

TOWN OF PLATTEKILL  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

January 16, 2019

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 three additions to the evening's agenda:

1.E-Rock Soccer:

Supervisor Croce stated that he had received a request from Eric Watson to run his soccer camp at the Park again this year. He stated that he wanted to have his camp the week after the Town Camp so that children attending the Town Camp could also attend his camp. He will be there from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Monday thru Thursday and 9:00 AM to 12 noon on Friday the week of July 29<sup>th</sup> to August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The Town Board discussed that he would pay the same fee as last year and supply proof of insurance.

\* Councilman DePew made a motion to allow Mr. Eric Watson to rent the Town Park for his E-Rock Soccer Camp, as he has done in the past.

Councilman Matthews seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

2.Building Inspector Interviews

Supervisor Croce stated that Mr. Dan Kelly would be leaving his position as Building Inspector II on March 14<sup>th</sup> and he would like to set interviews for the four applications that we currently have.

The Town Board decided that they could do interviews on either Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> or the 30<sup>th</sup> or the 31<sup>st</sup> or Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>.

Supervisor Croce stated that he would have his secretary contact the applicants to see what day most of them could make it in for an interview. He will then let the Town Board members know what has been set up.

The Town Board discussed whether to invite Mr. Mandoski to attend the interviews and it was decided to let him know what day they are set up and he can make the decision to attend or not.

### 3. Police Transfer of Funds Request

Supervisor Croce read a memo from the Police Chief, Joe Ryan, asking for the Town Board to transfer funds to cover an unexpected cost for computer tech support. It seems the County purchased a new program for the radios and the Towns had to obtain technical support to make their radios and laptop systems compatible. This is a transfer for 2018 funds.

\* Supervisor Croce made a motion to transfer \$1,697.73 from the General Fund Budget Line #A3120.200 Police Equipment to the General Fund Budget Line #A3120.400 Police Contractual to cover unexpected 2018 information technology work that was done on the Police Department's new computer and communication systems.

Councilman DePew seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

Supervisor Croce stated that he did meet with the Chief to see what could be done to make sure these types of transfers are done in a timelier manner and it was decided that they will receive quarterly reports on their budget during the year. This way they can keep a better track of their financial situation.

### PUBLIC INPUT

Mrs. Pearl Morse stated that the Veteran's Committee Meeting that was scheduled for this Thursday, Jan. 17, 2019, has been canceled.

Mrs. Morse also wanted to know how long the Town's Contract with the Optimum Cable Company was. She stated that many seniors have been complaining that their bills keep going up every few months. They are not happy with Optimum.

Supervisor Croce stated that the contract was just renewed a few years ago and it is for 15 years. We received a lot of funding from them for technology by signing on for an extended period of time.

Supervisor Croce explained that there is not much that can be done with getting another company in Town. Optimum has put in all the infrastructure and if we go with another company, they would have to put in their own lines. They would not be allowed to use the Optimum lines. There are other options such as dish or satellite companies.

Councilman Matthews stated that there are a few other ways to get around it if you play the game. There are attachments that can be purchased to pick up the main stations such as CBS, NBC and Fox.

Mrs. Morse stated that she also wanted to mention that she was very proud that we have many youth in Town who are joining the military. The most recent one is Willard Sutton's grandson. He is graduating with military honors.

The Town Board stated that they had heard he was doing well.

Mrs. Morse started to bring up discussion on the Park Project Committee. She suggested that the Town Board should have a meeting with the members.

Supervisor Croce stated that he did not have a problem with the members attending a Town Board Meeting and speaking on the open floor. He stated that there are two meetings a month. He stated that this item was on the agenda, for discussion, later in the meeting.

The Town Board decided to discuss the situation now, since Mrs. Morse had started the conversation. Supervisor Croce stated that this Town Board has stated before that they were in favor of moving forward.

Mrs. Pattie Brooks was also present in the audience and she is also a member of the Park Project Committee. She stated that there was an issue with the Town Board picking the Chairperson of the Committee. Usually the chairperson is picked by the members of the committee and then the Town Board finalizes the decision. She also stated that the Committee was not notified that a chairperson had been chosen.

Supervisor Croce stated that he had many e-mails back and forth with the Committee and he did mention that the Town Board had chosen Councilman Matthews so that he could keep the Town Board up to date on what the Committee was doing. He stated that, at the time, he remembers two members were on vacation.

Mrs. Brooks stated that she did not want to argue the matter, but the fact remains that there are hurt feelings. She stated that people felt they were displaced as they had taken over the leadership role within the Committee. There seems to be a lack of communication.

Supervisor Croce stated that the Town Board did not intend to hurt anyone's feelings, but since this is a Town Committee, they felt it would be a good idea to have a Councilperson on the Committee to keep the Town Board up to date and the Committee moving forward with putting together a Master Plan for the Park. The Chairperson does not have to be the person running the meeting.

Mrs. Brooks stated that she would agree to disagree with that statement. The Chairperson is the one who keeps the committee on track and gives direction to the members. She stated that any Committee she has been a part of, the Chairperson is the one who runs the Committee.

Councilman Farrelly stated that Councilman Matthews put out an e-mail to ask everyone to come in this evening to discuss this matter and look who is here.

Councilman DePew stated that his intention was not to insult anyone. They came in here and gave a wonderful presentation. There are a lot of people who have ideas. We weren't intending to insult anyone. He stated that he did not feel that things are going to happen immediately, they are going to take a while. He stated that they want to see the Park progress and while it may not look like it has, there have been many Boy Scout projects that have happened there, with more scheduled soon. We need to move forward in baby steps and they have to realize whatever happens at the Park will have to also be maintained.

Mrs. Brooks stated that the main goal for the Committee is to do a Master Plan and Mr. Matthews has done a great deal of research on this.

Councilman Matthews stated yes, he needed to do work to catch up to what needs to be done. If there were communication problems, they should be better as we move forward.

Councilman DePew stated that a Master Plan is a living document and it will constantly change.

Mrs. Morse stated that there seems to be mis-communication.

Supervisor Croce stated that he is somewhat bewildered that if there was unhappiness with members of the Committee, why were those members not here this evening? So if there is mis-communication, does that mean that we are done?

Both Mrs. Morse and Mrs. Brooks stated that they were not done.

Councilman DePew asked if the Committee would be able to move forward from here?

Mrs. Brooks stated yes, she knows the Committee can move forward.

Councilman DePew stated that they realize that they are not going to be here forever. We did not want to micro-manage the Committee.

Councilman Putnam stated that when they appointed Councilman Matthews as Chair, it was much like a liaison position.

Councilman Matthews stated that his "position" didn't matter to him, he will always be a member.

Supervisor Croce stated that a liaison is not a member. A liaison just reports what is going on at the meetings. He read the definition of liaison as per the Re-Organization meeting minutes.

Supervisor Croce stated that he would agree we may have gotten off on the wrong foot. He felt that the Committee would come up with concrete things to do and how we would pay for them. Then they would have to come back to the Town Board.

Mrs. Morse stated that when the Veteran's Committee was first started, they had a planner to help them, but this just didn't seem to work out. Then they started to work with the Highway Superintendent because he would be the one to continue the maintenance for whatever we do and the projects flowed much better. She stated that sometimes it just takes a while to get going in the right direction. We just had to find our way.

Supervisor Croce stated that we are at this point and we have to figure out how to move forward from here. He asked Councilman Matthews, Mrs. Morse and Mrs. Books if they felt it would be good for them to meet with the rest of the Committee and discuss what was said this evening? He stated that he did not see a problem with the Committee moving forward with its current members, but that is their decision.

Councilman DePew stated that the way the structure is set up now is the correct way. We are sorry that people's feelings were hurt, but this is an exploratory Committee. He stated that he felt the survey should be put out there and that it should not be removed. He stated that he felt the survey was a good tool that the Committee can use.

Supervisor Croce stated that he just wanted to say that the night that Councilman Matthews was appointed, he sent an e-mail to the Dougherty's that the Town Board did have a discussion and that Councilman Matthews could fill them in on what happened.

Councilman Matthews stated that he did meet with them and discussed what was done at the meeting.

There was also discussion that having Councilman Matthews on the Committee would be good for grants and other issues.

Mrs. Brooks stated then she is to understand the Town Board wants to keep Councilman Matthews as the Chairperson.

Supervisor Croce stated yes, and he sees this Committee as a huge undertaking and he appreciates everyone who serves on this Committee.

There was discussion that the Committee was meeting on the first Monday of the Month and Councilman Matthews stated that he would like to see this continue. Then they can post it on the website.

Supervisor Croce stated that if they feel that this was their idea and they feel we are slighting them, there is no slight intended. If we need to switch the Chairperson down the road, then we can look into doing this; the Town Board would consider their recommendation.

Supervisor Croce finished the conversation by saying Thank you to Mrs. Morse and Mrs. Brooks for coming in this evening and taking on this responsibility. We do have to allow these Committees to do their work, but the Town Board does have the oversight.

There were no further comments or questions from the public.

\* Supervisor Croce made a motion to close the Public Input section of the meeting at 8:24 PM. Councilman Farrelly seconded. On the vote: all ayes.

SECTION 1 – POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT – DECEMBER 2018

Supervisor Croce read the Police Department Monthly Report for December 2018. He read that there were 145 service related calls with 59 traffic tickets issued. There were 14 motor vehicle accidents handled with 4 injuries reported.

Supervisor Croce did not read the Arrest Blotter and reminded everyone that this complete report could be obtained in the Town Clerk’s Office.

Supervisor Croce read that the Detectives worked 1 Burglary Case, 2 Fraud Cases, 1 Grand Larceny Case and 1 Unlawful Surveillance Case. He read that all four of the newly hired Police Officers have completed their MPTC Police Academy Training.

Supervisor Croce finished reading that all the vehicles were in good shape.

SECTION 2 – BUILDING DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT – DECEMBER 2018

Supervisor Croce read the Building Dept. Monthly Report for December 2018. He read that there were 10 Permits issued, 6 Violations taken, 0 Violations Closed, 2 Complaints taken, 1 Complaint Closed, 0 Complaints to Violations, 7 Municipal Searches done and 10 CC & C of O’s issued. There were a Total of 87 inspections done including complaints, buildings, violations, fire safety and C of O’s and C of C’s. These numbers do not include returning phone calls and residents coming in for assistance with codes, building permits and Zoning and subdivision issues.

SECTION 3 – ASSESSOR DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT – DECEMBER 2018

Supervisor Croce read the Assessor Dept. Monthly Report for December 2018. He read that there were 20 Transfers, 4 Foreclosures, 7 Armslength Transactions, 5, Residential, 1 Commercial and 1 Mobile Home. The Sale Price for residential homes only was \$220,214.00.

SECTION 4 – DOG CONTROL MONTHLY REPORT – DECEMBER 2018

Supervisor Croce read the Dog Control Monthly Report for December 2018. He read that there were 14 calls this month with 5 calls to service from the Plattekill PD, the State Police or the Ulster County Sherriff Dept. He read that there were 2 active complaints or cases that are now closed or resolved, 2 open cases that have been addressed but are still ongoing, 0 dogs impounded, 0 dogs in the kennel and there were no appearance tickets issued.

Supervisor Croce finished reading the report stating that the dog bite case from 7/29/18 has been assigned to the New Paltz Court and they are waiting for a hearing date and the dog bite from 9/19/18, on Country Knolls Road, is scheduled to be in Plattekill Court on January 15, at 6:00 PM.

SECTION 5 – RECREATION DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

Supervisor Croce read the Recreation Department Monthly Report. He read that the Summer Camp Program for this summer has been scheduled for 5 weeks from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at a cost of \$500.00 per child. This cost will include the T-Shirt, All the Trips and Pool Days. The payment can be made in full or in 2 equal payments with the final payment received by Wednesday, June 5, 2019. Any payment after this date will have a \$25.00 late fee charge. There will be a C.I.T. (Counselor In Training) Program for youths 14 & 15 years old. The cost for them is \$100.00 to cover their T-Shirt and Trips. There will be a Camp Staff Meeting held on Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup> here at the Town Hall at 7:00 PM.

Supervisor Croce asked the Town Board if they were agreeable to the Camp fee and fee schedule.

The Town Board stated that they felt Ms. Doland was doing a great job and however she wanted to set this up was agreeable with them.

Supervisor Croce read that Rocking Horse Ranch Day would be held on March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019 from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM at a cost of \$35.00 per person. Tickets will be on sale at the Town Hall at 5:00 PM on Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>. Check or Money Order made out to the Town of Plattekill. No cash will be accepted.

Supervisor Croce read that Ms. Doland wanted to say “Thank You!” to the Town Board for her new computer. Supervisor Croce explained that the Bookkeeper received a new computer so Ms. Doland got her older one. She is very happy.

SECTION 6 – BUILDINGS & GROUNDS MONTHLY REPORT – DECEMBER 2018

Supervisor Croce read the Buildings & Grounds Monthly Report for December 2018. He read that the recyclables were removed and the heating units were both repaired in the Highway Garage, the ropes and hardware for the flags were replaced and the supplies for the wall project were planned, researched and ordered for the Town Hall, the hardware and ropes for the flags were replaced and the Christmas lights were purchased and installed for the tree lighting at the Park, all ropes and hardware for the flags were replaced at the Veteran’s Memorial and the Library, the AC unit at the Transfer Station was placed in storage and more work was done on the addition at the Police Station.

SECTION 7 – HISTORICAL SOCIETY – SAFE

Supervisor Croce stated that the Town Board has already heard about the insurance on the Town items loaned to the Historical Society. He stated that he asked about the safe and the voting machine, and they are only interested in the safe which can be moved by the Highway Dept. at a time to be set up.

Councilman DePew asked about the voting machine and the glass case?

Supervisor Croce stated that we are still looking for someone to take the voting machine; maybe someone at the Fair Grounds Historical Section. The glass case is staying here.

SECTION 8 – PARK EXPANSION PROJECT COMMITTEE

Supervisor Croce stated that this item was already discussed during Public Input.

SECTION 9 – COURT AUDIT

Supervisor Croce stated that he has received notice from the Court Administration that they are looking for the Town to adopt a resolution for auditing the Plattekill Court records for 2018. We do this

every year and he was asking for two Councilmen to volunteer to review the Court books, which needs to be done by March first.

Councilman Putnam and Councilman Matthews volunteered to review the Court bookkeeping records and they will contact the Court Clerks to set up a date in the next few weeks.

SECTION 10 – SUMMER CAMP

Supervisor Croce stated that this item was covered during the Recreation Monthly Report.

SECTION 11 – POLICE MEMO

Supervisor Croce stated that the Town Board has received a memo from the Police Chief, Joe Ryan, letting us know that Officer Lopez has graduated from the Albany Police K-9 Academy with his K-9 partner Cruz. This is a great accomplishment on both the handler and the K-9 since only 1 out of 5 K-9's that are looked at for this type of duty actually succeed and become certified. The Chief is requesting that Officer Lopez, his K-9 partner Cruz and he be scheduled to attend the February 20<sup>th</sup> Town Board Meeting to give a demonstration. All Town residents and organizations are welcome to attend to see how Officer Cruz will be helping in our community.

SECTION 12 – VOUCHERS

\* Councilman DePew made a motion to pay the Voucher Detail Report dated 1/16/2019, which includes the General Fund amount of \$82,234.40, the Highway Fund amount of \$59,677.90, the SA-Clintondale Light District amount of \$657.44, the SB-Modena Light District amount of \$1,210.76 and the Trust & Agency amount of \$1,391.00 for a total amount of \$145,171.50 recognizing that the Audit Committee has reviewed the claims and found them acceptable for payment.

Councilman Matthews seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.

SECTION 13 – ADJOURNMENT

\* Supervisor Croce made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 PM.

Councilman Putnam seconded.

On the vote: all ayes.