

**Stillwater Town Board
Business Meeting
June 19, 2008 7:00 PM
Stillwater Town Hall**

Present: **Councilman Artie Baker
Councilwoman Lisa Bruno
Councilwoman Virginia Whitman
Supervisor Shawn Connelly**

Also Present: **Sue Cunningham, Town Clerk
Mark Minick, Supt of Highways
James Trainor, Attorney for the Town
Joe Lanaro, Engineer for the Town**

Absent: **Councilman Ken Petronis**

Supervisor Connelly called the meeting to order and led everyone in the Pledge to the Flag.

Sue Cunningham, Town Clerk took the roll call.

Motion by Councilman Baker and seconded by Councilwoman Whitman to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2008 Agenda Meeting and the May 15, 2008 Business Meeting of the Stillwater Town Board. **Motion carried.**

Special Presentation

John Bossalini, Project Executive of Amedore Land Development gave a brief presentation in regard to their Stillwater Woods PDD parcel. Mr. Bossalini requested that the Town Board consider amending a portion of the current PDD governing the zone, they are interested in changing the 26.7 acres of Business-2 zone sandwiched between the Stillwater Woods subdivision and Route 423 to permit condominium homes. They have had a good reaction to these models in similar markets and feel that it may be more of a beneficial use of that zone. Further discussion was held in regard to water, sewer, density, and impact on the area with Supervisor Connelly stating that they should submit their formal application.

Reports and Resolutions *(Town Board & Dept Heads)*

Supervisor Connelly

10 Year Tornado Anniversary: The 10 Year anniversary of the Tornado that devastated Stillwater and Mechanicville was held on Saturday May 31st and was well attended for the weather that we had. Assemblymen Roy McDonald was in attendance as well as former Mayor of Mechanicville Tom Higgins and former Supervisor Paul Lilac. Emergency Preparedness Coordinator John Nett also updated the residents on the changes and what is now in place if another disaster was to hit Stillwater again and the advances we have made. I would like to thank Councilwoman Ginger Whitman and Councilwoman Lisa Bruno for their help on putting the celebration together.

Family Day: Another event that was held was the 29th annual Family Day Celebration on June 7th at the grounds of the American Legion Post 490. The awards that are given away every year were The Stillwater Free Library winning Organization of the Year, Megan Montayne and Logan Friesen as Youth Volunteers of the Year and Clair Haizlip as Citizen of the Year.

Hudson River Dredging/EPA: On June 4th I attended a Citizens Action Group (CAG) meeting at the Saratoga Spa State Park on the dredging of the Hudson River. At the meeting there were representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), The New York State Department of Health and New York State Department Environmental Conservation. There were 3 other Supervisors along with myself expressing the need for drinkable water for the residents that have their drinking water influenced by the river. Jack Lawler of Waterford introduced me as the Supervisor that has a unique situation. Stillwater has no back up when the dredging starts and I have told the EPA that they need to supply the residents of Stillwater with safe drinkable water from the day the dredging starts. They say that the water we will get from the Village wells will be naturally filtered by the earth, but will not guarantee that NO PCB's will enter our water supply. I have asked that the EPA pay for Stillwater to hook into the Saratoga County Water Authority's Water Supply and have that in place before ANY dredging is started. The County Board of Supervisors have given Stillwater, Waterford, Half Moon and Mechanicville \$100,000 for attorney fees to help fight for drinkable water for all the Towns affected along the Dredging

project. There are to date over 38,000 residents in the 4 communities that will be affected by the dredging. I also plan on having the EPA come to Stillwater and explain to us why they do not feel that we should have drinkable water for the entire 10 to 12 years that the dredging is taking place. That meeting will be this summer and letters will be sent to all residents soon.

July 4th/Saratoga: The Saratoga Lake Association has emailed me that the Fireworks on Saratoga Lake will be July 5th near Snake Hill

Seal Coating: The Town Hall Parking Lot will be Seal Coated on Friday July 27th and the Blockhouse Parking lot will be done Monday the 30th. The Blockhouse will still have alternate parking in the lot south of the blockhouse that the town has purchased as additional parking.

Multi Use Trail: The Multi Use Trail has been paved. There have been some problems with 4 wheelers and cars on the trail, and the Police Department is trying to get a handle on that issue with more patrols on the Trail.

Glen Hollow Park: Stillwater has been promised a small amount of money for the Glen Hollow Park from the Saratoga Soil Conservation. They have \$3500 or so for 7 towns that put in for money and will be sending checks out soon. I have also been told that there may be more money later this year and that there will be a larger amount to split between all 7 parks for next year and years to follow.

Parks: On that note I plan on trying to meet soon with Councilmen Baker and Petronis from the Parks and Recreation Committee as well as Mark, to see what can be done by our Highway Department and how much we can spend from the Budgeted Parks money on this park this year.

Councilman Baker

Parks & Recreation: Councilman Baker reported that he would like to set up a meeting on parks to discuss options and that he is hoping to have the Riverfront Park on Route 4 open and ready by the Spring of 2009.

Councilwoman Bruno

Clean Up Day: Councilwoman Bruno reported on the first Town Wide Clean Up Day and stated that there would be another one in August.

Police Dept: Councilwoman Bruno reported that Saratoga County is loaning out a new Child ID software program and the Town of Stillwater Police Dept is on the list to be receiving it.

Community Center: Councilwoman Bruno reported that the Community Center has a new Fiscal Officer. Councilwoman Bruno wanted to thank the Village DPW for placing the new flag pole in the ground at the Community Center.

Councilwoman Whitman

Fiscal Management: Councilwoman Whitman recognized the Town's new Director of Fiscal Management.

Town Hall Roof: Councilwoman Whitman stated that she sent a letter to Senator Bruno's Office in regard to any funds available for the roof. She was informed that there was nothing at this time but her letter would remain on file.

Brown's Beach: Councilwoman Whitman commented on the status of Brown's Beach in regard to it being cleaning up.

Rescue Squad: Councilwoman Whitman inquired if the Supervisor ever set up a meeting with the Rescue Squad.

Supervisor Connelly stated that he has not done so.

She suggested that this be done to find out what they are all about.

Emergency Management: Councilwoman Whitman inquired about the photo ID tags for Emergency Management.

Supervisor Connelly stated that they are waiting for pictures of the Town Board members.

Budget: Councilwoman Whitman inquired if he addressed her memo dated 4/21/08 in regard to the unexpended balances that she has concerns about for this year and if he has spoken to any of the Department Heads.

Supervisor Connelly stated that he has spoken to all the Department Heads in regard to cutting back on unnecessary spending. He has met with the bookkeeper numerous times and asked her to keep him informed if it was getting to a critical level.

Ethics: Councilwoman Whitman inquired about the ethics committee.

Supervisor Connelly stated that the ethics committee has met once on an issue and a decision was rendered. He stated that Rev. Woodman has informed him that he did not have time for this so they will have to look for a new member.

Sons of American Legion: Councilwoman Whitman inquired if a letter was ever sent to the Sons thanking them for all the community service that they do.

Supervisor Connelly stated that he thanked them personally but has not sent a letter.

2009 Budget: Councilwoman Whitman stated that in regard to the 2009 budget she would like to suggest that they talk to their insurance broker to see if there was a better plan that was more cost effective.

Councilman Baker stated that she as a Councilmember could look into this.

Sewer & Water: Councilwoman Whitman inquired if letters were ever sent out to the users in the sewer district in regard to the new rate change.

Supervisor Connelly stated he has discussed this with the Supt of Highways and that the Supervisor's secretary would be printing out letters for both water & sewer on the new rates.

Mortgage tax: Councilwoman Whitman stated that another concern is that the mortgage tax has gone down 23%.

Multi Use Trail: Councilwoman Whitman stated that it is her belief that the Multi Use Trail is going to be the biggest burden on the taxpayers.

Councilwoman Bruno inquired if there have been any statements issued for the use of the Town debit card.

A discussion was held on the debit card in regard to statements and how the Board would be notified of its use.

Supervisor Connelly stated that a statement is not generated so the receipts are attached to vouchers and put before the Board at the Town Board meetings.

Councilwoman Bruno inquired if a separate monthly statement could be created as to its use.

Supt of Highways (Mark Minick)

Supt Minick reported that the Highway has been mowing the sides of the road and when finished with that they will be mowing the landfill and Riverfront Park. They have also been doing some ditching maintenance, tree removal in areas, paving, chip sealing, surface treatment and test pores on certain roads. Supt Minick stated that there has been an excess of garbage being thrown out along the sides of the road. He has had several meeting with LFTC and SEDC in regard to Cold Springs Road.

Councilwoman Bruno questioned the Multi Use Trail in regard to the trees being planted in sand which have died. She asked if this has been corrected.

Supt Minick stated that to his knowledge the dead trees have been replaced.

A discussion was held on the trees, benches, bridge etc.

Town Attorney (James Trainor)

Attorney Trainor reported on the Cold Springs Rd and the eminent domain proceedings.

Town Engineer (Joe Lanaro)

Engineer Lanaro submitted a report to the Board and briefly went over the report. (Copy on file in the Town Clerks Office)

Councilwoman Whitman inquired if all the money for the Boilerhouse was in.

Engineer Lanaro stated that this is a reimbursable application. There is still some work being done in which costs will be sent in when the work is finished.

Councilwoman Whitman inquired about funds regarding the Gurba Drainage project.

Engineer Lanaro stated that the funds are in for that project.

Councilwoman Whitman inquired about the Water District #4 lawsuit.

Attorney Trainor stated that it is ongoing.

Councilman Baker questioned the Engineer in regard to the sewer regarding Revolutionary Heights and Saratoga Hills.

Engineer Lanaro stated that he will look into this and will have something for the next meeting.

Supervisor Connelly commented that there are three escrow accounts that need t be funded and requested that letters be sent out no later than Monday.

Agenda Items (Resolutions #94- #100)

Resolution #94: Authorizing the Supervisor to purchase a Laptop for the Building Dept.

Resolution #95: Agreement for Roofing Consulting Services with Butler Architects.

Resolution #96: Referring the Saratoga Cluster PDD to the Town Planning Board for Review and Comments.

Resolution #97: Authorizing the Purchase of Three Town Entrance Signs.

Resolution #98: Authorize the Supervisor to Disburse Budgeted Funds for the Community Center Summer Program.

Resolution #99: Waiving Penalties on Three water Bill Payments.

Resolution #100: Approving Budget Transfers.

Motion by Councilman Baker and seconded by Councilwoman Whitman to approved Resolutions #94 thru #100

Discussion:

Councilwoman Bruno inquired about Resolution #99 in regard to waiving the penalties.

Supt Minick explained the reason for waiving the penalties.

Supervisor Connelly commented on the cost of replacing the three new entrance signs into the Town when they are trying to be conservative.

Councilman Baker complimented Councilwoman Whitman for the job she did in acquiring the prices on the new signs.

Councilwoman Whitman stated that she is one that always tries to be conservative but thinks they also need to be proud of their Town and new signs are needed. That is why they are purchasing only three signs this year and maybe next year they can replace a couple more signs.

A roll call vote was taken as follows on Resolutions #94 thru #100.

Councilman Baker	Yes
Councilman Petronis	Absent
Councilwoman Bruno	Yes
Councilwoman Whitman	Yes
Supervisor Connelly	Yes

Motion carried. Resolutions #94 - #100 were adopted unanimously. (Copies attached and made part of the minutes).

Public Input

Resident I commented on the fine job the Highway did on some roads but questioned whether it was necessary. He commented on the Multi Use Trail in regard to the walkers & bikers crossing the road and felt signage should be put up and in regard to the shrubs he stated that they have done a good job but feel more shrubs are needed to give the residents back their privacy. He also questioned the purpose of making his street a one way and who would approve this action. Supervisor Connelly stated that the one way signage was an option and considered due to complaints from other area residents.

Resident II commented on Mechanicville having an Animal Control Officer and Stillwater having Canine Control Officer. He also commented on PNL and code violations in regard to the roads, cul de sac, and dead end streets.

Resident III commented on the Supervisor not returning his phone call and the Multi Use Trail in regard to water back up, brush, shrubs not providing privacy and trash containers not having covers. He stated that water sits in the trash containers and it begins to stink.

A discussion was held on the trail in regard to the trees, shrubs and who empties the trash containers.

Supervisor Connelly apologized for not returning his call.

Resident IV commented on the Multi Use Trail in regard to the trees & shrubs, bikers not aware of the new traffic in area, cars speeding, making the one road a one way and complained about the workers of DelSignore.

A discussion was held on the trail in regard to these topics.

Resident IV inquired about the notice sent out regarding the water and questioned if it was safe to drink.

Supt Minick explained the process of testing and notifying residents of any contamination.

Resident V inquired who would be paying for the dredging, if pressure could be put on them to supply clean water and questioned the dirt at the Boilerhouse.

Supervisor Connelly stated that the EPA is the one handling the dredging and that he is in the process of trying to set up a workshop with the residents of Stillwater and invite EPA to come and answer any questions that residents have.

Engineer Lanaro stated that there were contaminants in the dirt and that the environmental scientist in their office is working on that.

Resident VI commented on the sewer line expansion of Cold Springs Road, Water District #4 lawsuit, and inquired as to the ownership of the Mechanicville Reservoir.

Supervisor Connelly stated that the plan was to do the sewer line and road work together, the lawsuit was ongoing, and the Attorney is in the process of reviewing documentation and then it will be submitted to the Board.

Audited Claims

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

General	#303-#333	\$12,975.63
Highway	#236-#288	\$292,748.63
Town Outside	#63-#68	\$16,144.28
Water & Sewer	#27-#35	\$2,502.10
Capital Projects	#39-#44	\$84,114.53
(Boilerhouse, BOA, Walking Trail, & CSR)		

Motion carried.

Motion by Councilman Baker and Councilwoman Bruno to adjourn into executive session at 8:30 PM. (Note: This was for discussion on Personnel only & would not return to the Business meeting).