

A Regular Town Board meeting was held on November 17, 2016 at the Lysander Town Building, 8220 Loop Road, Baldwinsville, New York.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joseph Saraceni, Supervisor
Roman Diamond, Councilor
Robert Ellis, Councilor
Peter Moore, Councilor
Robert Geraci, Councilor

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Anthony Rivizzigno, Town Attorney; Town Engineer Al Yager, Town Comptroller David Rahrle; Dina Falcone, Town Clerk; Gene Dinsmore, Highway Superintendent; PAC-B, and several residents.

Supervisor Saraceni called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the Pledge to the Flag.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

Kim Cramer of Jack's Reef had questions regarding house tax of and assessment on taxes being raised. She said her taxes were raised last year and wanted to know where it warrants that the budget needs to raise [taxes] when she is at full assessment. She says her house is way over assessment. **Supervisor Saraceni** said that the assessment doesn't have anything to do with the budget. The assessment is based on value of property. He said there's a tax rate applied to that assessment. If there is an issue with the assessment, she can go to the Assessor's office to challenge it. If the assessment is lower and the rate stays the same, she will pay less in Town taxes. He explained to her that the rate the Town is proposing is going up 7%. This year the 7% equates to 11 cents more per thousand than last year. Ms. Cramer said she had misunderstood. **Supervisor Saraceni** stated that the Assessor's office does a great job and will be able to help her.

Resident Kevin Rode of Greymoor Way asked questions regarding the process with Collington Pointe and its recommendation to the Town Board about what the process is now because it he said it seemed like Whispering Oaks (the addition to it) went through a different process. **Supervisor Saraceni** stated that he asked the Planning Board to make a SEQRA recommendation because that's what they do. They have a long history in reviewing plans. He asked them to do that so they could make a recommendation to the Board. The previous project wasn't different, but it was a longer process. When it was originally proposed, and **Supervisor Saraceni** mentioned there was a prior Board member at the meeting, he asked her (Melinda Shimer) if it was sent to county. Ms. Shimer said she had "no comment." **Supervisor Saraceni** said it was sent to county and county rejected it and the board had the opportunity to override it with super majority. The developer came back with its engineer and modified the plan rather than resubmit it back to county. The Board felt that enough changes were made in order for the process to move forward, and then it went through the planning process. This is different in that Collington Pointe is going through that process and the Board will make a decision.

Councilor Geraci said the Board met with a subcommittee and chose the recommendation to hammer out issues by having everyone in the room. That didn't happen; but he said it would be good if the Board could do that. That expedited the process because the Board could hear from the people in the planning process. There will still be a public hearing for Collington Pointe.

Resident Fred Burtch of Plainville Road had several questions and issues pertaining to the tax increase and the fund balance. He asked about last year's projection for the budget. A lengthy conversation ensued regarding appropriations to the 2016 budget. Mr. Burtch asked how projections are made and how the Town gets to a specific number.

Mr. Burtch asked if a homeowner in Whispering Oaks had made contact with the Supervisor with concerns regarding soil conditions under his home. **Supervisor Saraceni** stated that there is a homeowner with a stub road who wanted to make sure that whatever bed was on their property related to old septic field had been closed. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding soil and soil conditions in Whispering Oaks. Further discussion ensued between **Supervisor Saraceni** and **Town Engineer Yager** looking into a residents' soil condition. **Mr. Yager** said he would like to do some testing and see what is there. He said the Town is working with homeowner. **Supervisor Saraceni** stated that most of Mr. Burtch's knowledge and concerns comes from the previous four years of Bullis administration.

Further, Mr. Burtch inquired as to residency requirements of a certain employee in the Code Enforcement Office. **Supervisor Saraceni** stated that in certain considerations the Town tries to keep positions as close to home as possible. Mr. Burtch continued his questions regarding residency requirements and standard procedures of the Town, and new appointments to verify residency requirements. **Mr. Rahrle** said that based on what the employee gives the Town their employment papers, it gets their address. He said the Town doesn't go out and knock on their door at night to see if they live there. Further statements were made by Mr. Burtch regarding residency, civil service procedure, and issues pertaining to social media and residency requirements of certain employees of the Town.

Councilor Diamond interjected and stated that the discussion was getting into talking about a resident and an employee, and this is a public Board meeting, and as such, the Board should be careful of what is discussed.

Supervisor Saraceni stated to Mr. Burtch and the Board that they had allowed Mr. Burtch to talk for twenty plus minutes regarding a lot of issues that are seen as accusatory in nature [or like an inquisition]. **Supervisor Saraceni** said it is one person who wants to know, and what Mr. Burtch is bringing up is leaning. He said that any of the questions regarding milling and soil can be brought to Mr. Yager. He also said a lot of things brought up have been and continue to be personnel issues. He asked that if Mr. Burtch has any further issues he should put them in writing and the Board will look into them. **Supervisor Saraceni** reminded Mr. Burtch that this is a new Board as he raises these questions. (Supervisor was interrupted at this point in the conversation). Mr. Burtch said that he thinks his questions are pertinent. **Supervisor Saraceni** stated that public comment period is for people want to make a comment on a road condition, or regarding an issue in the town that is pertinent to the community in general. What he [Supervisor] is hearing more often than not from Mr. Burtch are personnel issues. He asked for the remaining issues to be put in writing or via email. Mr. Burtch said the Board had asked him to do that before, and he hasn't gotten an answer (on certain items) in 11 weeks. **Supervisor Saraceni** said he did receive answers. Mr. Burtch said he was unable to open the document and has yet to get it. **Supervisor Saraceni** said he would have it tonight.

Jim Stirushnik of Dinglehole Road had questions regarding fees and charges regarding the organizational meeting. **Supervisor Saraceni** said he is in discussions with the Town Clerk regarding fees for dog licenses and if the Town is charging what it should be charging [compared to what other town's charge]. **Supervisor Saraceni** stated that other than dog fees, no other fees have been reviewed. Mr. Stirushnik says that all fees should go up 7%. He also mentioned an improved water feature (in Parks) and asked about the in lieu of parks fees. **Supervisor Saraceni** stated that they are parks fees and that money is put aside by developers and goes into that fund not related to the Town's budget.

Councilor Geraci stated that it is just a proposal, and no decision has been made. When the idea (improved water feature) came up, the Town could take it out of the other fund but it will be discussed it further. **Mr. Rahrle** stated that the board would have to pass a resolution regarding same.

TOWN BOARD COMMENTS:

Councilor Diamond spoke regarding the vote on the budget. He stated that the Board is going to be asking for a 7 percent increase and he has been struggling with it. He said he thinks the taxpayers know why the Town is asking for increase. Last year there was a good budget in place. After Election Day a few changes were made and a majority of the Board said they were going to give a 21 percent tax break to the community. Most of the money was going to come from the fund balance (where money comes from in case of a major expense). Councilor Diamond and Councilor Geraci spoke against it and explained the long term damages. He said the Board had compared Van Buren's situation of a few years ago and the impact on that. This year the Board knew it was going to have challenges and it has met those challenges. In order to reach its goals and bring the fund balance to a stable level, the Town is going to raise taxes this year. He said the Board has been open and transparent to the residents regarding the budget.

Councilor Moore stated that the Board worked hard to put the budget together and it is a good budget.

Councilor Geraci stated that he is happy to see so many seats filled, especially by the young folks, he said that it's their community which will be inherited, and it's nice to see people here.

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS:

Supervisor Saraceni stated that Troop 80 is in the audience, and they are working toward their citizenship badges. It's their citizenship and community; there are three of these badges, local, community, and a national citizenship badge, and a world/international badge they are trying to attain. He said he is glad they came; as they have heard the Board speak passionately to each other but with respect, and they got to see and hear residents with concerns about their local government. He said that this is an important night as the Board is proposing the budget. He said a lot of time went into this and everything the Board is responsible for as a municipality is accomplished. He thanked the leaders for coming out.

Supervisor Saraceni said that he attended the ribbon cutting at Country Max. He said they have pet related supplies, it is a family owned business and there are 16 stores. He invited people to check out the store.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

RES #164/2016

Motion by Councilor Diamond seconded by Councilor Moore to adopt the November 3, 2016 Town Board Meeting minutes.

Supervisor Saraceni	Aye	Councilor Ellis	Abstain	Councilor Geraci	Aye
Councilor Moore	Aye	Councilor Diamond	Aye		

All Ayes, motion carried and adopted

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Highway Supervisor Gene Dinsmore stated that the Town is equipped for the snow, and they are currently working on the Willett Parkway curbing project.

Town Engineer Al Yager said he has gotten some calls from residents regarding a letter from banks regarding the Flood Plain [regarding flood insurance]. He said to feel free to call him or email him; he will send links to the FEMA website.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2017 PRELIMINARY SPECIAL DISTRICT BUDGET

RES#165/2016

Motion made by Councilor Geraci seconded by Councilor Ellis to adopt the 2017 Preliminary Special Districts Budget, and the 2017 Preliminary General, Part Town, and Highway Budgets, which total \$4,757,262 with the tax rates set as follows: Inside the Village \$.3900 per thousand and \$1.7594 per thousand for outside the Village.

Supervisor Saraceni	Aye	Councilor Ellis	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Aye
Councilor Moore	Aye	Councilor Diamond	Aye		

All Ayes, motion carried and adopted

Discussion:

Councilor Geraci stated that he would like people to know that the Board shares a common vision which the ultimate goal in the years ahead is to have a flat or stable budget. Unless there are unanticipated things that come up, the Town has to deal with them and that's what the fund balance is for. He would like to see it remain flat. It has to go up because of healthcare or negotiated salaries. He complemented the preceding board for [getting the current Board] started on it. Councilor Geraci stated that every year the Town has to buy heavy equipment, or plan for new infrastructure, so what the Board is doing is putting money aside every year, so

when it comes time to buy a truck the Board won't have to find \$300K next year, it will put money aside to build a bank so it won't have an impact on the budget.

Supervisor Saraceni thanked the department heads and public for its input in work sessions. He thinks it's a good budget and puts the Town on a good path. He said it might have to increase as things don't get cheaper in time, but it won't have spikes and valleys in the rate.

HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE SITING OF WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES

RES#166/2016

Motion made by Councilor Geraci seconded by Councilor Ellis, to hold a public hearing on Monday, December 12, 2016 at 7:00 pm in Town Hall, 8220 Loop Road, to adopt a local law which would regulate the siting of wireless telecommunications facilities, and to authorize the Town Clerk to advertise for said public hearing.

Supervisor Saraceni	Aye	Councilor Ellis	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Aye
Councilor Moore	Aye	Councilor Diamond	Aye		

All Ayes, motion carried and adopted

SUPERVISOR TO SIGN THE CUSTOMER QUOTES FOR 2017

RES#167/2016

Motion made by Councilor Diamond seconded by Councilor Moore to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the customer quotes for 2017 as follows: The Medicare GoldAnywhere PPO Plan at \$383.80 per month and the USA Care PPO Plan at \$420.60 per month.

Supervisor Saraceni	Aye	Councilor Ellis	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Aye
Councilor Moore	Aye	Councilor Diamond	Aye		

All Ayes, motion carried and adopted

Discussion:

Per Mr. Rahrle these are the rates for the retirees.

REDUCE THE PUNCH LIST SECURITIES REQUIRED FOR THE WHITETAIL WOODS SECTION B1 SUBDIVISION TO \$29,500

RES#168/2016

Motion made by Councilor Geraci seconded by Councilor Moore to reduce the punch list securities required for the Whitetail Woods Section B1 subdivision to \$29,500 as the developer has completed item 1 included in the punch list dated January 28, 2016.

Supervisor Saraceni	Aye	Councilor Ellis	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Aye
Councilor Moore	Aye	Councilor Diamond	Aye		

All Ayes, motion carried and adopted

SUPERVISOR TO SIGN THE PLOWING CONTRACT WITH CLINTON PIERCE

RES#169/2016

Motion made by Councilor Geraci seconded by Councilor Moore to authorize the supervisor to sign the contract with Clinton Pierce in the amount of \$1550 for snow removal at the NYS Trooper Barracks for the 2016-2017 winter season.

Supervisor Saraceni	Aye	Councilor Ellis	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Aye
Councilor Moore	Aye	Councilor Diamond	Aye		

All Ayes, motion carried and adopted

Discussion:

Councilor Geraci wanted everyone to know that this is a bidding situation, and this came in as the lowest price. Mr. Yager stated that the Town received two bids, even though he called several other people.

Mr. Rahrle wanted to remind the residents that the Town of Lysander owns the Trooper Barracks.

TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN THE COVER SHEET OF THE CONTRACT DRAWINGS FOR THE WHISPERING OAKS IV SUBDIVISION

RES#170/2016

Motion made by Councilor Diamond seconded by Councilor Ellis to authorize the Supervisor to sign the cover sheet of the Contract Drawings for the Whispering Oaks IV subdivision, prepared by Plumley Engineering and the NYSDEC Application for Approval of Plans for a Wastewater Disposal System (Formally BSP-5) once the developers engineer has addressed all of the comments in the Town Engineers review letter dated November 17, 2016.

Supervisor Saraceni	Aye	Councilor Ellis	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Aye
Councilor Moore	Aye	Councilor Diamond	Aye		

All Ayes, motion carried and adopted

TO APPOINT PAUL FLAHERTY TO THE POSITION OF SUPPLEMENTAL EMPLOYEE TO ASSIST WITH TOWN'S SNOW REMOVAL PROGRAM

RES#171/2016

Motion made by Councilor Diamond seconded by Councilor Moore to appoint Paul Flaherty, of 108 E. Genesee Street, Baldwinsville, to the position of supplemental employee (effective immediately) to assist with the Town's snow removal program at a rate of \$16.20 per hour.

Supervisor Saraceni	Aye	Councilor Ellis	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Aye
Councilor Moore	Aye	Councilor Diamond	Aye		

All Ayes, motion carried and adopted

ANNOUNCEMENTS MADE BY SUPERVISOR SARACENI

1. **Snowmobile Safety Class:** November 19, 2016, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm at the Belgium Cold Springs Fire Station 1, 7920 River Road. (Must pre-register with Parks and Rec. – limit 30 people).
2. **Town Board Meeting:** Monday, December 12, 2016, 7:00 pm, Work Session begins at 5:30 pm in the Auditorium.
3. **Public Hearing to adopt a local law regarding onsite use solar energy systems:** Monday, December 12, 2016 7:00 pm. (Auditorium)
4. **Public Hearing to adopt a local law which would regulate the siting of wireless telecommunications facilities:** Monday, December 12, 2016 at 7:00 pm. (Auditorium)
5. **Town Board Meeting:** Thursday, December 29, 2016, 7:00 pm, Work Session begins at 5:30 pm in the Auditorium.
6. **Planning Board Meeting:** Thursday, December 8, 2016, 7:00 pm in the Auditorium.
7. **Food Drive to benefit Food Bank of CNY Continues:** Sponsored by the Town Clerk's Office - through the end of November. (non-perishable food items please)

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilor Diamond and seconded by Councilor Moore to adjourn the Board Meeting at 8:01 pm.

This is a true and complete recording
of the action taken at this meeting.

Dina Falcone, Town Clerk