

SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING – FEBRUARY 6, 2014

A Special Town Board Meeting was held on Thursday, February 6, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. in the conference room at Town Hall in the Village of Saugerties. This meeting replaced the regular scheduled Town Board Meeting for the previous night because of inclement weather. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance with the following members present:

Councilman Bill Schirmer
Councilwoman Leeanne Thornton
Councilman Fred Costello
Councilman James Bruno
Supervisor Greg Helsmoortel

SUPERVISOR’S COMMENTS:

Beth Murphy and Bob Karcy would like to speak to the board about the website, but since this is a Special Town Board Meeting, the public comment period is not usually held. They will speak to the board tonight and give an update to the public at the next meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made by Supervisor Helsmoortel, seconded by Councilman Bruno to approve the minutes of Pre-Board and Town Board Meeting on January 22, 2014 and Bid Opening of January 9, 2014 for Highway, carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Motion made by Supervisor Helsmoortel, seconded by Councilman Costello to approve the bills as presented, carried.

General Fund	\$786,693.04
General Outside Village	41,722.12
Highway	203,579.40
Barclay Heights Sewer	2,378.10
Glasco Sewer	23,487.82
Malden Sewer	10,281.53
Glasco Water	9,316.97
Malden Water	1,736.67
Kings Highway Water	86.67

MOTIONS & RESOLUTIONS:

Motion made by Councilman Bruno, seconded by Councilwoman Thornton to approve setting two public hearings for March 5, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. and March 20, 2014 at 6:30

p.m. regarding an amendment to the zoning law pertaining to general business district registration.

Discussion: Councilman Bruno explained that this affected some businesses that should have been grandfathered-in.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Supervisor Helmsmoortel, seconded by Councilman Costello to appoint Councilman James Bruno as the 2014 delegate to represent the Town of Saugerties at the annual Association of Towns of the State of New York meeting in February 2014 in NYC.

Discussion: Supervisor Helmsmoortel added that he was the original delegate but is unable to do so now.

Vote: Adopted – 4 Yes (Councilman Bruno abstained)

At this time, Beth Murphy and Bob Karcy addressed the board regarding the town and village website. Last year the committee looked into a new website and a firm was hired out of Albany. It's going to take a lot of work to move information from the old to the new. New website may just focus on tourism with a link to the old one. We need high definition photos, information and virtual tours/trails. Looking into budgets to do some more work.

Bob stated that they inherited this, not sure how this started. The assumption is that the existing website would be completely replaced. Present site can not be abandoned.

Councilman Schirmer feels existing website is dated and cumbersome. At some point, there should only be one website for the town. Mayor Murphy has said there needs mobile interface. Councilwoman Thornton would like more feedback from the village board. Councilman Costello asked about advantages beside mobile. Creates confusion at different sites.

Bob Karcy added that there is no way of telling how long a page is visited/what page/who. Google analytics would track that information. New software would "brand" town, and up-date. Simplicity is the key to success. Already spent \$6,500.00 and the site is no where near done.

Board members use current site for government information and to help constituents navigate the site.

Doug Myer is interested in public media/facebook. Would this have the ability to get information out to the public quick? Ex: black ice, bad roads

Beth Murphy would town board like to talk with department to see the needs or EDC? Councilman Costello feels a meeting needs to be scheduled with Mike Campbell.

Motion made by Supervisor Helmsmoortel, seconded by Councilman Bruno to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 p.m., carried.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

February 19, 2014

**Pre-Board Meeting
Town Board Meeting**

**6:30 p.m.
7:00 p.m.**

Town Clerk