

TOWN OF PLATTEKILL  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

August 17, 2016

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 Farrelly  
Councilwoman Delgado  
Councilman DePew

Councilman Putnam was absent.

MINUTES

\* Supervisor Croce made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the August 3, 2016 Regular Town Board Meeting.

Councilwoman Delgado seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

\* Supervisor Croce made a motion to accept the minutes from the August 3, 2016 Regular Town Board Meeting.

Councilwoman Delgado seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

ADDITIONS

Supervisor Croce stated that he only had one addition to the evening's agenda and that was to let everyone know that the budget season was just starting and he has handed out requests for department heads to submit their budgets for 2017. He stated that he has asked for the preliminary budget requests to be submitted to him by Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> and then he will put the preliminary budget together to give to the Town Clerk on Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>.

Supervisor Croce continued to explain that the Town Clerk has to present the preliminary budget to the Town Board by October 5<sup>th</sup>, which is the date of the first meeting in October. Then the Town Board will have to set up meetings with department heads to review their requests.

Supervisor Croce asked that the Town Board be aware that meetings with the department heads will be mostly in the evenings and they should try to make themselves available during this time period. He stated that he would have his secretary contact the department heads to see when they will be available and try to get some dates set up for the meetings.

The Town Board agreed that they would pick dates for the October budget meetings at the Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> Regular Town Board Meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mrs. Sis Morse stated that she received notification that the benches, for the Veteran’s Memorial, would be in place by November 11, 2016. The flag poles are being put in now, with five of them already in place.

Councilman DePew stated that he would suggest having a ceremony at the Veteran’s Memorial on Friday, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>, so that we would not interfere with the ceremony at Aloha Home Acres on Saturday. He stated that he felt a short ceremony from three to four in the afternoon would be good. He stated that he was also looking to do something for a “9-11” event.

The Town Board agreed that they should do something and this could be discussed further as the date gets closer.

There were no further comments or questions from the public.

\* Councilman DePew made a motion to close the Public Input section of the meeting at 7:17 PM.

Councilwoman Delgado seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

SECTION 1 – POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT – JULY 2016

Supervisor Croce read the Plattekill Police Dept. Monthly Report for July 2016. He read that there were 261 documented calls for service with 93 traffic tickets issued. There were 9 motor vehicle accidents handled by the Plattekill Police Dept. with 3 persons reporting injuries.

Supervisor Croce did not read the Police Blotter and let everyone know that a copy of this complete report could be obtained from the Town Clerk’s Office.

Supervisor Croce stated that the Detective’s worked several cases including 1 unauthorized use of a Credit Card, 1 robbery 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1 Grand Larceny 4<sup>th</sup>, 1 forcible touching, 1 burglary 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1 fraud and 1 criminal impersonation. They also closed many cases including 1 criminal possession of stolen property, 1 forcible touching, 1 robbery 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1 burglary 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Supervisor Croce finished by reading that the Red, White & Blue Fireworks Event went well and there were no incidents reported. He stated that the review of the cars found most to be in fair to good shape. Our Highway Dept. does a good job keeping them serviced and working well.

SECTION 2 – BUILDING DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT – JULY 2016

Councilwoman Delgado read the Building Department Monthly Report for July 2016. She read that there were 23 permits issued, 3 violations issued, 0 violations closed, 66 inspections done, 6 complaints taken, 7 municipal searches done and 8 CC & C of O’s issued. These numbers do not include returning phone calls and residents coming in for assistance with codes, building permits and zoning & subdivision issues.

SECTION 3 – DOG CONTROL MONTHLY REPORT – JULY 2016

Supervisor Croce read that there were 21 calls this month including 3 calls to service from the Plattekill PD, the State Police or the Ulster County Sherriff. He continued to read that there was 1 active complaint or case now closed or resolved, 1 open case that has been addressed, but is ongoing, no dogs

were impounded, 1 dog was redeemed, 1 dog was adopted out, no appearance tickets were issued, there were no dog bites and there are currently no dogs in the shelter.

Supervisor Croce read that Mr. McKee would like the Town to recognize the efforts of Bethany Odell, the Deputy Dog Control Officer, for all the work that she does thorough out the year finding homes for stray and abandoned dogs. The work she does behind the scenes, networking and seeking homes, is extensive, time consuming and at times frustrating. He read that she was able, against all odds, to place an adult stray pit bull in a home this past month.

Supervisor Croce stated that he feels Mr. McKee and Ms. Odell do a great job for our Town and he would like to specifically thank Ms. Odell for all that she does helping to place our stray dogs in homes. Thank you Beth!

There was a short discussion on the mileage that the Dog Control Officer submitted which showed that he came to the kennel almost every day, around the same time.

Supervisor Croce stated that he was remembering there were two dogs in the kennel last month and it looked like Mr. McKee was coming to the shelter to take care of these dogs; it was very hot. He stated that this does however lead to the question of how long we keep dogs in our kennel. He stated that he would speak with Mr. McKee about this question.

#### SECTION 4 – RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Supervisor Croce read the August Monthly Report for the Recreation Dept. He read that summer camp was a success, but Ms. Doland did have some recommendations for next year. One recommendation would be to go back to five weeks. She stated that less than half the campers stayed for the sixth week. The second recommendation would be to only have fourteen and fifteen year old campers as Councilors in Training and the third recommendation would be to have all the trips paid for by the first day of camp.

Supervisor Croce read that the Senior Picnic has been scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 PM, at the Thomas Felten Park. The rain date will be Saturday, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>. All seniors in Town are invited to attend for free. All participants must RSVP through the Town Recreation Dept. so that they can obtain a headcount for food. The picnic will have a Country Picnic theme as there will be country music and a line-dancing lesson.

Supervisor Croce stated that he would like to ask any members of the Town Board who would like to come and help out, to do so. Your help would be greatly appreciated. He stated that at the last event, he was the only Town Board member there.

Supervisor Croce finished reading the report by stating that the next Plattekill Resident Day at Rocking Horse Ranch Event has been scheduled for October 16, 2016 and tickets will be sold at the Plattekill Day Recreation Dept. Booth.

#### SECTION 5 – ASSESSOR MONTHLY REPORT – JULY 2016

Councilman DePew read the Assessor's Department Monthly Report for July 2016. He read that there were 10 Transfers, 5 arm's length and 5 residential. The sale price of residential homes only was \$256,400.

SECTION 6 – VERIZON UPDATE – COUNCILMAN DEPEW

Councilman DePew gave the Town Board a copy of price comparisons that he had just received from Verizon showing a day to day contract and a 2year contract, if the Town were to go to all Verizon lines. There was a one- time installation fee and a service order charge plus each line costing approximately \$40.00 for the day to day service and \$30.00 per line for the 2 year contract. There would then be long distance charges and other options that would all be paid for as extras.

Councilman DePew stated that his recommendation would be to only use Verizon for the six copper lines. He added that Verizon can also give us an “inside the facility” maintenance contract for \$8 to \$12 dollars, per month, per line.

There was discussion that we currently have twelve copper lines, four for the Police Dept. , two for the Highway Dept. , two for the Court, one for the Senior Center and the other three include the alarm and two other lines for the Town Hall. The Town Board had a few questions with line charges and what some of the extras would cost, such as roll over lines and forwarding a line.

Councilman DePew stated that the representative he spoke with did not have the answers to these questions.

Supervisor Croce stated that he was not sure what lines to eliminate. He stated that he did not feel comfortable with going to only six copper lines.

Councilman Farrelly stated that the Town Board has been discussing these phone companies for over a month. Who do we feel comfortable with using?

Supervisor Croce stated that he was not confident that Verizon was the way to go. They took a lot of time to respond to our questions. We want to do business with them and they can’t get back to us and when they finally do, they don’t have all the information. He stated that he also did not feel we should use all cable lines. He stated that he would have to choose staying with CornerStone at this time.

Councilwoman Delgado asked if we were happy with CornerStone?

Supervisor Croce stated yes, they are here as soon as we call them and they answer the phones with a live person ready to help us. He stated that he felt CornerStone has been a good company.

Councilman Farrelly stated that he remembers the representative from CornerStone saying that if we went with a 2year contract with them, they would give us more money savings incentives.

Supervisor Croce stated yes, he remembered that too. He stated that he could call Mrs. Dietrich to see what those savings incentives would be.

The Town Board was in agreement that we have waited this long to make a decision, they would wait one more meeting to make this decision on a one or two year contract with CornerStone.

Supervisor Croce stated that he would have the information for the next Town Board Meeting.

Councilman DePew questioned the infrastructure for the phone system in the Town Hall Building.

Mr. Robert Wager, the Highway Superintendent, was present and stated that most of the problems they have are when it is raining. The lines get static-y and crackle-y. He stated that he does not know what the answer is, but Verizon doesn’t want to do anything to try to fix it.

Supervisor Croce stated that he felt it was not something inside the Town Hall. It has to be outside to the other building.

There was discussion that the alarm should be on a dedicated line. There was a question as to whether the alarm would take over a line that someone happened to be using at the same time.

Supervisor Croce explained that the alarm at his business would take over the line if he were to be talking on it. He stated that he thought the alarm here at the Town Hall would do the same.

The Town Clerk stated that in the past, at times when the alarm has gone off by mistake, the alarm takes over the line and you cannot stop it.

Councilman DePew stated that it would make sense to him to have someone in here to check out the Town Hall lines.

Supervisor Croce stated that he would contact Mrs. Dietrich at CornerStone to get the information on a 1year contract and a 2year contract. He stated that he would e-mail her response to the Town Board members so that they can be prepared to make a decision at the next meeting.

#### SECTION 7 – LOGGING PERMIT – GREEN???

Supervisor Croce introduced Mr. Gabe DeBrita, a representative of Green Lumber Company L.P., who has put in an application to log property on New Unionville Road, SBL#102.3-4-3.2, owned by the Dalcott Corp.

Mr. DeBrita stated that his company is one of the largest logging companies in New York State and they have many forest rangers and foresters who have been doing these types of projects for many years. He explained that this was a selective cutting and the trees will be cut from the center of the property, staying away from the DEC wetlands across the back of the property.

The Highway Superintendent had given the Town Board a list of recommendations and the Town Board discussed these recommendations with Mr. DeBrita. They discussed that he should put up temporary signs, on the road, before and after the driveway area at the site, alerting traffic to “hidden driveway” and “Construction vehicles entering roadway”. He was also asked to limit the hours of operation of vehicles coming and going to avoid school busses (7-9:00AM & 3:00-5:00PM) because the road is rather narrow in spots. There was discussion on the run-off pad having to be 150 feet long and Mr. Wager indicated that he would work with Mr. DeBrita on this length if he would contact him to set up a meeting at the site. And the final recommendation was to have a flagger standing out on the street to help direct traffic when trucks are coming and going.

Supervisor Croce stated that Mr. DeBrita had sent out certified letters to the neighboring properties and had finally received his clearance letter from the DEC so he could proceed. The wetlands have been marked on the map.

Mr. DeBrita stated that he has not marked any trees in the wetlands area and he will not be disturbing any of the wetlands.

Supervisor Croce stated that he should make sure of this as he will probably be visited by the DEC and he will have to answer to them.

Mr. DeBrita made a suggestion that he could contact the Wallkill School District Bus Department to alert them as to when this project would be taking place so the bus drivers would have knowledge ahead of time that this situation would be on this bus route.

The Town Board agreed that this would be a good idea.

Mr. Wager stated that he would get the School phone number to him so he could make that call.

There were a few questions about the clean-up of the site and again Mr. Wager suggested that he contact him so they could work together on what he is doing.

\* Supervisor Croce made a motion, for the purpose of SEQR, that this is an unlisted action and the Town Board would be taking Lead Agency on this project.

Councilman DePew seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

\* Supervisor Croce made a motion to grant a Commercial Forestry Permit to Mr. Gabe DeBrita of Green Lumber Co. L.P., for the property, SBL#102.3-4-3.2, on New Unionville Road.

Councilwoman Delgado seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

Mr. DeBrita thanked the Town Board for giving him the logging permit.

#### SECTION 8 – EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT – PETER KRAS

Supervisor Croce introduced Peter Kras, a local Boy Scout, who wanted to do an Eagle Scout project for the Town.

Mr. Kras explained that he would like to move the large stone World War II Memorial, which is currently located at the Library Building, to a site in the new Veteran's Memorial on Patura Road. He stated that he has already spoken to Mr. Wager, the Highway Superintendent, and to Mrs. Morse, the head of the Veteran's Committee and they feel this would be a worthwhile project.

Mrs. Morse suggested that an article could be put in the newspaper letting people know that the Town is considering moving the Memorial at the Library and then comments and/or questions could be made at the September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Town Board Meeting.

The Town Board discussed that no one was really sure when the Memorial was put in at the Library Building, which used to be an elementary school. But if anyone had a concern about moving it, they could come and voice their opinion or make any comments at the Town Board Meeting.

Supervisor Croce stated that he felt bringing the Memorial to the site on Patura Road would give it more visitation. He stated that he did not think most people even know that it is at the Library building.

Councilman DePew stated that he would like to thank Mr. Kras for doing this project and he also feels it is a wonderful idea.

Supervisor Croce stated yes, he agreed, however he felt that we need to get the word out that we are considering doing this. He stated that he would send a letter to the Library and the Veteran's Committee to make sure that if someone wants to make a comment on moving the Memorial, that they are heard. He suggested that he could also contact Mrs. Paroli, who writes for the newspaper and maybe she will be able to put in a short article on this project.

Councilwoman Delgado stated that she would like to see it put on the website.

The Town Clerk suggested that Mr. Kras be a part of putting this article in the newspaper as part of his Eagle Scout Project. Then that article can be used for a poster and sent with the other letters so all the information about the project will be the same.

Mr. Wager suggested that the Town Clerk should publish a Legal Notice for a Public Hearing at the September 7<sup>th</sup> Town Board Meeting. This way comments can be taken and recorded as part of the official record. Then this can be added to Mr. Kras's project summary.

The Town Board agreed to have a Public Hearing on Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at 7:00 PM, or as soon as possible thereafter, for the moving of the Memorial Stone from the Library Building to the Veterans Memorial Site on Patura Road.

The Town Clerk stated that she would publish the Legal Notice for the Public Hearing.

Mr. Kras thanked the Town Board for their help on his Eagle Scout Project.

VOUCHERS

\* Councilman DePew made a motion to pay the Voucher Detail Report dated 8/17/2016, which includes: the General Fund amount of \$20,725.67, the Highway Fund amount of \$9,865.19, and the Trust & Agency amount of \$2,795.50 for a total amount of \$33,206.36 recognizing that the Audit Committee has reviewed the claims and found them acceptable for payment.

Councilwoman Delgado seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

\* Supervisor Croce made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 PM.

Councilman DePew seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.