



Pursuant to NYS Executive Order 202/2020 issued by the Governor, the Town Board of the Town of Cortlandt is holding meetings virtually via a platform known as Zoom. The public can observe the meetings in real time and they are recorded as usual and posted on the Town Website.

A **Special Meeting** of the Town Board of the Town of Cortlandt was conducted on November 16, 2020 via Zoom, with the following elected officials and appointed staff in attendance:

LINDA D. PUGLISI	Supervisor
FRANCIS X. FARRELL	Councilmember
DEBRA COSTELLO	Councilmember
RICHARD BECKER	Councilmember
JAMES CREIGHTON	Councilmember

Also present:

TOM WOOD	Town Attorney
MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM	Assistant Town Attorney
LAROUÉ ROSE SHATZKIN	Town Clerk
CHRISTINE B. COTHREN	Deputy Town Clerk - ABSENT
PATRICIA ROBCKE	Comptroller
MICHAEL PREZIOSI	Director, DOTS
CLAUDIA VAHEY	Human Resources Coordinator
STEPHEN FERREIRA	Director, DES

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Supervisor Puglisi called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Supervisor Puglisi led all in attendance in a Pledge to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

On a roll call attendance taken by Laroué R. Shatzkin, Town Clerk all Town Board members indicated their presence.



RESOLUTIONS

Councilmember Becker made a motion to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Councilmember Creighton with all voting **AYE**.

RESOLUTION NO. 292-20 RE: Authorize the Director of DOTS to obtain consulting services to design infrastructural improvements pursuant to the Town's EDA Grant.

Director of DOTS Michael Preziosi explained that the Town was able to secure a \$6.4 million-dollar grant from the Federal Economic Development Agency to develop the Cortlandt Quarry Park which the town acquired from Con Edison in 2017. The grant is a 50/50 match which is valued at 6.4 million, so the Federal Government will provide \$3.2 million and the Town will provide the other half. The grant will be used for the design, implementation and construction of utilities like road and sewer that will service the property for future economic development. This resolution authorizes DOTS to solicit proposals in accordance with the EDA guidelines.

Supervisor Puglisi commented that the Town gives special thanks to congresswoman Nita Lowey, who obtained this grant for the Town. It is a good start and there are a couple small businesses interested in the property.

Councilwoman Carter asked for clarification about the \$3.2 million-dollar match and Director of DOTS Michael Preziosi explained that while local businesses will ultimately pay their portion via a bond, like many sewer districts are built, but the up-front cost for matching comes from the Town.

Supervisor Puglisi further elaborated that the businesses are well aware of the process and everyone is very excited that such a large portion will now be covered by the EDA grant.

Councilman Farrell questioned how work proceeds and where those initial costs come from.

Supervisor Puglisi and Director of DOTS Michael Preziosi clarified that we can begin work on our own schedule as the Town makes the payments and receives reimbursement, similar to other federally funded projects. Sketches, plans and a budget are already in place and some survey work has already been done; engineering and design will be a large part of the work ahead in 2021. While the Engineering department can draw up plans for a water main, the installation is cost and labor intensive and so it would be difficult for DES to invest the time and manpower; having the work done by an outside contractor makes more sense.

Councilman Becker asked for further clarification on the scope of this project.



Town Attorney Tom Wood explained that this is for two projects under consideration, including Cortlandt Pitch and Merchant's Daughter. They will pay for construction of their own buildings and will reimburse the Town for the cost of the infrastructure. The grant reduces the dollar amounts the businesses will pay during the term of their leases.

Councilmember Becker made a motion to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Councilmember Carter with all voting **AYE**.

RESOLUTION NO. 293-20 RE: Award Bid 20-15 with respect to network cabling on Town properties.

Director of Purchasing Peter McMillan explained that he and Technical Support Specialist Matt Logerfo have been working on a project to obtain a new phone system for Town Hall and for the surrounding offices. Current cabling does not meet our future needs and so a bid was put out for re-cabling. The bids are very satisfactory. Contingency money has been added to the budget for any hiccups in the installation.

Technical Support Specialist Matt Logerfo further elaborated that the bidder had not been able to come and do exact measurements and so there are some unknown variables. However, the cost should still come in well under the original estimate provided to the board. The plan is to get Town Hall done first, and then start work on the satellite offices, including DES, Highway, Sanitation, the Community Center and the Youth Center. The actual phone equipment does not belong to the Town and it is part of the aging system that will ultimately be replaced.

Councilmember Creighton made a motion to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Councilmember Becker with all voting **AYE**.

RESOLUTION NO. 294-20 RE: Establish a Cortlandt Police Reform Task Force and appoint members.

Supervisor Puglisi explained that this is a state mandate for all Towns that have their own police force, but that the Town of Cortlandt wants to participate and have a voice also. Positions were advertised for and Councilman Creighton has provided a list of members to be appointed.

Councilman Creighton stated that excellent resumes have been received and he expects a rather quick turnaround as a report is due by April 1, 2021. A major goal is to provide Westchester County and State Police with the Task Force's feedback as soon as possible. The task force is very balanced and fulfills the directives set forth by the governor.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA - NONE



ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Carter made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilmember Becker with all voting **AYE**.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned with a moment of silence in memory of Gerald Klein, longtime Cortlandt Town Justice, who left behind a loving wife and sweet children. He was an active member of the community including the Chamber of Commerce and the Lion's Club.

NEXT TOWN BOARD MEETING

December 7, 2020 at 7:00 pm
Town Hall Web Site address: www.townofcortlandt.com

Respectfully submitted,

Laroue Rose Shatzkin
Town Clerk