

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS
May 20, 2014 – Town Board Workshop – 6:00pm**

A Town Board Workshop was held Tuesday, May 20, 2014, at 6:00pm at Town Hall, 18 Russell Avenue, Ravena, New York

PRESENT: Stephen D. Flach, Supervisor
Peter E. Masti, Councilman
George E. Langdon, IV, Councilman
Kenneth A. Burns, Sr., Councilman

ABSENT: Thomas E. Dolan, Councilman

ALSO PRESENT: Diane L. Millious, Town Clerk

Supervisor Flach opened the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPENING COMMENT

Supervisor Flach stated that the records should reflect the absence of Councilman Dolan with the rest of the Town Board present.

AGENDA

- Valley Mill Paper Park Property
- Cool Insurance Agency
- Time Warner Cable Franchise Agreement
- Safety/Workplace Violence Committee

DISCUSSIONS

Valley Paper Mill Park Property

Supervisor Flach stated that Mr. Tom Sweeney and Mr. Ray Michaels were present to discuss the Valley Paper Mill Park property. He continued by saying that Tom approached the Town Board last September about turning the piece of property over to the Town and then asked that Mr. Sweeney give an update.

Mr. Tom Sweeney stated that they presented a draft Management Agreement to the Board and has since refined the signature page as well as having a copy of the current deed, which he sent to Supervisor Flach about a week and a half ago and added that he just wanted to know how they proceed from here.

Supervisor Flach stated that he sent a copy to Attorney for the Town Wukitsch for review and he thinks they can do it as soon as he says that everything is alright, which might be as early as the next Town Board Meeting.

Discussion ensued amongst Mr. Sweeney and Supervisor Flach relative to a delay in the process because Not-for-Profit Revitalization goes into effect early July, which means that this process does not have to go through the Supreme Court for a review and it only has to go the Attorney General as well as Attorneys for both parties needing to get together to discuss what has to be done as they prepare to move forward at the appropriate time.

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Councilman Burns asked what will happen with the land and what they propose.

Supervisor Flach asked that Mr. Sweeney to give Councilmen Burns and Langdon a brief update.

Mr. Sweeney stated the following:

- That APA has owned the property for approximately 10 years, they took it over from Open Spaces and bought it for back taxes.
- They proceeded to clean it up and develop it.
- Their intent was to turn it over to the Town so it can be a passive park.
- They have come up with a draft Management Agreement with the Town in which they will continue to put funds into developing it.
- Their plan is to build a kiosk and display photos of the old mills, the Creamery and Chimney Top Inn as well as pictures from when it burned down.

Discussion ensued amongst Mr. Sweeney and the Town Board relative to the Management Agreement with the Town, APA getting in touch with Councilman Burn's father who has pictures and other information on the property, its historical significance, the size of the property, building a kiosk to display pictures and signs from the Chimney Top Inn, a grant application for historic roadside markers, and a Trackin' Through the R-C Station train placed on the site.

Supervisor Flach thanked Mr. Sweeney.

Cool Insurance Agency

Supervisor Flach stated that Mr. Eric Kane was present to give a presentation for Cool Insurance Agency and invited him to address the Board.

Mr. Kane stated that he is an Account Executive at Cool Insurance Agency and he specializes in employee benefits for health, dental, life and disability and last year he had the opportunity to briefly review the Town's benefits and noted some concerns after speaking to some employees about insurance and health care reform. He added that he is following up to it this year and trying to be proactive so he had a meeting and met with the Town to discuss health care reform, insurance and to give an overview of what they have seen with businesses and how they see the future and in that discussion they realized that there could be potential concern for the Town because of new individual mandates that anyone without medical insurance will be penalized or fined in 2015. He continued by saying that in addition there is a large group mandate, which pertains to an employer group of 50 or more full-time employees and it states that they must do two things, provide a minimal value coverage that says that a percentage of the plan has to be paid by the carrier, which is 60% and that they must provide affordable coverage, which means an employee can't not pay more than 9 1/2%. He went on by giving a brief description of the company, discussing a medical insurance comparison, which he provided, going over an analysis and comparison of renewal rates, and how prices compare to the current comparable plans and funding arrangements that allows you to fund a portion of the deductible for each employee. He concluded by saying that CDPHP would be his recommendation and the easiest plan to work with.

Discussion ensued amongst Mr. Kane and the Town Board relative to plans available and prices for the unemployed, mandates for family coverage and affordable plans, having to offer four-tier rated plans for family coverage, employee contribution based on annual income, having to offer coverage for employees working 30 hours per week, penalties for non-compliance, employee incentives, wellness programs, and educating employees.

Supervisor Flach thanked Mr. Kane.

Time Warner Cable Franchise Agreement

Supervisor Flach stated that approximately a year ago they signed a Franchise Agreement with Mid-Hudson Cable and now it is time to sign one for Time Warner, which basically says that they can hook-up to the poles and bring their lines through and offer their cable and by giving them a franchise it allows them to expand because banks will not give them money unless they

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know that they are going to be here for a number of years, which is generally 15 years. He added that Attorney for the Town Wukitsch is looking at the Franchise Agreement and then asked that each Town Board Member look at it.

Discussion ensued amongst the Town Board relative to price increases and competition.

Safety/Workplace Violence Committee

Supervisor Flach stated that they normally like to do resolutions at Workshop Meeting but they need to do one to appoint A Safety/Workplace Violence Committee, which should have been done at the beginning of the year. He continued by saying that the Committee is comprised of six people and the purpose is that if an employee reports workplace violence to him, he in turn goes to the Committee who then meet to try and get things resolved. He then asked that Councilman Masti introduce the resolution.

RES. #110-14 APPOINT SAFETY/WORKPLACE VIOLENCE COMMITTEE

On motion of Councilman Masti, seconded by Councilman Langdon, the following resolution was APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 (DOLAN) – SO MOVED

WHEREAS, the Town Board has established the need for a Safety/Workplace Violence Committee, and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that such Committee should be comprised of a team of employees knowledgeable of Safety/Workplace Violence issues,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans hereby appoints the following individuals to said Committee:

Chief Gregory Darlington, Chairperson	Hgwy. Super. Scott Searles, Assistant Chairperson
Diane Millious, Town Clerk	Lisa Cirillo, Confidential Secretary
Larry Conrad, Code Enforcement Officer	John Kerr, Chief Operator W.W.T.P.
Building Inspector	

Supervisor Flach stated that he let Councilman Dolan know that they were going to do the resolution.

Councilman Masti inquired as to how many times they used the Committee in the past year.

Supervisor Flach stated that they used them once.

Westerlo Street Parking (not on agenda)

Supervisor Flach stated that he wanted to make the Board aware that he had received a couple of complaints about parking on Westerlo Street and he will be taking a ride with Chief Darlington to see check it out and see what is happening so they know where they stand.

PROCLAMATION

Supervisor Flach stated that May 17th – May 23rd is Grange Week and he had a Proclamation that he will be reading at the next Town Board Meeting and continued by reading the following:

WHEREAS, the Grange has sought to advance the interest of farmers, rural Americans and our Nation's families, for over 145 years through the simple but powerful concept that by working together we can accomplish much for our communities; and

WHEREAS, voluntary association with the Grange not only provides the benefits of economic and political cooperation for its members, but also elevates their character by providing social, cultural and educational programs; with opportunities for personal growth; and,

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WHEREAS, the Grange provides members the opportunity to serve their community through projects and programs that make a difference in the lives of children, youth and neighbors in need of assistance; and

WHEREAS, the Ravena Grange in Coeymans Hollow has served this community since 1919, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans, proclaims the week of May 17-23, 2014 as Grange Week, in recognition of the contributions made by the Grange throughout their many years of faithful service.

Supervisor Flach stated that the Grange started out as farm based with farmers working together and it is pretty neat what their values are and they are extremely community focused in helping people and a lot of times it is in the rural areas and he would encourage everyone to go to one of their meetings.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Supervisor Flach stated that a Garden Tour in the Ravena area is Wednesday, June 18th from 4:00pm to 7:00pm and ticket sales begin at 4:00pm at the Coeymans Landing Gazebo and continued by reading the following:

“The 5th Annual Garden Tour sponsored by the Clematis Garden Club is pleased to join in celebrating Ravena’s 100th Anniversary and hope you can join us to view these beautiful gardens”.

Supervisor Flach stated that you can call Joan Radley at 756-2960 with any questions and added that they take you on a tour of gardens throughout the town, which he heard is beautiful.

Discussion ensued amongst the Town Board relative to a garden at the junction of Powell Hill and Rte. 143.

Supervisor Flach asked if there were any other comments.

Councilman Masti stated that the Matthew Project starts in July and there will be a presentation at the next Town Board Meeting.

Supervisor Flach stated that the next meeting is on Wednesday due to Monday being a holiday and Tuesday is Grievance Day and it would be wonderful if he would do that because it coincides with the Summer Recreation Programs. He then asked if there were any other comments.

Councilman Burns asked if he should pursue the Hannacroix Creek permit and make sure that they renew it.

Supervisor Flach stated that as far as he knows, they are waiting for FEMA’s response because DEC didn’t give them their permit for four months and time ran out.

Councilman Burns asked if they have an active permit right now.

Supervisor Flach stated that he could not answer that.

Councilman Burns asked who he could find that out from.

Supervisor Flach stated that he would meet with Chief Darlington who has a lot of the information.

Councilman Burns stated that he was advised by the water and soil people that they do have a permit but it needs to be renewed and they also advised that when they call, they should have the permit in front of them because there is a lot of information on it that they are going to be asked.

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Supervisor Flach reiterated that he will look it up and added that the whole thing has been ridiculous and it is wrong.

Discussion ensued amongst the Board relative to the long ear bat living along the creek and it holding up the process and possible remedies.

Supervisor Flach asked if there were any other comments, hearing none he made a motion to adjourn.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

On motion of Supervisor Flach, seconded by Councilman Masti, the Town Board Workshop was adjourned.

VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 (DOLAN) – SO MOVED

Time – 7:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,

APPROVED ~~As~~ read June 23, 2014


Diane L. Millious, Town Clerk