

Stillwater Town Board
Business Meeting & Public Hearing
(Section 8 Housing)
July 17, 2008 7:00 PM
Stillwater Town Hall

Present: **Councilman Ken Petronis**
Councilwoman Lisa Bruno
Councilwoman Virginia Whitman
Supervisor Shawn Connelly

Also Present: Sue Cunningham, Town Clerk
 Mark Minick, Supt of Highways ****9:20 excused****
 James Trainor, Attorney for the Town
 Joe Lanaro, Engineer for the Town

Absent: Councilman Artie Baker

Public Hearing 7:00 PM

Purpose: The purpose of the public hearing is to receive comments from the public on the Town's proposed Agency Plan for 2008 for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program.

Supervisor Connelly called the meeting to order and introduced Jim Mastrianni representing Joe Mastrianni's Office who administers the Section 8 Housing Program.

Mr. Mastrianni gave a brief presentation on the program background and current program statistics.

A brief question and answer period followed.

Motion by Councilwoman Whitman and seconded by Councilwoman Bruno to adjourn the public hearing at 7:15 PM. **Motion carried.**

Regular Business Meeting

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

Town Clerk Sue Cunningham took the roll call.

Adoption of Minutes: by Councilman Petronis and seconded by Councilwoman Whitman to adopt the minutes of the June 19, 2008 Business Meeting of the Stillwater Town Board. **Motion carried.**

Communications: None

Reports

(Town Board & Department Heads)

Supervisor Connelly

Hudson River Dredging: I have met, along with several other Town Supervisors, with Congress Women Gillabrand over the issue of the dredging of the Hudson River that is to start in the spring of 2009. I have asked the congresswomen to help the Town of Stillwater get clean drinking water for the whole time that the dredging will be taking place. The EPA says 6 years and others say 10 to 12 years. I am looking at September to have a public meeting at the High School with Dave King who is head of the EPA so he can answer questions from all Town and Village residents.

Train Station: For anyone that did not hear about the press conference in Mechanicville last week, Stillwater will have a small part in the new inter modal train station in the old rail yard off of Rt. 67. Norfolk Southern will be building a platform type station and moving their Albany station north to the new site which is 85% in Halfmoon and 15% in Stillwater. They say they will be bringing 150 jobs to start and should start construction in late 2009.

2007 Audit: Two weeks ago Cusack and Cusack came and did the 2007 audit of the town. After we have our final meeting with them I will make known what they have found.

Multi Use Trail: Mark has placed STOP signs in the Multi Use Trail so that the walkers, runners and bikers know they do not have the right a way when crossing the roads that the Trail intersects with. I have been on the Trail several times and have seen people stopping and looking for traffic.

I plan on meeting with Mark and Joe on what we need to put into place to make Railroad Street from Burns Bridge to Halfway House Rd into a one way south. We will look at what we need to have in place and possibly by our August meeting we can have a resolution to put to a vote.

Community Center/Summer Program: Lastly the free summer program that the Town used to run has over 125 children in it this year. Even with the price of gas putting them \$4000 over budget Ashley Hannehan has worked to put together some fun raisers so that they did not have to turn any children away.

Councilman Petronis

Parks & Recreation: Councilman Petronis commented on Riverfront Park and contacting a resident who has been doing different studies up there.

Councilwoman Bruno

Police Commission: We are in the interview process to replace a couple part time officers who departed in 2007. We are interviewing the candidates who the chief selected to continue on to the Police Commission and I will report back to you once the selections have been made. This will ensure we have enough coverage for the community as well as for Court.

Recycling: The Town wide clean up is scheduled for August 2, 2008 – starting at 7:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M.

Library: The Library has a lot of exciting events happening for the summer to keep our youth occupied. Pre-K story time, the Bug guy, Computer basics and much more – I encourage everyone to go to their website and check out the activities planned or just stop into the Library and check out all that it has to offer our community. I would like to thank Sara and Michelle for all their hard work.

Community Center: They have enrolled 141 children in the Town's Summer Youth Program. This is up from the 85 we had registered last year!

The Center held a cake auction to help offset some of the cost of the Summer Program. They auctioned off 35 cakes and took in a total of \$671.00, all profit. Former Town Councilwoman JoAnn Winchell's cake brought in the most money as it sold for \$45.00.

On August 1st, the center will be holding a dance for Grades 5-7 which will also be used to help offset the cost of increased enrollment. On August 13th, the Center will hold a "Yard Sale" type auction beginning at 6:00 P.M. in front of the Community Center (In case of inclement weather, we will go to the Old Gym). We are currently accepting donations of things to auction off. The auction will also be used to benefit the Summer Youth Program.

Another positive to report is that the Center has received the paperwork for the \$35,000 grant from Senator Joseph L. Bruno's Office. Paul Lilac is beginning to prepare everything so that the Center can move forward with renovations to the Community Center's kitchen area. They will get at least three quotes from various companies to do the work. Paul Lilac will keep the Board updated on this project.

Our School-Age Child Care Program (formerly called Before and After School Program) went through a very thorough inspection from the New York State Office of Children & Family Services, on May 19, 2008, and the center just received a letter from that Agency informing us that our School-Age Child Care Program was found to be in compliance as per all regulations of the NYS Office of Children and Family Services.

Councilwoman Whitman

Employees: Councilwoman Whitman stated that all employees should be offered the opportunity to join the TCT Federal Credit Union.

Councilwoman Whitman stated that the rough draft of the personnel policy is completed. She said that a copy would be sent to the County Personnel Dept. and all Department Heads would receive a copy to review.

Brown's Beach: Councilwoman Whitman commented on the maintenance and clean up in regard to Browns Beach.

A further discussion was held in regard to the clean up process.

Fixed Assets: Councilwoman Whitman stated that the Director of Fiscal Management is working on bringing the fixed asset report up to date.

Luther Forest: Councilwoman Whitman inquired about the MOU and the dollar amount. A discussion was held on the funding and agreement.

Attorney Trainor stated the new agreement was a supplement to the old agreement and the agreements in place stay in place.

PNL: Councilwoman Whitman inquired about the status of PNL and the sewer lines.

Supervisor Connelly stated that things are at a standstill do to a challenge of their assessment.

Escrow Accounts: Councilwoman Whitman inquired if any money has been received in regard to the Resolutions adopted regarding escrow accounts.

Supervisor Connelly stated that he would check on this.

Day at the Races: Councilwoman Whitman reported that the 5th Annual Day of the Races was scheduled for August 24th.

Town Signs: Councilwoman Whitman reported that the new Town signs would be in by the end of July.

Highway Trucks: Councilwoman Whitman inquired if the new Highway trucks were in.

Supt Minick stated that they have not arrived yet.

Blockhouse: Councilwoman Whitman inquired about a grant that was submitted.

Supervisor Connelly reported that he put in a project request with Saratoga-Washington County Partnership and he would know something after the first Monday in August. He stated that if they weren't awarded a grant this year there would be another opportunity next year.

Multi Use Trail: Councilwoman Whitman inquired where people parked to use the trail.

Comments were made to the fact that they park along Halfway House Rd.

Councilman Petronis commented that they should be directed to 5 Campbell Rd.

A brief discussion was held in regard to parking for the Multi Use Trail.

Supt of Highways (Mark Minick)

Hydrants: Supt Minick reported that they would be flushing hydrants the week of the 28th in District 1.

Cambridge Court Park: Supt Minick reported that there were several trees that died because they were not getting enough water.

A discussion was held on the irrigation system that was put in.

Budget: Supt Minick stated that blacktop is up \$7 a ton & petroleum is up so that he may have to do budget adjustments soon.

Resolution: Supt Minick requested a resolution for the next meeting declaring some small equipment as surplus.

Supt Minick reported that they are finishing up shoulder work and next week they would start the mowing at the landfill and the sides of the road.

Councilman Petronis requested a resolution for the next meeting authorizing the hiring of one new Highway employee.

Councilwoman Whitman stated that she was against any full time hiring at this time.

A brief discussion was held.

Town Attorney (James Trainor)

CSR Closings: Attorney Trainor stated that they were very close to start the closings and were waiting for the funds to conduct the closings.

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)

Chris Rounds gave a brief overview of the DGEIS, the upcoming public hearing on August 6th at 6:00 PM at the Stillwater Community Center and the process.

Councilwoman Whitman inquired if the \$90,000 for the Campbell Rd property has been received.

Supervisor Connelly stated that they resubmitted the grant and it has not been received yet.

A brief discussion was held on the funding of this property.

Town Clerk (Sue Cunningham)

Sue Cunningham Town Clerk stated that she submitted her report to all Board Members.

Public Hearing (Section 8 Housing)

On the request of the Town Attorney Supervisor Connelly reopened the public input section of the earlier public hearing.

Motion by Councilman Petronis and seconded by Councilwoman Bruno to reopen the public input of the Section 8 Housing hearing.

Public Input: No one spoke for or against the program.

With everyone having the opportunity to speak Supervisor Connelly closed the public hearing.

Action Items (Resolutions #101 thru #117)

Resolution #101: Referring the PDD amendment application of Amadore Homes regarding Stillwater Green to the Town's Planning Board for review & comment and report its findings back to the Town Board.

Resolution #102: Scheduling a public hearing for 7:10 PM on August 21, 2008 at the Stillwater Town Hall to consider the adoption of Local Law #3 of 2008 regarding the protection of cemeteries and burial grounds.

Resolution #103: Authorizing execution of agreement for transfer of the pipeline transmission main to the Saratoga County water Authority.

Resolution #104: Authorizing signatures for the Cold Springs Road Improvement Project Closings.

Resolution #105: Special Proclamation for Senator Joseph Bruno on the occasion of his Retirement from the New York State Senate.

Resolution #106: The Town Board has concluded that the Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement is sufficiently complete for purposes of commencing public review.

Resolution #107: The Town Board hereby schedules a special Town Board Meeting and public hearing at 6:00p.m. on Wednesday, August 6, 2008 at the Stillwater Community Center to consider the contents of the draft GEIS and to obtain comments from the public to incorporate in the final GEIS.

Resolution #108: Rescinding Resolution #95 of 2008 regarding roofing consulting services and authorizing emergency repairs.

Resolution #109: The Town Board supports the SLPID Lake Reclamation & finds it is desirable that adequate grant funding be obtained to complete this important lake restoration effort and supports the submission of grant application efforts that meet these goals.

Resolution #110: The Town of Stillwater hereby adopts the Annual Plan for 2008 for operation of the Town of Stillwater Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program.

Resolution #111: Authorizing the Supervisor to remit \$3,500 as provided in the 2008 Town Budget to the Mechanicville Library for payment of services on behalf of Stillwater Town residents residing within the Mechanicville School District.

Resolution #112: The Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to enter into the attached Memorandum of Understanding with LFTCEDC providing for the acquisition of parcels and payment or reimbursements of expenses related to the Cold Springs Road Improvement Project.

Resolution #113: Appointing Peter Hughes III to the position of Fire Marshall of the Town effective immediately to be paid as budgeted.

Resolution #114: The Town Board hereby approves budget transfers to be made by the Office of Fiscal Management to cover emergency roof repairs.

Resolution #115: Authorizing the Supervisor to enter into an agreement with Chazen Engineering to assist the Town in preparing a grant application under the Capital District Transportation Committee Bicycle/Pedestrian Spot Improvement Program.

Resolution #116: Authorizing the Chief of Police to hire up to three new part-time officers.

Resolution #117: Cold Springs Road Corridor Bond resolution.

Motion by Councilman Petronis and seconded by Councilwoman Bruno to adopt Resolutions #101 thru #117.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

Motion carried. Resolutions #101 thru #117 were adopted unanimously. (Copies attached and made part of the minutes).

Public Input

Resident I inquired about Local Law #3, and if forty-five minutes to an hour was enough time for the DGEIS presentation.

Attorney Trainor stated that Local Law #3 was a proposed local law for the protection of cemeteries and burial grounds.

Supervisor Connelly stated that a copy of the DGEIS is on file in the Town Clerk's office, Library and on the website for people to review prior to the public hearing.

Chris Rounds of Chazen Co. went over the process of the DGEIS.

Resident II inquired about making Railroad Ave a one way road.

Supervisor Connelly stated that the Town Board took this in to consideration after receiving comments from residents in the Tow Path Rd. area. He stated that the one way would only be from Burns Bridge Rd. to Halfway House Rd., it would not be all of Railroad Ave.

Resident III commented on the Multi-Use Trail in regard the stop sign on Halfway House Rd., ticks on the trail, standing water near the pumping station off of Railroad Ave, browning of the shrubs, mowing and making the one section of road a one way.

A discussion was held in regard to the trail and the one way road. The consensus of the Town Board was if the residents didn't want the one way road then the discussion would be dropped.

Resident IV stated that he was not in favor of the one way road. He questioned if the Trail was going to connect with Brickyard Rd., if the drinking water quality has improved and Resolution #115.

Supervisor Connelly stated that there are no plans to connect the trail with Brickyard Rd.

Supt Minick stated that they did a test a week ago and it failed so the Village is in the process of doing something with the organics which will reduce the numbers. He stated that right now the numbers are borderline.

Supervisor Connelly stated that this was for the end of the Multi-Use Trail on Campbell Rd.

A discussion was held on the trail route from Campbell Rd in regard to people having to walk in the road for a portion of the trail.

Resident V inquired about the Boilerhouse in regard to cost and if it was completed.

Engineer Lanaro stated that there was still a small section that had to have contaminants removed.

Councilwoman Whitman reported that the cost associated with the Boilerhouse that the taxpayers will be responsible for is approximately \$640,000.

Further discussion was held on the total cost of the Boilerhouse.

Resident VI requested that they mow 5 Campbell Rd but before they send people to park there they consider how it will be used and how it will work. He asked that they have a construction plan to consider the layout in regard to a proper entry, exit and talk to the people in the area before doing anything. He also inquired about trimming of trees that hang over the road on Wetsel Manor and the availability of public sewer to older homes in the Town.

Supervisor Connelly stated that before they do anything they would take public input into consideration and talk to the people first.

Supt Minick stated that he would look into the trees hanging over the road.

A brief discussion was held on sewer and the availability to the residents.

Resident VII commented on the alleged code violations in Saratoga Hills in regard to cul-de-sacs, dead end streets and the entrance. He stated that if the Town won't enforce the laws then he is prepared to file a complaint with the State against the code enforcement officer and if the State doesn't follow through he will take it to court. He also commented on the lots being surveyed and pinpointed.

Supervisor Connelly stated that the code enforcement officer has been up there addressing concerns.

A discussion was held on the alleged violations and surveying of the lots.

****Supt Minick left at this time. (9:20 PM)**

The Town Board at this time introduced the new Fire Marshall, Peter Hughes at this time.

Resident VIII questioned Resolution # 113, surveying being done on Brickyard Rd., Resolution #103 and the Draft GEIS.
Supervisor Connelly stated that Ray Abbey was covering the position until they hired someone. Councilman Petronis stated that some property was bought and that there may be some development there.
Supervisor Connelly explained Resolution #103 in more detail and that the GEIS is a study on the impact of development within the Town.

Audited Claims

Motion by Councilman Petronis and seconded by Councilwoman Whitman to approve the audited claims.

General	#334-#371	\$24,280.35
Highway	#289-#313	\$221,318.79
Town Outside	#69-#73	\$4,925.9
Water & Sewer	#36-#38	\$1,733.99
Capital Projects	#45-#46	\$29,836.80
(Walking Trail, Boilerhouse, & CSR)		

Motion carried.

Motion by Councilman Petronis and seconded by Councilwoman Bruno to adjourn the Town Board meeting and enter into executive session at 9:20 PM. (Contracts)

Respectfully submitted by

Sue Cunningham
Stillwater Town Clerk