

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Lewisboro, Westchester County, New York, was held on September 11, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. at the Town House, 11 Main Street, South Salem, New York.

PRESENT:

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Supervisor | Peter Parsons |
| Council Members | Jane Crimmins, Tony Gonçalves, John Pappalardo, Daniel Welsh |
| Town Clerk | Janet Donohue |
| Absent | None |

Also attending was the Attorney for the Town Jennifer Herodes, Facilities Maintenance Manager Joel Smith, Comptroller Leo Masterson, Highway Superintendent Peter Ripperger, Parks and Recreation Superintendent Dana Mayclim, Police Chief Charles Beckett and Confidential Secretary/Benefits Coordinator Mary Hafter.

Approximately 9 residents/observers.

Supervisor Parsons called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Supervisor led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

The Supervisor held a moment of silence in observance of 9/11.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

COMMUNICATIONS

REV. DR. CHARLES “CHIP” ANDRUS – Passed Away

Supervisor Parsons stated that the Reverend Dr. Charles (Chip) Andrus, 51, died Sunday, September 9, 2018 at home surrounded by his family. Chip was the Pastor at South Salem Presbyterian Church.

A man of deep integrity, kindness and warmth, Chip was defined as a community catalyst, Presbyterian scholar, masterful teacher, talented musician, devoted husband and wonderful loving father.

Upon arriving in South Salem, he devoted himself to church duties and volunteered as Chaplain to the South Salem Fire Department. He also became a charter member and organizer of the Domestic Abuse Network of Northeast Westchester, working with other local clergy, law enforcement, advocacy groups and domestic abuse shelters.

Supervisor Parsons stated the service in celebration of Chip's life will be held at South Salem Presbyterian Church, 111 Spring Street, South Salem, New York at 6 p.m. Saturday, September 15.

LETTER OF APPRECIATIONS – Parks and Recreation

The Supervisor read a letter of thanks to Pam Veith, Senior Outreach Director and the lifeguards at the Town pool:

Pam,

I would like to thank you and your team for great job on today's picnic!

The eating area was nicely decorated and you and you team made all happy with you excellent service to all.

The DJ was also great! Please pass along to Christine that her lifeguard team interacted very with all. (Sorry I don't have her contact info)

Mother Nature must be your best friend!

Thank you for your excellent care to detail and all of the Senior members.

Best regards,

Dick McElroy

Supervisor Parsons also shared an email from Shannon Rand complimenting the Parks and Recreation Camp Staff on a job well done and stating that her daughter gained confidence by attending the town camp.

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES - Approved

REPORTS – Monthly Reports

On motion by Supervisor Parsons, seconded by Mr. Pappalardo, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the meeting minutes of August 27, 2018 and to receive and file August departmental reports.

| | | | |
|-----------|--------|---|-----|
| THE VOTE: | Yes | - Parsons, Crimmins, Gonçalves, Pappalardo, Welsh | (5) |
| | No | - None | (0) |
| | Absent | - None | (0) |

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT – Approval of Project (7:37 – 7:41 p.m.)

Ryan Comstock from Troop #1 presented his Eagle Scout Project to the Board. Ryan is looking to create a "Gaga Pit" at the Town Park. Gaga is a fast paced, high energy sport played in an octagonal pit. Dubbed a kinder gentler version of dodge ball, the game is played with a soft foam ball, and combines the skills of dodging, striking, running, and jumping, while trying to hit opponents with a ball below the knees. Players need to keep moving to avoid getting hit by the ball.

Ryan is looking for the Town Board to approve his project and to waive the ACARC and Wetland fees.

On motion by Supervisor Parsons, seconded by Ms. Crimmins, the Board voted as follows:

| | | | |
|-----------|--------|---|-----|
| THE VOTE: | Yes | - Parsons, Crimmins, Gonçalves, Pappalardo, Welsh | (5) |
| | No | - None | (0) |
| | Absent | - None | (0) |

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves the Eagle Scout Project of Ryan Comstock to create a “Gaga Pit” at the Town Park and be it further

RESOLVED, that all fees be waived for this Eagle Scout project.

NEW DAWN FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER – Presentation (7:42 – 7:55 p.m.)

Supervisor Parsons introduced Dick Lyman, former Pound Ridge Supervisor, who gave a brief overview of the New Dawn Family Resource Center, a group that helps with domestic abuse. Mr. Lyman introduced Patty D’Agostino and Lynn Hillenbrand who are also involved with the resource center. Ms. D’Agostino explained that they have received many donations, not only monetary, but furniture, air conditioning, security cameras, door bells with cameras, and a computer. Three rooms have now been furnished. One is furnished for counseling, one for group counseling and small meetings and one for training.

The space has been used by the Risk Reduction Team training and counseling. Also, the North East Westchester Domestic Abuse Alliance (NEWDAA) which is a consortium of community leaders and professionals have their meetings in this space.

Ms. D’Agostino also stated that New Dawn has applied for a 501 C (3) which will allow them to apply for more grants.

Ms. Hillenbrand explained that other groups they are forming partnerships with include My Sisters Place, Putnam-Northern Westchester Women’s Resource Center, Hopes Door and One Love. They hope to get One Love into all the schools in the future, as this group deals with healthy relationships. Other organizations that New Dawn is partnering with are Mental Health Association (MHA), Pace Women’s Justice Center, Office for Women and Westchester Community Center. New Dawn is a vessel for these other organizations and to collaborate with the community in terms of training and education.

New Dawn has served as a pilot program for Westchester County and it is currently being looked at to expand throughout all of Westchester County.

The Board thanked the group for all that they are doing and will continue to do.

BURBIO – Presentation (7:55 – 8:27 p.m.)

Dennis Roche, Co-Founder of Burbio, made a presentation to the Board. Burbio offers a platform that allows municipalities to aggregate calendars for local government, library, schools, recreation departments, etc.

Mr. Roche explained that Burbio is a free and automated service that pulls in event information that will automatically update on Burbio once it is updated on various websites. It is also mobile friendly. Mr. Welsh asked what type of ads and does the town have control over the ads? Mr. Roche stated that their goal would be to have all local ads for Lewisboro businesses, etc. show up when people looked at the Lewisboro Burbio calendar. Ms. Crimmins asked if Burbio did anything with email addresses. Mr. Roche explained that they have a strict privacy policy and they don't sell emails to anyone. Mr. Roche also stated that there are no political advertisements.

Ms. Crimmins asked Mr. Roche how they get the word out about Burbio. He explained that an email is sent out via email blasts by municipalities, libraries, etc.

Town Clerk Janet Donohue stated that they worked with Burbio back in 2017 and the link had been disconnected. Mr. Roche will send a new link to the Town Clerk and Webmaster. Ms. Donohue will also provide Mr. Roche with the Library Director and Parks & Recreation Superintendent's emails so that he can reach out to them individually.

The Board thanked Mr. Roche for his presentation.

BUDGET – Highway (8:28 – 9:27 p.m.)

Superintendent of Highways, Peter Ripperger presented his budget to the Board for 2019. Mr. Ripperger explained that fuel costs have gone up quite a bit. He is requesting \$43,000, up from the \$27,000 that he budgeted for in 2018. As of the beginning of August, the gasoline and diesel line is already up to \$22,483.

Removal of oily water recovery will go up to \$8,500 from the budgeted \$7,000 in 2018. Discussion was had and will continue on the purchase of vehicles and a washing facility. Mr. Ripperger did state he purchased stainless steel bodies which don't rust as fast.

Mr. Ripperger is asking that the tree work line, which is the outside contractor, be raised by \$10,000 up to \$45,000. He doesn't feel that this line will ever go down. Trees are not getting any younger in this town. Three trees dropped this weekend alone. NYSEG has been cooperative if the trees are by their wires. Mr. Parsons stated that our town may have the worst opt-out problem in NYSEG's Brewster-based division.

Road repair and maintenance would increase by \$5,000, road resurfacing and paving would increase by \$20,000. Mr. Welsh again shared that he feels that all road maintenance expenses should be included in the annual budget and not bonded for. Mr. Pappalardo feels that the town's phased restoration of the fund balance has led to an improved bond rating. Mr. Welsh feels that increasing taxes by approximately \$25 per household is better than borrowing to redo the roads. Mr. Masterson reminded the Board that we are still paying off the bonds that have been issued to take care of road work that has already been completed and that this budget has about \$600,000 worth of road work expense. Mr. Parsons feels that the Town should look at borrowing to pave 3 of the problematic dirt roads; Old Church, East Street and Todd.

Catch basins, pipe and guard rails has increased by \$15,000. Vehicle and equipment repairs will go up by \$20,000. The weather takes a toll on the equipment. Electricity and heating fuel will go up by approximately \$2,700. Personal services overtime will increase by \$15,000. Outside contractors will go up by \$23,000. Plow maintenance is going up by \$3,500.

The Board asked Mr. Ripperger for a vehicle schedule and thanked Mr. Ripperger for his presentation.

CONDOMINIUM LAW – Discussion

The Board discussed adding a Condominium Law. Two municipalities that have added this law are the Village of Pleasantville and the Town of Greenburgh. If you convert to condominiums, it increases the tax burden on to everyone else. A public hearing will be held.

On motion by Supervisor Parsons, seconded by Mr. Gonçalves, the Board voted as follows:

| | | | |
|-----------|--------|---|-----|
| THE VOTE: | Yes | - Parsons, Crimmins, Gonçalves, Pappalardo, Welsh | (5) |
| | No | - None | (0) |
| | Absent | - None | (0) |

RESOLUTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Town Board of the Town of Lewisboro will hold a public hearing on September 24, 2018 at 7:30 p.m., or soon thereafter as time permits, at the Lewisboro Town House, 11 Main Street, South Salem, New York, 10590, for the purpose of hearing the public with regard to a proposed local law of the Town Code of the Town of Lewisboro which would amend Chapter 199, entitled “Taxation”, creating a new Article V, entitled “Real Property Assessment of Converted Condominiums”, as they pertain to real property assessment of dwelling units converted to condominiums. At said hearing all interested persons are invited to attend and will be heard. The Town of Lewisboro is committed to equal access for all.

BUDGET – Schedule

Supervisor Parsons went over the budget adoption and the tax cap override timelines:

Budget Adoption Timeline:

10/30 – deadline to file tentative budget with Town Clerk.

11/10 – deadline for Town Clerk to present to the Town Board the tentative budget.

After Town Board receives the tentative budget, it may work to develop the preliminary budget.

Notice of the public hearing of the preliminary budget must be at least 5 days prior to the public hearing (take into account publication deadlines).

12/10 – deadline to hold public hearing on preliminary budget. Public hearing may be adjourned and continued, but not beyond 12/15.

After the Public hearing and prior to adoption, the Town Board may make final revisions to the preliminary budget.

12/20 – deadline to adopt the Final Budget.

Tax Cap Override Local Law Adoption Timeline:

The Town Board must have the proposed Local Law at least 7 days (excluding Sundays) prior to adoption.

Notice of the public hearing of the tax cap override local law must be at least 5 days prior to the public hearing (take into account publication deadlines).

The local law may be adopted on the same day the public hearing is held and closed, or thereafter.

DRONES – Library Fair

On motion by Supervisor Parsons, seconded by Mr. Pappalardo, the Board voted as follows:

| | | | |
|-----------|--------|---|-----|
| THE VOTE: | Yes | - Parsons, Crimmins, Gonçalves, Pappalardo, Welsh | (5) |
| | No | - None | (0) |
| | Absent | - None | (0) |

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Town Board gives authorization to the Lewisboro Library to use a drone over Onatru Park prior to the Library Fair to take a picture and create a virtual map and be it also

RESOLVED, that the use of this drone be during a time when no sports, etc., are taking place at Onatru Park.

SHARED SERVICES PLAN FOR COUNTY – Discussion

Supervisor Parsons stated that the County has prepared a shared service plan. Supervisor Parsons voted in favor of it as the Town was only given one choice: either yes or no. Supervisor Parsons stated that this commits the Town of Lewisboro to nothing. It merely allows them to move forward. Individual items in the future would then be voted on individually by Towns. A few of the categories include digitizing electronic records management, creating a one step on line portal for shared equipment personnel, consolidate justice court, law enforcement and emergency management operations, creation of a county wide health consortium, regional management of tax assessment and billing, enhanced energy efficiency programs and shared school resource officers.

CLAIMS – Authorized for Payment

On motion by Mr. Pappalardo, seconded by Mr. Gonçalves, the Board voted 5-0 to authorize payment of the Town's bills in the amount of \$186,428.35.

POLLING OF THE BOARD

CLEAN HEAT – Update

Mr. Welsh informed the Board that the Town of Pound Ridge has also approved the clean heat consortium resolution.

RAIL TRAIL – Opening in Goldens Bridge, NY

Mr. Welsh stated that the official opening of the Goldens Bridge Community Rail Trail will take place on Sunday, September 23, 2018 at noon.

PARKS & RECREATION – Playground at Town Park

Ms. Crimmins stated that the meeting with a group of interested parents wanting to redo/reconfigure the playground at the Town Park went very well. Ms. Crimmins stated that there is a lot of motivation for fundraising and a wish list has been created. Ms. Crimmins stated that the Park and Recreation Advisory Committee and Parks and Recreation are now involved. One of the PRAC members, Peter Cipriano attended this meeting. Ms. Crimmins will keep the Board updated on this project.

9/11 MEMORIAL – Vista Firehouse

Mr. Gonçalves thanked the Vista Fire Department for having their 9/11 ceremony on Sunday, September 9th. Mr. Gonçalves stated that it was a lovely ceremony and wished it was better attended.

SHOPPING LOCAL – Video

Supervisor Parsons would like to record a message/video to the town's people asking them to shop local. Ms. Crimmins also mentioned that she did get about 100 residents to appeal to Trader Joe's to look at the Cross River space where DeCicco's just vacated.

MEETINGS – Dates Set

Upcoming meetings include a meeting on Monday, September 24, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. at the Town House, 11 Main Street, South Salem, NY.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – To Discuss Specific Personnel Moves and Real Estate Transactions

On motion by Supervisor Parsons, seconded by Mr. Pappalardo, the Board voted 5-0 to go into executive session at 9:44 p.m. to discuss specific personnel moves and real estate transactions.

On motion by Supervisor Parsons, seconded by Ms. Crimmins the Board voted 5-0 to come out of executive session at 10:45 p.m.

TOWN EMPLOYEES & OFFICIALS – Police

On motion by Supervisor Parsons, seconded by Mr. Gonçalves, the Board voted as follows:

| | | | |
|-----------|--------|---|-----|
| THE VOTE: | Yes | - Parsons, Crimmins, Gonçalves, Pappalardo, Welsh | (5) |
| | No | - None | (0) |
| | Absent | - None | (0) |

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the hiring of Peter Cervantes as a part-time Police Officer, effective November 1, 2018.

TOWN EMPLOYEES & OFFICIALS – Assessor

On motion by Supervisor Parsons, seconded by Mr. Gonçalves, the Board voted as follows:

| | | | |
|-----------|--------|---|-----|
| THE VOTE: | Yes | - Parsons, Crimmins, Gonçalves, Pappalardo, Welsh | (5) |
| | No | - None | (0) |
| | Absent | - None | (0) |

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorize the Supervisor and Comptroller to determine a stipend to be paid to Lise Robertson, Assessor for her time spent on Census work, ensuring that this time worked is not duplicative of other compensatory time.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Supervisor Parsons, seconded by Mr. Pappalardo, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn at 10:55 p.m.

Janet L. Donohue
Town Clerk