

**Clifton Park Town Board Meeting Minutes  
November 14, 2005**

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  
Councilman Roth  
Councilwoman Walowit  
Supervisor Barrett  
Town Clerk O'Donnell

Also Present: Town Attorney Trainor  
Jason Kemper, Director of Planning  
Michael Shahen, Town Administrator

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Supervisor Barrett announced the Clifton Park Babe Ruth baseball league has requested funding from the county in support of the 2006 World Series. With regard to this request, he asked the Town Board to show public support for the Babe Ruth World Series by designating \$60,000 from the county surplus. There was unanimous support from the Town Board and a resolution will follow next week.

Councilman Paolucci spoke with regard to the possibility of Karner Blue butterfly and blue lupine at the intersection of Ushers and Longkill Roads. He reported there is history that blue lupine was at the site but in October 2003, the Fish and Wildlife send a letter to Clough, Harbour and Associates stating "based on information provided, we concur that the proposed project is not likely to adversely affect the Karner Blue butterfly, therefore, no biological assessment or further coordination or consultation under the endangered species act is required". The state DOT signed off on the project as well.

Councilman Roth said a resolution is planned designating money from the county surplus and will include \$60,000 toward the Babe Ruth World Series. He listed \$125,000 for sprinkler system, \$229,000 for arena, \$100,000 for Kids Corner, depending on information from the state; \$120,000 for Riverfront, \$60,000 for World Series, \$35,000 for Grooms Tavern which totals \$669,000.

Resolution No. 292 of 2005, a resolution adopting the Preliminary Budget for 2006.

Introduced by Councilman Roth, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Paolucci.

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on the Preliminary Budget on November 10, 2005 where comments were received from the public regarding the proposal, and

WHEREAS, the comments of the public have been incorporated into the proposed budget; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Preliminary Budget for 2006 is hereby adopted as the Town's Budget for the Year 2006.

Supervisor Barrett reported there will be no town tax in 2006. He said the opening in the Planning Department due to retirement will be filled by the Open Space Coordinator. The new Deputy Town Attorney position salary will be \$10,000 - \$5000 from the CK Sanitary budget and \$5000 from the general fund. A position for an armed security officer in the courts is being created. There is also funding for the Center for the Family and Literacy Volunteers. The Supervisor further said the revenue projections are very conservative.

#### ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Noes: None

#### DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 293 of 2005, a resolution authorizing an intern to work in the Tax and Assessments Office.

Introduced by Councilman Paolucci, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Roth.

WHEREAS, Shenendehowa High School has a Career Exploration Internship Program (CEIP) that provides students in their junior and senior years with a link between school and the workplace, and

WHEREAS, Shenendehowa's CEIP program depends on the support and participation of area businesses, and

WHEREAS, Lorraine Varley, Receiver of Taxes and Assessments, recommends that John Marotta, Grant Hill Road, Clifton Park, a senior at Shenendehowa High School, be authorized to work as an unpaid intern in the Office of Taxes and Assessments; now,

therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given to the Office of Taxes and Assessments to permit John Marotta, Grant Hill Road, Clifton Park, to work as an unpaid intern from December 15, 2005 through January 31, 2006.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 294 of 2005, a resolution authorizing the Town Supervisor to sign an application for a Grant through the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation for the Grooms Tavern.

Introduced by Councilman Roth, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Paolucci.

WHEREAS, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation has informed the Town of Clifton Park of approval for a \$25,000 fiscal year 2005 initiative grant, and

WHEREAS, the grant requires authorization by the municipality for the Town Supervisor to sign legal documents on behalf of the Town; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby granted to the Town Supervisor to sign any legal documents on behalf of the Town for the fiscal year 2005 initiative grant.

Councilman Roth announced this grant was obtained through Senator Bruno's office, as was an \$80,000 grant a few years back. The \$25,000 will go towards heating and the septic system. Councilman Roth stated "From this point on, it is up to the Friends of Grooms Tavern".

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 295 of 2005, a resolution establishing the position of Open Space Coordinator in the Planning Department.

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

WHEREAS, the Town of Clifton Park Open Space program is continuing to expand, and

WHEREAS, a full time staff person is needed to handle the various aspects of the Open Space Program included but not limited to the duties outlined in Attachment "A", and

WHEREAS, this position will be located in the Planning Department and will be a Grade 8, and

WHEREAS, the position of Open Space Coordinator has been approved by the Saratoga County Personnel Office; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the position of Open Space Coordinator, Grade 8 is hereby created in the Town of Clifton Park.

The Supervisor reported this position was recommended by the Open Space Committee. The individual will work with landowners that may want to preserve their land as open space, will coordinate riverfront projects, and will be a liaison to the Open Space Committee and Planning Department. The individual will also work with the farming community. This position is an upgrade to the position left vacant by Lynn Hedger's retirement.

#### ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Noes: None

#### DECLARED ADOPTED

#### PUBLIC PRIVILEGE

Norman Goldman, London Square Drive, speaking with regard to the Grooms Tavern grants, said he doesn't think member items are good government as it is not through the regular state process. He questioned the cost of the proposed skateboard park and asked if it will be self supporting. Supervisor Barrett responded he would like it to be. Mr. Goldman said the White House Survey on the Aging did not ask about affordable housing. He continued to express concern with the survey forms and asked if his comments were included in the report. Councilman Paolucci said the comments were not

written in the report but the information brought to the Town Board was considered.

William Engleman, Partridge Plateau, asked who will absorb the duties of person retiring in the Planning Department. The Supervisor responded the Open Space Coordinator will be responsible for a lot of the same duties being performed now in addition to the special projects. Regarding the flagging in the area of Ushers and Longkill Roads, Mr. Engleman expressed concern that work will be starting imminently. Supervisor Barrett said some work is being done now but most will be done in 2006. Mr. Engleman said the Final Design Report compiled by Clough, Harbour & Associates contains numerous items of false information about the presence or absence of lupine and potential Karner Blue butterfly habitat in the area. He said the Report falsely concluded there would be no impact to potential habitat. He doesn't think it is proper for any work to be done until this is rectified. Councilman Paolucci reiterated his comments from the beginning of the meeting. Mr. Engleman distributed a photo taken May 30, 2005 showing wild lupine growing at the site along Ushers and Longkill Roads. Supervisor Barrett said this information will be submitted to Clough, Harbour.

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

Motion carried at 8:00 p.m.

Patricia O'Donnell  
Town Clerk