

TOWN OF PLATTEKILL  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

August 15, 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

\* Supervisor Croce made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the August 1, 2018 Regular Town Board Meeting.

Councilman Putnam seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

\* Supervisor Croce made a motion to accept the minutes from the August 1, 2018 Regular Town Board Meeting.

Councilman Matthews seconded.

On the vote: all ayes

ADDITIONS

Supervisor Croce stated that he had four additions to the evening's agenda.

1. Police Officer for Plattekill Elementary School:

Supervisor Croce stated that, at the last meeting, the Town Board discussed that Chief Ryan and he were contacted about providing an officer to the Plattekill Elementary School on a full time basis, for the school year. He stated that he has recently received a draft contract for providing this officer and he has forwarded it to our Town Attorney and NYMER. He stated that the Town is proposing to charge \$30.00 per hour for the Officer to cover all expenses.

Councilman DePew stated that he felt it was a good idea to have an officer in the school throughout the school year; however he was not sure how it would affect our Police Dept. by putting someone on as a "full time" employee.

Chief Ryan stated that the Governor feels that there is a need to have an officer at each school to deter an attack. He stated that he did not want to hire a full time officer for the Department. He stated that he felt he had two part time officers already in the Department who would be good for this type of situation. He stated that he felt that one officer could do three days a week and the other could do 2

days a week. Then the two officers can switch days the following week. This should work out for the part time status we currently have. He stated that one of the officers he would like to use for this situation is female and has a small child. She should work out very well. He stated again that he was not looking to hire a new officer at this time.

Supervisor Croce stated that the other side of this is also that the regular school year is actually in 2 separate years as far as for budgeting and hourly wages are concerned. So half the hours will be documented in one year and the other half of the hours will be documented in the next year. This also gives us flexibility when calculating "part time" hours.

Chief Ryan stated that there is a school resource officer training course being given nearby and he is planning on sending these two officers to this class. He explained that they will not be working in this specific capacity, however the class will give them extra information on how to address many different situations that might come up.

There was some discussion on whether the Chief would have enough officers to cover the regular Town Patrol Schedule with these two officers spending time at the school building.

Chief Ryan stated that he was sure he could cover the regular patrols. And we have recently hired four new officers who should be finishing up their training soon.

Councilman Matthews stated that he felt it was great that kids will get to see officers as a friend and a person to go to for help.

Supervisor Croce stated that they were all working to try to get this contract done and signed to get the officers in the school on the first day. He stated that the problem is that the Town Board will not be meeting again until after that day. He stated that he felt the Town Board was for this happening and asked if they would approve him signing the contract when it is done so that this matter could move forward. He asked that the Town Board make a motion to approve his signing the contract with minimal changes.

Chief Ryan stated that he wanted the Town Board to know that he was going to be giving a clear outline to these two Officers, as to what they can and cannot do. This way there will be no confusion. They will be there as Safety Officers and they will be introduced to the Teachers and other Staff members, as such, before school starts.

\* Councilman DePew made a motion to give the Supervisor authorization to sign the contract/agreement with the Wallkill School District, when it has been finalized.

Councilman Putnam seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

## 2.Eagle Scout Project :

Supervisor Croce informed everyone that there would be a ceremony next Wednesday, August 22, 2018, at 7:00 PM at the Town Library Building to remove the Veteran's Memorial Plaque that has been a memorial for Veterans for many years. It was decided to move this plaque to the new Veteran's Memorial being built on Patura Road, across the street from the Town Park and one of the Boy Scouts from a local Troop is doing this location transfer for his Eagle Scout Project. Everyone is invited to attend and a re-dedication at the new site will be scheduled soon.

3. Donation of Property To Town:

Supervisor Croce explained that Mr. Alonzo, a Town Resident, would like to donate a small, triangular, quarter-acre piece of land, on Rt. 32, just south of Ridge Road, to the Town. He has been paying the taxes on this small piece of property for many years and now he is moving to Florida and does not want to keep it anymore. He thought that maybe the Town Highway Dept. could use it for storing material or equipment.

Supervisor Croce stated that he spoke with Mr. Wager, the Highway Superintendent, and he did not see that it would be of use to him or the Town.

There was discussion that the piece was very small and should maybe be given to someone who owns adjoining property.

Supervisor Croce stated that he thought Mr. Alonzo had stated that he did offer the property to adjoining property owners, but no one was interested.

The Town Board stated that they did not feel this piece would be useful to the Town and if the Highway Superintendent also doesn't see a use for it, then they would not be interested in making it Town property.

Supervisor Croce stated that he would speak with Mr. Alonzo and let him know that the Town is not interested in taking over this piece of property.

4. Indoor Sports:

Supervisor Croce stated that last year the Rotary Club requested the use of the Plattekill Elementary School for Monday and Tuesday evenings and held a basketball session for children. This was the same program that the Town of Plattekill has run for many, many years from November to March on Wednesday and Thursday nights. This all became a problem last year as many parents thought that the Rotary basketball session was the Town basketball session and therefore since the Rotary did theirs the month before, the Town session did not get many children.

Supervisor Croce stated that Stephanie and he had contacted the Rotary Club to see what could be worked out for this year as we did not want the same confusion to happen again. He stated that the Rotary Club did not want to work with us or make changes to their session. He stated that Stephanie was upset, but it is his opinion that we let them do the basketball session and we could use Wednesday and Thursday evenings to do a soccer program.

The Town Board discussed the situation and everyone felt that doing a soccer program with skills and drills would be good as many elementary aged children are just starting out in soccer. They can learn the rules and work on their technique and accuracy.

Councilman Putnam asked if the Officer that the Town is providing for security at the school would be there for events at the school? He stated that he did not mean for these recreation sessions, but if there is a parent-teacher night or a school dance or science fair?

Supervisor Croce stated no, the Officer is not for that, but he will check with the Chief to make sure this is covered in the agreement.

PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input at this time.

SECTION 1 – POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT – JULY 2018

Councilman DePew read the Police Department Monthly Report for July 2018. He read that there were 204 documented calls for service and 73 Traffic Tickets issued. There were 12 motor vehicle accidents with 2 injuries reported.

Councilman DePew continued reading that there were 4 Burglary cases and 1 unattended death case worked by the Detectives with no cases closed. The Red, White and Blue Celebration went well without any incidents and they are working with the Wallkill Central School District to fund an Officer at the Plattekill Elementary School.

SECTION 2 – BUILDING DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT – July 2018

Supervisor Croce read the Building Department Monthly Report for July 2018. He read that there were 31 Permits issued, 8 Violations taken, 1 Violation closed, 6 Complaints taken, 1 Complaint closed, 2 Complaints to Violations, 14 Municipal Searches done and 16 CC & C of O's done. There were 112 inspections done for complaints, buildings, violations, fire safety, C of O's and C of C's with no Storm Water Out Fall Inspections done. 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 DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT – JULY 2018

Supervisor Croce read the Dog Control Monthly Report for July 2018. He read that there were 16 calls this month including 4 calls to service from the Plattekill PD, the State Police or the Ulster County Sherriff's Dept. He read that the Department responded to 2 cases that have now been closed or resolved, 2 open cases that have been addressed but are ongoing, there were 3 Ag & Markets tickets given and there are currently 2 dogs in the kennel. He finished by reading that there were no dog bites reported, there are no dangerous dog cases in the Court, but there is 1 potential dangerous dog complaint under investigation.

SECTION 4 – ASSESSOR DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT – JULY 2018

Supervisor Croce read the Assessor's Department Monthly Report for July 2018. He read that there were 3 transfers, 2 armslength transactions and 2 residential sales. He read that the sale price of residential homes only was \$280,000.00.

SECTION 5 – RECREATION REPORT

Supervisor Croce read the Recreation Dept. Report. He read that Summer Camp was over and they had a very successful season averaging approximately 75 campers per day. He read that compared to last year, there were less campers and more staff, but it worked out well as there were a few campers that required extra attention. He read that even though there was extra staff, they were still able to stay within the budget.

Supervisor Croce read that Ms. Doland wanted to thank Stewarts of Modena (each camper received a free make your own Sundae), Hurds Family Farm (an entire day was spent there), Camp Redwood (they are hoping to spend at least 2 Fridays there next year), the Plattekill Elementary School (for Wednesdays and rainy days spent there) and the Summer Youth Employment Program of Ulster County (they pay for one camp counselor each season).

Supervisor Croce read that Rocking Horse Ranch Day will be on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Tickets are going on sale at 5:00 PM at the Town Hall on September 6<sup>th</sup>. The cost per person is \$30.00 and residents need to bring proof of residency and pay by check or money order. There is also a limit of 6 tickets per address.

Supervisor Croce stated that he would check with Ms. Doland to make sure she is giving the option to purchase tickets to anyone who came after the tickets were sold out last time.

#### SECTION 6 – BUILDINGS & GROUNDS DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT – JULY 2018

Councilman Matthews read the Buildings & Grounds Department Monthly Report for July 2018. He read that they fixed the toilet in the men’s room of the Highway Garage, checked the air conditioner at the Town Hall, set up and cleaned up from the Red, White & Blue Celebration, unclogged the men’s toilet and reinstalled a broken step on the climbing equipment at the Park, installed a new “permit required” sign at the Transfer Station and worked on the addition at the Police Station.

#### SECTION 7 – PARK PROPOSAL UPDATE

Supervisor Croce stated that Dwight Dougherty and he wife Laura were present this evening to discuss the committee that they were going to set up after their Park Improvement Presentation in May of this year. He stated that he was still in favor of having the committee, which the Town Board can recognize as a Town Committee.

Councilman Farrelly stated that he wanted to know what they had gotten done since their first presentation.

There was discussion on setting up the Committee and how the Town Board can establish a town committee, just like they did for the Veteran’s Committee.

Mr. Dougherty explained that they did ask a few people to be on the core committee. They asked Rebecca Dawes, Sis Morse, Patty and Ricky Brooks and Councilman Matthews as he could be the liaison to the Town Board. He stated that he would suggest these people because they each bring a different prospective to the committee.

Councilman Farrelly stated that he would like to be considered as an alternate to the Committee in case Councilman Matthews could not make a meeting.

Mr. Dougherty stated that he felt these people could make up the core committee while they are getting started and if there were to be a project, they could take on volunteers for those sub-committees.

Mrs. Dougherty stated that she felt this core committee would work to put together a survey and they could put together small presentations for groups such as the senior group or a church group, so people could voice their opinions and ideas.

Councilman DePew stated that he felt this was a great idea, but he wondered about how they are going to get this out to the general public. He stated that he had received several calls about a survey and a Facebook page.

Mrs. Dougherty stated that she had received about 18 survey answers before she pulled it off of Facebook. She heard there were some issues about having the Facebook page so she pulled it off.

Supervisor Croce stated that he felt having the Facebook page was probably a good idea, he just felt that the Town Board should have known about it so if we got questions about it, we would know it was there.

Ms. Dougherty stated that from the conversation at the presentation in May, she thought that she could do the Facebook page.

Supervisor Croce stated that he would take the hit on this as the Town Board was probably not forthcoming with what we wanted or expected to have you do. He explained that this Committee should probably be run like the Veteran’s Committee and have minutes that are sent to the Town Board so we know what is going on.

There was further discussion on the meeting being an open meeting and it should be held in a location where others interested can attend and listen to what is going on. There was discussion that meetings could be held at the Town Hall or some other public location.

Mr. and Mrs. Dougherty felt that until the Committee gets started and sets up how they want to run the Committee, it should be just the Committee meeting. Later on, when there are projects that we are working on, then we can have meetings that involve other interested residents.

The Town Board understood what they were saying, but felt that they should set up some schedule that can be mentioned to residents who want to get in contact with the Committee.

Supervisor Croce stated that we now have a recommendation for seven people to be on this committee, therefore,

\* Supervisor Croce made a motion that the Town Board establish a Citizens Committee to study the expansion of Thomas Felten Park and the members will be Dwight Dougherty, Laura Dougherty, Patricia Brooks, Ricky Brooks, Rebecca Dawes, Pearl “Sis” Morse, and Councilman Darryl Matthews. Councilman Putnam seconded.

On the vote: Supervisor Croce	Yes
Councilman Putnam	Yes
Councilman Farrelly	Yes
Councilman Matthews	Abstained
Councilman DePew	Yes

Supervisor Croce stated that the next step is to get the word out that we are taking input.

Mr. Dougherty stated that, at the only meeting they have had so far, they did discuss using Facebook and that they could make up a flier/tri-fold to hand out. He stated that he had a sample copy with him and he showed it to the Town Board. It discussed the Committee’s mission to develop sustainable and safe park facilities for all Town Residents on one side and had a survey asking for suggestions on the other.

There was discussion that the flier looked great in color, however it would cost a substantial amount to produce it and it would cost much more to send it out to all “occupants” in the Town. This brought the discussion back to the Facebook page again and that the survey should be on there so people could access it on line. It was also suggested that the Town put a bulletin on the front page of the website so that anyone going there would be able to see a survey is available on line.

Supervisor Croce stated that this probably would be the best way to get it out to everyone.

\* Supervisor Croce made a motion to authorize the Thomas Felten Park Project Committee to design a Facebook page.

Councilman Putnam seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

Supervisor Croce stated that he would speak with the Publicist to have a line put on the website indicating that people should go to the Facebook page for the survey.

Councilman DePew stated that he still felt we should have some fliers printed and the Town Board discussed that maybe our new printer can print them in color.

The Town Clerk stated that she was not sure, but she would check it out with the company we purchased the new copy machine from. She stated that it does seem to print some things in color and it does save the papers that are scanned in, in color. She stated that she would have to figure out how to do this.

Mrs. Dougherty stated that she would get a digital copy to the Town Clerk so she can see if she can get it to print in color.

It was discussed again that the Park Project Committee should think about having a booth at Plattekill Day so that people can stop by and fill out the survey there.

Mr. and Mrs. Dougherty stated that they were thinking about having the booth and allowing people to access the survey on their lap tops. The more surveys that can be done on line will automatically be calculated by the survey company. Those on paper will have to be done manually.

Supervisor Croce suggested that they contact Mrs. Byrnes to see if they could have their booth near the wifi hotspot at the Park so they can use the computers.

The Town Board thanked Mr. and Mrs. Dougherty for coming in this evening to get all this figured out and asked that they contact the Supervisor's office if and when they want to speak with the Town Board. They are welcomed at any future meeting, even if it is during public input.

#### SECTION 8 – BUDGET MEETING DATES

Supervisor Croce stated that he just wanted to let everyone know that he has sent out budget requests to all the departments and wanted to urge the Town Board to be prepared to have budget meetings, in the evenings starting in early October.

#### SECTION 9 – EXECUTIVE SESSION

\* Supervisor Croce made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 9:08 PM to discuss PBA Negotiations.

Councilman Putnam seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

\* Councilman DePew made a motion to close Executive Session and re-open the Regular Town Board Meeting at 9:18 PM.

Councilman Putnam seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

#### SECTION 10 – VOUCHERS

\* Councilman DePew made a motion to pay the Voucher Detail Report dated 8/15/2018, which includes: the General Fund amount of \$ 39,179.94, the SA – Clintondale Light District amount of \$673.38, the SB-Modena Light District amount of \$1,215.68 and the Trust & Agency amount of \$247.50

for a total amount of \$41,316.50 recognizing that the Audit Committee has reviewed the claims and found them acceptable for payment.

Councilman Putnam seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

SECTION 11 – ADJOURNMENT

\* Councilman DePew made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 PM.

Councilman Putnam seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.