cost of well testing at the Landfill. A copy of this complete transfer is attached to these minutes.

Councilwoman Delgado seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

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

RESOLUTION

Budget Line Adjustments

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Plattekill has approved the increase of Budget Line A8160.4 Refuse/Garbage Contractual in the amount of \$3,950.00, and

WHEREAS, the monies will be used to offset the cost of well testing done at the Landfill,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Plattekill, Ulster County, to amend the Budget Line A8160.4 Refuse/Garbage Contractual, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the cost of this increase is covered from a transfer from the Landfill Debt Service Fund to the General Fund Cash Account.

A copy of this complete budget line adjustment is attached to these minutes.

Councilman DePew seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to transfer \$2,661.24 from H0203 the General Capital Savings to A0200 the General Fund Cash Account to cover the cost of a new equipment purchase (computers) for the Town Hall. A copy of the complete transfer is attached to these minutes.

Councilwoman Delgado seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

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

RESOLUTION

Budget Adjustment

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Plattekill has approved the purchase of (3) computers for \$2,661.24 (\$887.08 each) to be installed in various offices of the Town Hall, and

WHEREAS, the computers provided by Dell are being bought through State Bid and set up by NetEffex will create a more efficient working condition for the employees,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Plattekill, Ulster County, to increase the 2015 General Fund Budget line item #A1620.4 Buildings and Grounds Contractual in the amount of \$2,661.24, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that funding shall be supported by a transfer from the General Capital Project Account of \$2,661.24 to the General Fund Checking Account.

A copy of this complete budget adjustment resolution is attached to these minutes.

Councilman DePew seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

SECTION 11 – VOUCHERS

* Councilman DePew made a motion to pay the Voucher Detail Report dated 5/20/2015, which includes the General Fund amount of \$65,466.25, the Highway Fund amount of \$6,266.24, the Drainage district amount of \$1,140.90 and the Trust & Agency amount of \$804.33 for a total amount of \$73,677.72 recognizing that the Audit Committee has reviewed the claims and found them acceptable for payment.

Councilwoman Delgado seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

SECTION 12 – ADJOURNMENT

* Councilman DePew made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 PM.

Councilwoman Delgado seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.