

TOWN OF PLATTEKILL
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

March 21, 2018

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
Councilman Farrelly
Councilman Matthews
Councilman DePew

MINUTES

There were no minutes approved this evening.

ADDITIONS

Supervisor Croce stated that he had one addition for this evening.

1) Veteran's Committee Appointment:

Supervisor Croce stated that he had received a request from Mrs. Morse to appoint Mike Fowler to the Veteran's Committee.

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to appoint Mr. Mike Fowler to the Town of Plattekill Veteran's Committee.

Councilman DePew seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

PUBLIC INPUT

There were no comments from the public.

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to close the Public Input section of the meeting at 7:02 PM.

Councilman Farrelly seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

SECTION 1 – POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT – FEBRUARY 2018

Supervisor Croce read the Police Dept. Monthly Report for February 2018. He read that there were 196 documented calls for service with 100 traffic tickets issued. There were 8 motor vehicle accidents handled with 2 injuries reported.

Supervisor Croce did not read the Arrest Blotter section of the report stating that anyone who would like a copy can obtain one at the Town Clerk's Office.

Supervisor Croce read the Detective Report section which stated that they worked 3 Larceny cases, 2 Burglary cases, 1 Assist Adult Protective Services case, 1 Forcible Touching case, 1 Unattended Death case, 1 Fraud case, 1 Public Lewdness case and Assisted the FBI on a follow-up. They closed 1 Forcible Touching case with a joint investigation with the NYSP and the DA's Office.

Supervisor Croce read that all the Officers have completed Narcan Training and are equipped with Narcan Nasal Rescue Spray.

Supervisor Croce read that the Times Herald Record reported that the National Council for Home Safety and Security has ranked the Town of Plattekill the 21st safest Town in New York State. New York has a total of 932 Towns. He stated that he felt this was something that we, as a community, should be proud of.

Supervisor Croce read that Detective Riley has graduated the 2018 Leptondale Elementary School DARE Class. This is another fantastic accomplishment by Det. Riley in educating our youth of the dangers of alcohol, drugs and tobacco.

Supervisor Croce finished reading the report stating that all the patrol cars were in fair condition.

Councilman Putnam and Councilman Matthews both stated that they felt this program was good for our children and the community. The kids get to join in all the things that Det. Riley does with them and they get to yell and express themselves in a manner they really enjoy. This makes the learning fun and something they will remember.

Councilman Putnam stated that the DARE Officers from The Town of Marlboro and Newburgh were also there which shows all the support that this program receives.

SECTION 2 – DOG CONTROL MONTHLY REPORT – FEBRUARY 2018

Supervisor Croce read the Dog Control Monthly Report for February 2018. He read that there were 14 calls this month with 2 calls to service from the Plattekill PD, State Police or the UC Sherriff. He read that Mr. McKee responded to 6 active complaints and or cases that are now resolved, there are currently 2 open cases that have either been addressed but are on-going, he impounded 1 stray dog that has been redeemed by its owner, and he did not issue any appearance tickets this month.

Supervisor Croce continued to read that the 1 dog bite, that was reported on February 5th, resulted in 3 Ag & Market violations. The case went to Court and has been adjourned until April 23rd under a temporary stipulation agreement.

Supervisor Croce finished reading that Mr. McKee wanted to caution people that have electronic restraints on their pets as this seems to be leading to dog bite complaints. Delivery workers simply trying to walk up and knock on the front door or to leave a package on the front porch are being attacked. If you use an invisible fence, please create a safe drop area that is clearly marked outside the fence perimeter, or keep your dog inside.

SECTION 3 – BUILDING DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT – FEBRUARY 2018

Supervisor Croce read the Building Department Monthly Report for February 2018. He read that there were 10 Permits issued, 7 Violations issued, 1 Violation closed, 5 Complaints taken, 1 Complaint closed, 3 Complaints to Violations, 9 Municipal Searches done, 7 CC and C of O's issued and 73 total inspections done including complaints, buildings, violations, fire safety and C of C's & C of O's. These

numbers do not include returning phone calls and residents coming in for assistance with codes, building permits and Zoning & Subdivision issues.

SECTION 4 – ASSESSOR MONTHLY REPORT – FEBRUARY 2018

Supervisor Croce read the Assessor Monthly Report for February 2018. He read the Sales Report stating that there were 27 transfers, 3 Foreclosures, 15 armslength transactions, 2 vacant, 23 residential and 2 Mobile Homes. The Sale Price of residential homes only was \$186,500.00.

SECTION 5 – BUILDINGS & GROUNDS MONTHLY REPORT – FEBRUARY 2018

Councilman Farrelly read the Buildings & Grounds Monthly Report for February 2018. He read that the Department fixed various items at the Town Hall, Police Station, Transfer Station, Park, Salt Shed and Library building. The complete list can be obtained at the Town Clerk's Office.

SECTION 6 – RECREATION MONTHLY REPORT

Supervisor Croce read the monthly Recreation Report. He read that the indoor sports programs are over and they are looking to start the outdoor programs. There will be T-Ball starting on Tuesday, April 17. This program will be held on Tuesday nights at 6 PM and will cost \$15.00 per child. This event will be held on the field behind the Library.

Supervisor Croce continued to read that the Summer Camp will start on June 25th and the \$480.00 registration fee will cover all trips and the yearly T-Shirt. Parents will have the option to pay in 2 installments as long as it is paid in full by June 1st. After June 1st, Camp registration will be \$505.00. Registration has started as of March and there are a few children already signed up. There will be a Summer Camp Staff Meeting on Wednesday, June 13th at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall.

Supervisor Croce read that the Easter Egg Hunt has been scheduled for Saturday, March 24th with a rain date of March 31st. The event will start at 1:00 PM at the Thomas Felten Park and there will be plenty of egg free, peanut free and gluten free eggs for everyone.

Supervisor Croce finished this report reading that the Rocking Horse Ranch Community Day was a perfect weather day with everyone having a great time. The next one will be scheduled in October.

SECTION 7 – ACTING ASSESSOR RESOLUTION

Supervisor Croce explained that the Town Board was still looking for an Assessor for the Town. He stated that when we put an ad in the Times Herald Record newspaper, the ad was also put on the internet in the Hudson Valley Jobs website. There were 17 people who looked at the posting, but there was no one who filled out an application.

Supervisor Croce stated that since the last meeting, he has received some mail from the website "Indeed" that had been suggested for posting the job on the internet. This information came with a \$50.00 credit and he was thinking about looking into maybe posting it for a few weeks. He stated that he would have to continue to review how it works, but he will try it if it is not too expensive.

The Town Board members were in agreement that he should look further into this website.

Supervisor Croce continued explaining that at the last Town Board meeting, the Town Board had voted to hire Mr. Dunham and Mr. Sabia to work on the necessary paperwork that had to be done to

stay on schedule for the Assessor’s Office. What we need to do is have one of these Assessor’s designated as the Acting Assessor and they have agreed that it will be Mr. Sabia.

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to adopt the following Resolution #5:

RESOLUTION #5
TOWN OF PLATTEKILL
ACTING ASSESSOR

Supervisor Croce made a motion to adopt the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the position of Town of Plattekill Sole Assessor is currently vacant, and

WHEREAS, there are mandatory exemptions, assessments and grievances that must be considered and reviewed and filings and postings that must comply with the New York State Real Property Tax Schedule, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Plattekill must appoint someone to the position of Acting Assessor to carry out the duties and responsibilities to conform to this Schedule while this position is vacant,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Plattekill appoints Mr. Matthew Sabia as Acting Assessor until a permanent Sole Assessor is appointed.

Councilman Matthews 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			
Councilman Matthews	X			
Councilman DePew	X			

Councilman DePew asked if the Supervisor had spoken to Mr. Sabia to see if he could be a part-time Assessor for Plattekill?

Supervisor Croce stated that he had not had this conversation with Mr. Sabia and would think, since he asked for more hours for this year because he could not get all the work done with the hours that he had, that he would not be interested in doing the job on a part time basis.

Supervisor Croce stated that he had asked Mr. Dunham to announce that we were looking for a new Assessor or one that we could share with another Town, at an Assessor’s Association Meeting, but no one has responded.

Supervisor Croce stated that it is the type of job where you have to have the education to be certified in the position. We did hire Mr. Sabia because he was almost done with his classes and he finished them while he was working here. The problem is that now he has moved on.

Councilman Farrelly suggested that we put this position on the letter board in front of the Town Hall. We may get someone interested or someone may know someone else who would be interested.

The Town Board felt this would be a good idea.

Supervisor Croce stated that he would speak with the Publicist and see if she can get something put on the sign.

SECTION 8 – EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT – PATRICK LEONARD

Supervisor Croce introduced Mr. Patrick Leonard, a local Boy Scout from Troop #70 in Highland, who was interested in doing an Eagle Scout Project for the Town of Plattekill.

Mr. Leonard gave each Town Board member a booklet explaining that he would like to start an outdoor fitness area at the Thomas Felten Park. He stated that he would like to install three different pieces of fitness equipment that would be set up with mulch around them. There would also be an instructional sign explaining different ways the equipment can be used. Later on, if another Boy Scout wants to add more equipment pieces as their Eagle Scout Project, the area will already be designated.

Mr. Leonard went on to review what materials he would need to accomplish his project and his ideas for fundraising. He then asked the Town Board if they would give their approval on this project.

The Town Board was very interested in his project and thought it would be a good addition to the Town Park.

Councilman DePew asked if the location for this “area” had been chosen as yet? Will it be near the playground? There are teams that use the upper field behind the playground for some of their games.

Mr. Leonard stated that they were thinking about putting it back behind the pavilion toward the tree area. This would be at the top of the hill to the middle field where you can look out and see the mountains.

Mr. Wager, the Highway Superintendent and Facilities Manager, stated that he did not think it should be close to the playground as it is not playground equipment. He stated that this will be a fitness area and he did check with the Town insurance company and since it is not playground equipment, it is not subject to playground specifications. He stated that having it along the edge of the hill to the middle field may encroach a little, but it should not be a problem.

Councilman DePew stated that he felt this was a wonderful project for our Park.

Mr. Leonard stated that he has up to 4 years to raise the money for this project and he has a lot of ideas that are all listed on page 3 of his proposal.

Supervisor Croce stated that he felt Mr. Leonard has done a very impressive presentation and he is looking forward to seeing this project completed.

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to allow Mr. Patrick Leonard to move forward on his Eagle Scout Project and that he work with Mr. Wager on the specifications and location.

Councilman DePew seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

Councilman Farrelly suggested that Mr. Leonard might want to have a fundraiser booth at Plattekill Day for taking donations.

The Town Board felt this was another great idea.

SECTION 9 – TOWN CODE AMENDMENTS

Supervisor Croce stated that our Town Building Inspector, Scott Mandoski, has requested time to speak with the Town Board on two proposals to the Town of Plattekill Code.

Mr. Mandoski gave each councilperson copies of two proposed amendments to the Town Code and explained that he has run across several situations where having some direction from the Code would have been helpful.

Mr. Mandoski stated that the first amendment he would like to suggest was to Chapter 32, titled "Building Code Enforcement", "Enforcement; penalties for offenses". He stated that he was asking the Town Board to set up a section, in the Town Code, where it would indicate that after a Compliance Order or an Order to Remedy or a Notice of Violation has gone unanswered and the Town has exhausted all means to try to contact an owner of a property, that the Town can step in and have a building secured, or grass mowed, or abandoned vehicles removed or any other number of situations where something must be done for public safety and the cost for correcting the situation can be added to the property's tax bill.

Mr. Mandoski stated that the Town would originally have to pay for the bill to correct the situation out of the General Fund and then the General Fund could be reimbursed when the taxes are paid.

The Town Board discussed that a resolution would have to be adopted to authorize the work to be done and then we could not necessarily be reimbursed for several years. There was discussion that the charge would have to be either a lien on the property or a charge on the Tax Bill.

Mr. Mandoski stated that he was not sure exactly how to do this and felt that the Town Board should check with the Town Attorney to see if this was a possibility. He stated that this situation does not come up very often, however he does have one situation right now where the owner has passed away and the family does not seem to answer any messages or letters.

Supervisor Croce stated that he would check with the Town Attorney. If a lien was put on a property, it may not be paid when the property is sold.

Mr. Mandoski stated that he felt it would be better to have the amount added to the Tax Bill.

Councilman Matthews stated that he thought he has heard of other Towns, like the Town of Poughkeepsie, doing this. Maybe we should check around to see what other Towns are doing.

The Town Board asked Mr. Wager if this was something that the Town could hire the Highway employees to do and then they could pay the employees.

Mr. Wager stated that he would think the Town Board could pay the Highway employees out of the General Fund, but we would have to find out the legal procedure to do this. We would have to question where we would draw the line on what could be done.

The Town Board agreed that more research needs to be done.

Mr. Mandoski stated that his second amendment to the Town Code would be to regulate Clean Fill coming into the Town of Plattekill. He stated that he had given a copy of a local law to the Town Board to review. He stated that he has had several situations where people are accepting fill and soil from New York City and other places and the fill is contaminated.

Mr. Mandoski referenced several situations that have occurred in Town where the DEC was called in due to contaminated soil being dumped on people's properties. They are being paid to take the soil, but contaminated soil is not something we want being brought into our Town.

There was discussion on how much soil being dumped would trigger someone having to get a Permit from the Building Dept. as well as how much this permit would cost.

Mr. Mandoski stated that it would not include farms bringing dirt from one portion of the property to another. He is talking about dump trucks coming into our Town from outside our Town. He stated that he wants to be able to regulate the soil, so that it is not contaminated, and know where the dirt is

coming from. The truckers would have to get a permit and have the soil tested and give us an address of where the dirt is coming from.

Councilman Farrelly asked about the dirt that was coming into AK Farm on Rt. 32 in Modena?

Mr. Mandoski stated that the DEC went in and stopped him from taking any more.

Supervisor Croce stated that he did not see how we were going to be able to catch every truck coming into Town. He was just wondering how this was going to work. He stated that he would think someone would have to call in and say someone is dumping all this dirt in a particular location.

The Town Board asked Mr. Mandoski if he could check with other area Towns to see if they have any laws in regards to dumping dirt. The law Mr. Mandoski had given them was from Westchester County.

Supervisor Croce asked that the Town Board members review these requests and they can continue to discuss this at a future Town Board Meeting. He cautioned that the Town Board needs to be careful as we do not want to over regulate.

Mr. Mandoski stated that he was also looking to put something on the books about "trees and stumps" being buried on people's properties. This leads to problems with the ground sinking later on. He suggested that maybe this could be incorporated into this law also.

The Town Board agreed that more research needs to be done on both of these ideas and we need to find out if we can in fact add an extra fee on a tax bill.

Mr. Mandoski stated that he would do more research to see what other area Towns are doing for these issues and the Supervisor can contact the Attorney to see about adding additional fees to the tax bills.

SECTION 10 – REQUEST FROM GIRL SCOUTS

Supervisor Croce stated that he received a request from the Girl Scouts to use the parking lot at the Town Hall for distribution of Girl Scout cookies. He stated that they have done this in the past and did not see a problem with them using it again.

* Councilman Farrelly made a motion to allow the Girl Scout Troop the opportunity to use the parking lot of the Town Hall on either April 7th and/or April 8th, 2018 for the distribution of cookies.

Councilman Putnam seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

SECTION 11 – MOBILE HOME PARK LICENSES

Supervisor Croce stated that he had received a memo from the Building Dept. asking the Town Board to authorize the licenses for Mobile Home Parks for the Year 2017 and 2018 for the following Mobile Home Parks.

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to approve the following Mobile Home Park Licenses, for the years 2017 and 2018, to the Four Seasons, Rolling Acres, Rizzi Park, Vlamis Park, Modena Country Club, Dormir Park, Troutbrook, Aloha Homes Acres, DePew Park, Forest Park, Plattekill Mobile Park, Hideaway Acres, Timberbrook, Treeline, Foxrun Estates, Mountainview Park, Highland Inn Park, Maple Lane II, Joseph Acampora and Jorge III Acres aka Medina Park. A complete list of these Mobile Home Parks is attached to these minutes.

Councilman Putnam seconded.

On the vote: Supervisor Croce Yes

Councilman Putnam	Yes
Councilman Farrelly	Yes
Councilman Matthews	Abstained
Councilman DePew	Yes

SECTION 12 – AM VETS THANK YOU LETTER

Supervisor Croce stated that he had received a letter from Mrs. Pearl Morse, the chairperson for the Veteran’s Committee which she had asked him to read this evening. He read the letter which was a thank you from the AM Vets for the continued support of the Veteran’s Committee and the Town of Plattekill.

SECTION 13 – VOUCHERS

* Councilman DePew made a motion to pay the Voucher Detail Report dated 4/4/2018, which includes: the General Fund amount of \$ 21,877.72, the Highway Fund amount of \$15,888.05, the Clintondale Light District amount of \$682.23, the Modena Light District amount of \$1,286.35 and the Trust & Agency amount of \$2,411.78 for a total amount of \$42,146.13 recognizing that the Audit Committee has reviewed the claims and found them acceptable for payment.

Councilman Putnam seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

SECTION 14 – ADJOURNMENT

* Supervisor Croce made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 PM.

Councilman DePew seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.