

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Lewisboro, Westchester County, New York, was held on Monday, December 19, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. at the Town House, 11 Main Street, South Salem, New York

PRESENT: Supervisor - Peter H. Parsons
Councilmen - Peter DeLucia, *Frank Kelly, John Pappalardo, Daniel Welsh
Town Clerk - Janet L. Donohue
Absent - None

Also attending was the Attorney for the Town Jennifer Herodes, Facilities Maintenance Manager Joel Smith, Police Chief Charles Beckett and Confidential Secretary/Benefits Coordinator Mary Hafter.

And approximately 0 residents/observers.

Mr. Parsons called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Supervisor Parsons led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

COMMUNICATIONS

CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL – Annual Report Submitted

Mr. Parsons stated that the Conservation Advisory Council did submit their annual report and always seem to do so in a timely fashion.

OLD FIELD PRESERVE – Parking Lot for Horse Trailers

Mr. Parsons announced that there is now a parking lot for horse trailers at the Old Field Preserve. This did not cost the town any money. The Lewisboro Horseman's Association presented the town with a check for the stone that was used to create the parking lot. The parking lot has already received significant usage.

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion by Mr. Parsons, seconded by Mr. Pappalardo, the Board voted 3-0 to approve meeting minutes and voted 4-0 to receive and file a departmental report.

MINUTES - Approved

allow cell towers to add additional users and to replace broken bits. Anything that doesn't expand the base of the cell towers would be allowed without going to the building department.

Town Attorney, Jennifer Herodes suggested leaving this on for discussion so that it can be looked at further by all and make sure that no other changes need to be made. Ms. Herodes spoke with the Planning Board attorney and they feel that since these changes were only made on Friday, all Boards should have further time to look it over and avoid the "piece meal" that sometimes happens. The Town Board will discuss this further at the next meeting and will schedule a public hearing at that time.

SUSTAINABLE WESTCHESTER – Municipal Solar Buyers Group (7:48 – 7:53 p.m.)

Mr. Parsons stated that our town has been invited to participate in Sustainable Westchester's Municipal Solar buyer's group. Mr. Parsons feels that they should at least fill out the initial paperwork because he doesn't see a downside in getting a proposal. Mr. Parsons stated for the record that he is a very small shareholder in Next Era Energy Resources LLC, the company that won the bid for the contract.

At the suggestion of both Dana Mayclim, Parks and Recreation Superintendent and Joseph Cermele, Kellard Sessions, they would like to put the solar at the Town Park where the tennis courts are currently and possibly eliminate the tennis courts. Mr. DeLucia suggested covering the tennis courts with a structure and putting the solar panels on the roof of the structure. Mr. Parsons feels these courts are gently sliding and they need work for the second time since Mr. Parsons has been Supervisor. Mr. Parsons feels that there has been a decline in people that play tennis. Mr. Welsh suggested a covered track. Mr. DeLucia suggested a pavilion style ice rink in the winter and the tennis courts in the summer with solar power and possibly a track going around the rink/courts.

The Board agreed to move ahead with the investigation of solar power at the Town Park and to complete the initial paperwork.

STORMWATER – Draft Requirements for MS-4 Recertification (7:54 – 7:58 p.m.)

Mr. Parsons explained that NY State was sued by the Federal Government and a series of river organizations to make significant tightening of their MS4 regulations. After looking at the draft regulations Mr. Parsons feels that Lewisboro will have to do the following: buy a sweeper (the current sweeper that the town owns is on its last legs), ensure that we can staff the sweeper and vacuum the drains more often. Finally, there will be an additional paperwork requirement that will be loaded on to the town. Mr. Parsons stated that many of the Northern Westchester and Putnam Supervisors are upset about this and they are planning a meeting on January 17, 2017 with DEC to discuss at length. This appears that this will be an unfunded mandate. The comment period has been extended until at least February of 2017. Mr. Pappalardo asked if we shared a sweeper with North Salem and the answer was yes, however it is a much smaller sweeper than would be required. Sweeper prices are about a quarter of a million dollars. Mr. Kelly suggested talking to our Assemblyman and Senators. Mr. Parsons stated that the group of Supervisors will speak with the DEC first and then our Assemblyman and Senators.

TOWN SPEED LIMIT – Discussion (7:59 – 8:11 p.m.)

Mr. Parsons stated that on May 23 of this year the Board authorized him to send a letter requesting reducing speed limits to 25 mph. As a result David Buchwald looked through the laws and found that as of 2008 the town is already allowed to do this per road.

Mr. Parsons stated that there are two specific roads in town where during a few Town Board meetings someone suggested a reduced speed limit on Spring Street and Old Bedford Road. Other roads that were in question were lake roads and Ridgefield Avenue. Mr. Parsons asked for the Boards opinion. Mr. Kelly feels that we should not change the speed limit.

Mr. Parsons has a genuine concern about two things in this town and they are very separate. First, he is concerned with the roads that were never designed for vehicle traffic such as the lake roads and some of the older roads in town. The second is a very different category of roads and that is Elmwood, Oscaleta, Main and Mead Streets. Mr. Parsons stated that these roads have a very heavy volume of pedestrian and bicycle traffic. On these roads you have to go slow or you will kill someone.

Mr. DeLucia feels that when you are driving 30 mph it feels like you are crawling. Mr. DeLucia is wondering if there are any areas where the police department feels it should be lowered. Chief Beckett feels that 30 mph is a legitimate number on 95% of the roads. He feels that, for example, on Old Bedford Road that there is a perception that people are speeding. After doing about 20 hours of speed surveys they found that the average speed is 25-27 mph. Chief Beckett feels that even if you do change the speed limit to 25 mph he feels that you will still get the same or more complaints. But there are certain areas, such as by the Horse and Hound, that it would be justified. But as in Lake Katonah area you really can't go 30 mph.

Mr. DeLucia feels that maybe we leave things as is and if our police department comes to the Board with data then they will revisit. Chief Beckett also stated that he has written the most tickets on Elmwood Road at the straight away. It all goes back to enforcement.

Again, Chief Beckett stated that if the Board has any concerns to contact him and they will get the data to them.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT NO. 1 – Discussion of Supervisor's Draft Letter for Recertifying Process (8:12 – 8:14 p.m.)

Mr. Parsons is working on a letter to the County Legislature regarding recertification of the Westchester agricultural district. He stated that the one thing he wants to address is the situation that the Town had with the horse farm on Waccabuc River Lane where they didn't care about the local laws. Mr. Parsons also stated that the taxes for the Town of Lewisboro are diminutive.

CLAIMS – Authorized for Payment

On motion by Mr. DeLucia, seconded by Mr. Kelly, the Board voted 5-0 to authorize payment of the Town's bills in the amount of \$129,745.50.

POLLING OF THE BOARD

ELECTRICAL VEHICLE SURVEY – Grants

Mr. Welsh stated he is still working on the rail trail and the municipal buying of solar power. Mr. Welsh asked if Mr. Parsons received the electrical vehicle survey. There are grants out there and information on our current fleet of cars are needed.

PARKS AND RECREATION – Senior Luncheon

Mr. Parsons thanked Dana Mayclim and the Parks and Recreation Department for putting together a lovely luncheon for 73 seniors. Mr. Parsons stated that there are a growing number of seniors in town and that we need to continue to provide entertainment for seniors.

LEGISLATION – Requests

Mr. Parsons stated that he received a letter from Assemblyman David Buchwald asking the town to submit requests for legislation as soon as possible. The earlier he gets the requests the longer he can advocate for us. Mr. Parsons has one item and that is where the ambulance in Vista is not allowed to bill however the ambulance in Cross River is allowed to charge.

Mr. Welsh asked if there were any legislative paths to getting some satisfaction around issues that have been stuck with the Department of Transportation such as lights, roads, etc. Mr. Parsons feels that this would be more of a lobbying issue.

MEETINGS – Date Set

There will be a Town Board Organizational and regular meeting on Monday, January 9, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at the Town House, 11 Main Street, South Salem, New York.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – To Discuss Appointments and Legal Issues

On motion by Mr. Parsons, seconded by Mr. DeLucia, the Board voted 5-0 to go into executive session at 8:20 p.m. to discuss appointments and legal issues.

On motion by Mr. Parsons, seconded by Mr. DeLucia, the Board voted 5-0 to come out of executive session at 8:54 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Mr. Parsons, seconded by Mr. Pappalardo, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn at 8:55 p.m.

Janet L. Donohue
Town Clerk