

**Stillwater Town Board
Business Meeting
October 18, 2007 6:00 PM
Stillwater Town Hall**

Present: Councilman Artie Baker
Councilman Ken Petronis
Councilwoman Joan Ronda
Councilwoman Jo Ann Winchell
Supervisor J. Gregory Connors

Also Present: Sue Cunningham, Town Clerk
Robert Beebe, Attorney for the Town
Joe Lanaro, Engineer for the Town (7:00 PM)

Supervisor Connors called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

Motion by Councilwoman Ronda and seconded by Councilman Baker to adjourn into executive session. **Motion carried.**

Executive Session

The purpose of the executive session was to discuss the Report of the Temporary Advisory Committee on the Governance and Operations of the Stillwater Area Community Center. William C. Trigg Chairman of the Advisory Committee was in attendance, as was Village Mayor Ernest Martin. Mr. Trigg gave a brief overview of the report and interview compiled and answered questions from the Town Board members.

Motion by Councilwoman Ronda and seconded by Councilman Petronis to accept the Report of the Temporary Advisory Committee on the Governance and Operations of the Stillwater Area Community Center.

Discussion:

Councilwoman Winchell inquired if they vote in favor of this does that mean what is written in the report they totally confer with.

Attorney Beebe stated that no and if she has doubts just say it.

Councilman Baker asked for clarification on whether they were agreeing that all Community Center Board Members should be removed and a new slate should be put in.

Attorney Beebe stated no that they are just accepting the report.

Supervisor Connors commented that this action puts the ball in the Community Centers Court. They will have Attorney Beebe inform the Community Centers Attorney that the Town Board has accepted the Report, they have a copy of the report and let them decide as what to do. They can take advantage of the training opportunities, and if they fail to act on the report then that may be something for another discussion by the Town Board.

Councilman Baker inquired about the residents who were interviewed and if it was fair to say that they wouldn't mind making the report public. He asked if they were made aware that this would be made public information.

Mr. Trigg stated that they were informed of this.

Councilwoman Ronda commented that at this time they are making a motion to accept the report, if the Board wanted to accept the recommendations that would be another time.

Supervisor Connors stated absolutely and that for now they have to give them a chance to act on the report.

Councilwoman Winchell stated that her concern was it being a public record and that they are tied to a contract. She asked what bearing this has on personnel and becoming a public record.

Attorney Beebe stated he was waiting until they voted on the motion but suggested that they may want to redact some of the names in the report with the obvious one being the sexual harassment.

Sue Cunningham inquired if this was the document she was foiled for and when the Board adopts the record does she give them the report.

Attorney Beebe recommended that they look at this carefully and see if there is anything that should be redacted just to protect people's reputation. He stated he believes the sexual harassment has already been submitted to the Human Right's and there is the possibility of litigation.

Supervisor Connors asked who would redact the names and that he doesn't think any of the Board Members want the responsibility of altering the report and redacting one name and not another.

Discussion was held on the basis of the report in regard to positions, management issues and the redaction of the report.

Supervisor Connors stated that if the maker of the motion would be willing to amend and willing to second that the document before the report is turned over to the Town Clerk for public distribution be turned over to the Town Attorney for review, he redacts the area consistent with his expression of concern, and then be turned over to the Town Clerk.

Attorney Beebe stated that there are specific provisions of the law that allow you to redact.

Motion by Councilwoman Ronda and seconded by Councilman Petronis to amend the motion to accept the report and prior to filing for public distribution be turned over to the Town Attorney for review to protect the interests of the Town and the Town residents.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Councilman Baker	Yes
Councilman Petronis	Yes
Councilwoman Ronda	Yes
Councilwoman Winchell	Yes
Supervisor Connors	Yes

Motion carried. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Councilwoman Ronda and seconded by Councilman Petronis to resume the regular Business Meeting of the Stillwater Town Board. **Motion carried.**

Supervisor Connors called the meeting to order and led everyone into the Pledge to the Flag.

Sue Cunningham, Town Clerk took the roll call.

Acceptance of Minutes: Motion by Councilman Petronis and seconded by Councilwoman Ronda to accept the minutes of the September 20, 2007 Business Meeting of the Stillwater Town Board. **Motion carried.**

Bid opening: The Town Clerk reported that 1 bid was received for the hydro-seeder, 4 bids were received for the roller and no bids were received for fuel.

Hydro-Seeder	
Merritt Seed Co. Baldwinville, NY	\$38,165.00
Roller	
Finke & Sons Selkirk, NY	\$62,969.69
SC Hansen Latham, NY	\$48,975.00
Liftech Schenectady, NY	\$73,800.00
Anderson Equip. Latham, NY	\$87,500.00

Bids were turned back over to the Town Clerk.

Proposed Local Laws

Supervisor Connors stated that two Local Laws were going to be proposed and asked that the Town Attorney give a brief explanation on the proposed Local Laws.

1. The first proposed Local Law pursuant to which the Town would amend Ordinance No 4 of 1988, "Brown's Landing Planned Development District and the Parameters of Development at Brown's Beach" to include a sunset provision.
2. The second proposed Local Law is to authorize a partial exemption from real property taxes on residential real property owned and occupied by qualified veterans of the Cold War.

A discussion was held on the exemption options the Town has. It was decided to offer an exemption of 10% with an \$8,000 cap.

There will be a public hearing on November 15, 2007 for the proposed Local Law on the veteran's exemption and a public hearing for the Browns Beach PDD sunset provision on December 6, 2007.

Public Input

Resident I inquired about a recent article with the Mayor of Mechanicville saying that they are looking into shared services with Stillwater pertaining to water & sewer and whether the City of Mechanicville has the capacity to furnish the Town & Village of Stillwater with water.

Supervisor Connors said he doesn't have the understanding that the City doesn't have the capacity of furnish water to the Town & Village. The purpose of the Town, Village and the City getting together is not to decide to do this but to seek grant funds to see if it was economically feasible and then technically possible.

Resident II stated that she had a conservationist look at her land and that it was his opinion that that cause of the problem she is having was created by the developer and that there are no retention ponds. She commented on how the developer in the area is the cause of the flooding of her property by rerouting the drainage. She inquired who maintains the retention ponds, and when the Town will take over the maintaining of the retention ponds.

Supervisor Connors stated that they have a procedure in place for accepting retention ponds and once they are turned over to the Town the Highway Dept takes care of them.

Councilman Petronis stated that he doesn't believe the Town will take over the retention while it is still under investigation.

Resident III stated that instead of buying a hydro-seeder they should use the money to correct Resident II drainage problems.

Resident III commented on the copy of the Empire State Grant and went over certain expenses the grant covered. She stated that she didn't see where the grant covered the purchase of the 5 Campbell Rd property.

Supervisor Connors stated that they amended the grant.

Resident III asked why there was no amendment in the material she has on the Empire State Grant.

Supervisor Connors stated that he has not received the signed copies back as of yet.

A discussion was held on the amendment.

Resident III inquired why the Town Clerk did not have a copy of the Empire State Grant documents filed in her office and asked the Town Board to investigate why the Town Clerk is not given these documents to file in her office.

A discussion was held on the Town Clerk receiving documents for filing in her office.

Councilwoman Ronda stated that from this day forward she would see to it that the Town Clerk receives documents for filing.

Resident IV inquired about the assessment reduction in Resolution #177.

Attorney Beebe explained that when GAR did the reveals they did this as property already being sub-divided and at the time the property was not sub-divided. When the property gets sub-divided the assessment will change.

Resident IV stated that he was against spending highway funds on a hydro-seeder.

Resident V commented on the multi-use trail and his concerns were on the buffer along his property line. He also commented on problems at the southern end in regard to contractor's equipment being damaged and port-o-johns being tipped over.

Supervisor Connors stated that he has talked with Dave Knowles (Chazen Co) in regard to the buffer. He was to make sure the resident is happy and to walk the line with the resident.

Further discussion was held on the buffer, bridge, and lighting.

Resident VI commented on residents in the Saratoga Hill Park being Cold War veterans, someone driving an ATV with a rifle going down in the back to shoot cougars, and trailers being brought in at night time.

Resident III inquired about the plans for the southern end of the Multi-Use Trail.

Supervisor Connors stated that secure barriers would be put up, people would walk done the trail and turn around and come back.

Resident III commented that the goal of the trail was to link Riverside to the trail. She also suggested that they use plants that deter the deer.

Resident VII inquired about the water usage in the flushing of hydrants. Councilwoman Ronda stated that an amount for flushing is allowed with the fees charged. Resident VII commented on the “74” trailer ordinance and whether the Town was going to follow the ordinance in regard to lot sizes and double wide trailers. A discussion was held on the alleged violations in regard to Hillside Trailer Park. Resident VII stated that he did not approve of purchasing a Hydro-seeder for the Highway Dept.

Resident VIII inquired about the proposed Local Law in regard to the Veteran’s Exemption, Community Center report and Brown’ Beach. Supervisor Connors explained the new proposed Veteran’s Exemption was for the veteran’s who fell outside the current exemption. He stated that Resolution #184 was accepting the Community Center report and filing it with the Town Clerk. In regard to Browns Beach he stated that the plan has failed because the developer has not acted in a responsible time frame. Councilwoman Winchell inquired if there has been a meeting with the developers and who attended the meeting. Supervisor Connors stated that there has been a meeting with the developers and that the Town Attorney and Town Engineer were present.

Action Items (Resolutions #177 thru #184)

Supervisor Connors stated that Resolution #184, accepting the Community Center report, was not on the agenda it was adopted earlier.

Resolution #177: Approving a reduction of the assessments of lands owned by Camelot Associates and authorizing the Town Attorney to enter into a Stipulation to settle the pending litigation.

Resolution #178: Authorizing the Supervisor to execute an agreement between the Town of Stillwater and Camelot Associates in regard to connecting Water District #1 to Water District #4 Extension #1.

Resolution #179: Authorizing the Supervisor to dedicate Phase I of the Town’s Sanitary Sewer District, which includes the reconstruction of the Riverside II Pumping Station and the 10” force main to Saratoga County District #1.

Resolution #180: Accepting the title to the roads known as Artillery Approach, Drummer Drive, Flintlock Way, and Revere Run located within Phase IV of the Turning Point PDD and accepts title to the utility easements within Phase IV of the Turning Point PDD.

Resolution #181: Accepting title to the road known as Battleridge Place located in the Battleridge Major Subdivision.

Resolution #182: Authorizing the Office of Fiscal Management to make all necessary budget amendments for the 2007 Budget by the close of the 2007 fiscal year on December 31, 2007.

Resolution #183: Authorizing the Tax Collector to prepare and submit to the Saratoga County Real Property Tax Service Agency a statement requesting that the unpaid cost for the remediation of 3 Sherman Ave. be added to the tax levied on that property for the year 2008.

Motion by Councilwoman Ronda and seconded by Councilman Baker to adopt all Resolutions in a block. **Motion carried.**

Motion by Councilman Petronis and seconded by Councilwoman Ronda to adopt Resolutions #177, #178, #179, #180, #181, #182, & #183.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Councilman Baker	Yes
Councilman Petronis	Yes
Councilwoman Ronda	Yes
Councilwoman Winchell	Yes
Supervisor Connors	Yes

Motion carried. Resolutions #177, #178, #179, #180, #181, #182, & #183 were adopted unanimously. (Copies attached and made part of the minutes).

Audited claims

Motion by Councilman Baker and seconded by Councilman Petronis to pay the audited claims.

General	#465-#489	\$17,343.73
Highway	#451-#476	\$6,835.15
Town Outside	#107-#113	\$6,266.72
Water & Sewer	#68-#70	\$523.03
Capital Projects (Sewer Dist #2)	#69-#70	\$1,693.30

Motion carried.

Supervisor stated that there would be a budget workshop on Tuesday, October 22 at 7:00PM. Councilwoman Winchell requested a salary sheet, fixed asset report and the Arvin Hart budget.

Motion by Councilman Baker and seconded by Councilman Petronis to adjourn the Business Meeting at 8:30 PM. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted by

Sue Cunningham
Town Clerk