

Clifton Park Town Board Meeting Minutes

November 15, 2004

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Clifton Park was held in the Town Office Building at 7:00 p.m., Supervisor Barrett presiding.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Present: Councilman Paolucci
Councilman Speckhard
Councilwoman Walowit
Supervisor Barrett
Town Clerk O'Donnell

Absent: Councilman Roth

Also Present: Town Attorney Trainor
Mark Heggen, Comptroller
Michael Shahan, Town Administrator

MOTION by Councilman Paolucci, seconded by Councilwoman Walowit, to approve the minutes of the November 1 and 4, 2004 meetings as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Paolucci, Councilman Speckhard,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

MOTION CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Supervisor Barrett announced a Blood Drive will be held in the Town Hall on December 8, 2004.

Councilman Speckhard asked that the Sherwood Forest Park District budget be increased by \$3000 in order to repair a drainage problem effecting the ball fields and tennis courts. This has the approval of the Park District.

Councilman Speckhard reported the low bid for the Barney Road Pool House came in \$160,000 above what had been budgeted between 2004 and 2005. He asked if the Preliminary Budget should be adjusted before the Final Budget is adopted.

Town Administrator Shahan reported the drainage problem at the Sherwood Forest Park District is due to the renovation of Route 146A a few years ago. Regarding the bids for the Barney Road Pool House, he said heat will be needed once the structure is up in order for the new floor to cure. The heat requirement is one item that contributed to the higher than expected bid.

Town Comptroller Heggen reported year to date general fund expenditures and revenues are approximately \$9.5 million, and contingency fund is at \$21,000. Councilman Speckhard asked the amount of the unallocated reserve. Mr. Heggen responded approximately \$4 million not including 2004 revenues and expenditures. He noted the surplus is around \$9 million total but that includes legally contracted reserves, tax stabilization fund, capital reserve for water and open space, and other designated capital projects.

PUBLIC PRIVILEGE ON RESOLUTIONS

No one wished to be heard.

Resolution No. 291 of 2004, a resolution adopting the Preliminary Budget for 2005.

Introduced by Councilman Speckhard, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Walowit.

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on the Preliminary Budget on November 4, 2004 where comments were received from the public regarding the proposal, and

WHEREAS, the comments of the public have been incorporated into the proposed budget, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to increase the Sherwood Forest Park District budget line SP8-7125-200 (Sherwood Forest Park Dist.-Capital Improvements) by \$3,000 in order to fix drainage problems on the baseball field/tennis courts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Preliminary Budget for 2005 is hereby adopted as the Town's Budget for the Year 2005.

Supervisor Barrett reviewed the proposed 2005 budget, noting it is just over \$11.9 million which is a three percent increase over 2004, with no general fund town tax. The \$2.7 million tax cut remains in the 2005 budget which will almost eliminate the highway tax. There is a total highway tax levy of \$340,000. The Supervisor reported funds for three additional sheriff deputy positions are included. He further reported rising costs that are to be faced are double digit increases in medical and dental insurance, payment to NYS Retirement is two and a half times that of 2003, and the lost revenue in motor vehicle fines. He continued to encourage residents to shop locally to support the tax base.

MOTION BY Councilman Speckhard, seconded by Councilwoman Walowit, to amend the resolution by including the \$3000 increase for the Sherwood Forest Park District budget.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON MOTION

Ayes: Councilman Paolucci, Councilman Speckhard,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

Absent: Councilman Roth

MOTION CARRIED

Councilman Speckhard proposed that an additional \$161,376 be added to the 2005 Budget to complete the work on the Barney Road Pool Building since the project needs to be started this fall in order to be finished by spring.

Supervisor Barrett said he would rather talk to the engineers on the project to see if there is any way to bring the discrepancy down. He feels this project needs more study and research.

Councilman Paolucci said it is prudent to wait on adding the additional amount to the budget as there is an unallocated fund balance that can be used after further study of the project and action could be taken sometime in December.

It was noted \$255,000 is already set aside for the project. Discussion ensued as to whether money had to be in the budget to sign the bid. Supervisor Barrett responded no. The Supervisor stated the Board is committed to the project and wants to see it completed by the pool opening but it is necessary to look at some alternatives.

Councilman Speckhard emphasized the importance of this project being started as soon as possible.

Town Attorney Trainor said if the bid changes are substantial it might be necessary to rebid this project.

It was decided to only amend the budget with the additional \$3000 for the Sherwood Forest Park District.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON BUDGET

Ayes: Councilman Paolucci, Councilman Speckhard,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

Absent: Councilman Roth

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 292 of 2004, a resolution scheduling a public hearing to consider an application for the Conservation Easement program.

Introduced by Councilman Paolucci, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Walowit.

WHEREAS, the Town's Conservation Easement program requires public comment on properties proposed to be included in the program, and

WHEREAS, the following property has requested inclusion in the Conservation Easement program:

Daniel C. & Susan M. Drescher 276.-1-46.122
55 Droms Rd., Rexford, NY

now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that a public hearing is scheduled for December 6, 2004 in the Wood Memorial Room, One Town Hall Plaza, Clifton Park, at 7:20 PM to consider the above property for inclusion in the Conservation Easement program, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the proposed property owner give the notice to their neighbors and other entities as provided in the Town's Conservation Easement legislation in advance of the public hearing, and the Town Clerk is directed to publish appropriate notice of the same.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Paolucci, Councilman Speckhard,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

Absent: Councilman Roth

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 293 of 2004, a resolution authorizing the Assessor to relevy delinquent water charges on the Rexford Water District 2005 property tax bills.

Introduced by Councilman Paolucci, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Walowit.

WHEREAS, the Rexford Water District has reported unpaid water bills per the attached schedule for the Rexford Water District, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Assessor to relevy the unpaid bill on the property owner's 2005 tax bill to ensure payment of the same; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board accepts the reported delinquent water charges for the Rexford Water District per the attached schedule and authorizes the Assessor to relevy that amount on the property owners' 2005 property bill.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Paolucci, Councilman Speckhard,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

Absent: Councilman Roth

DECLARED ADOPTED

PUBLIC PRIVILEGE

Vince Obremski, Appleton Road, expressed interest in having a cell tower located on his property. Supervisor Barrett recommended he contact the Planning Department.

Jim Ruhl, Wood Dale Drive, read a prepared statement regarding the withdrawal by Exxon Mobil of their application for a project on Ushers Road, attached.

Supervisor Barrett, in reply to Mr. Ruhl's recommendation to form an Ushers Road Ad Hoc Planning Committee, recommended the committee come from the Country Knolls Civic Association or Park District and noted the Town Board would be happy to work with them.

Norman Goldman, London Square, speaking with regard to the proposed library on Moe Road, said he hopes that same concern given to the Ushers Road residents will be given to the Moe Road residents.

Abraham Blum, Parkland Court, expressed concern with the development on Moe and Grooms Roads and with the trucks and cars for sale being parked by the farm stand at the corner of Moe and Grooms Roads.

Jim Baisley, Barkwood Lane, commended the Board for the excellent work done at the

park at the corner of Clifton Park Center and Moe Roads.

MOTION by Councilman Paolucci, seconded by Councilwoman Walowit, to adjourn the meeting to the next regular meeting or any other meeting necessary for the conduct of Town business.

Motion carried at 8:10 p.m.

Patricia O'Donnell
Town Clerk