

October 4, 2016 – Workshop Meeting

The Workshop Meeting of the Gardiner Town Board was held this evening at the Gardiner Town Hall at 6:30 PM. Present were Supervisor Majestic, Councilwoman Walls and Councilmen Dukler & Hinson. Councilman Reynolds was absent. There were approximately 14± audience members present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Councilwoman Walls, seconded by Councilman Dukler and carried, the Town Board entered into executive session at 6:32 PM for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining negotiations per Article 14 of Civil Service Law.

LEAVE EXECUTIVE SESSION AND ENTER REGULAR SESSION

On motion of Councilwoman Walls, seconded by Councilman Dukler and carried, the Board left executive session and entered into regular session at 7:10 PM. Councilman Hinson voted nay.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 10 – Household Hazardous Waste day at the UCRRRA facility in Kingston.

October 10 & October 12 – Town Hall will be closed in observance of Columbus Day & Yom Kippur.

GRANT FOR DECKING ON BRIDGE

An application was made for a grant to resurface the decking of a bridge on the Rail Trail located at Forest Glen Road. The Town has received a letter of denial on this grant request.

PARKS & RECREATION

Before discussion began Supervisor Majestic recused herself.

Chairman Mike Gagliardi and former Summer Camp Director Frank LaRonca were present to discuss the Parks & Recreation Commission and the transition to the new camp directors. Mr. LaRonca spoke about the commitment he made to assistant directors Brian Majestic and Jennifer Harp to fill the position of director for the 2017 summer recreation camp. He commented on the high qualifications they both had for the positions. This led to a lengthy discussion about who can hire and fire Park & Recreation employees. Town Board members are concerned with actions taken on their behalf. There is a potential for liability if town employees are not hired by the Town Board. Also the Town personnel policy states that all positions will be posted. A lengthy discussion also took place about committee vs. commission.

WALKKILL VALLEY LAND TRUST

The Town is in receipt of a tri-party agreement between the Town of Gardiner, Walkkill Valley Land Trust (WVLT) and the Rail Trail Association setting forth an agreement between the 3 parties to maintain the rail trail. Supervisor Majestic forwarded a copy to attorney David Brennan to review and comment on. Mr. Brennan responded with 2 recommendations. Ms. Majestic sent the changes to the WVLT and asked them to incorporate the changes at which time the Town will review and decide whether to sign it.

2016 JUSTICE COURT GRANT

Supervisor Majestic reported that there is approximately \$1400 left after the repair of the front entryway, the installation of gutters, blacktop and stripping. The remainder of the grant will go towards various uses in the Justice Dept.

2017 JUSTICE COURT GRANT

Resolution No. – 86 - Justice Court Grant Application - Offered by Supervisor Majestic
WHEREAS, there is available grant moneys through the New York State Unified Court System to assist in the operation of the town justice courts; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Gardiner and the Justice Court of the Town of Gardiner are in agreement that this grant would benefit the operation of the Justice Court and should be applied for; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Supervisor of the Town of Gardiner is hereby authorized to sign the grant application and all subsequent documents with respect to the grant, as needed.

Seconded by Dukler and carried.

SOLAR LAW UPDATE

The Town Board held a meeting on September 29 beginning the process of creating a solar law. Meeting with the Board were 2 Planning Board members, and 1 Environmental Conservation Commission member. A process and timeline for the creation of the law was agreed upon. Two other meetings were scheduled – October 13 and October 27 at 7 PM. It is a goal of the group to fast track the drafting of this law. Also anyone with interest or knowledge of solar is encouraged to comment to the Supervisor in writing.

TRANSFER STATION WELLS

As reported last week a test well on the landfill property has been damaged. Highway Superintendent Stiscia and his crew repaired the well and marked each well making them clearly visible.

2017 BUDGET UPDATE

In order for the Town Clerk to publish the public hearing notice for the 2017 budget, salaries of elected Supervisor, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Highway Superintendent and Town Board members must be post. The following salaries were adopted on motion of Councilwoman Walls, seconded by Councilman Dukler and carried. Councilman Hinson voted nay.

Supervisor \$39,614; Town Clerk/Tax Collector \$54,912; Highway Superintendent \$57,235; Town Board \$5,265 each.

Councilman Hinson requested a copy of the budget in an EXCEL format/worksheet. He finds it is easier to follow and make the changes as you go.

Board members discussed budget transfers, dog control fees and actual costs.

Two additional budget meetings were scheduled for October 19 and October 26 at 4 PM.

ULSTER COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Supervisor Majestic attended a meeting with representatives of the Ulster County Economic Development office in which she received a business resource guide. The purpose of the meeting was to inform the Town of the available resources to help the Town economy. This can be a valuable resource for the Town.

RAIL TRAIL GRANT

Councilman Dukler stated that there is another opportunity for a grant on the bridge deck on the rail trail. He will attend a webinar presentation. Deadline for the grant application is October 21.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Warren Wiegand – Asked if there was anything in the WVLT agreement about monitoring conservation easements. Is concerned with annual monitoring and if the terms of the easement are being followed.

Jack Habersberger – Asked how many wells are on the landfill property. He was informed 5.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilwoman Walls, seconded by Supervisor Majestic and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle L. Mosher
Town Clerk