

October 18, 2016

Town Board Meeting

A **Regular Meeting** of the Town Board of the Town of Cortlandt was conducted on October 18, 2016 in the Vincent F. Nyberg Meeting Room of the Cortlandt Town Hall located at One Heady Street, Cortlandt Manor, NY (10567) with the following elected official and appointed staff in attendance:

LINDA D. PUGLISI	Supervisor
FRANCIS X. FARRELL	Councilmember
DEBRA COSTELLO	Councilmember
RICHARD BECKER	Councilmember
SETH FREACH	Councilmember

Also present:

JO-ANN DYCKMAN	Town Clerk
TOM WOOD, ESQ	Town Attorney
JUDITH HERMESCH	Deputy Registrar
PATRICIA ROBCKE	Comptroller
JEFFREY COLEMAN	Director, DES
MICHAEL PREZIOSI	Director, DOTS
CLAUDIA VAHEY	Human Resources Coordinator

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MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

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

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PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

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

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SUPERVISOR'S PROCLAMATIONS AND REPORTS

The **Supervisor** introduced two outstanding Eagle Scouts, Eric Urbe, Troop #238 and Nicholas Merando, Troop #245 who will be receiving proclamations for their community projects. Councilmember Farrell presented the proclamation to Eric Urbe and explained his project of building two handicapped accessible picnic tables that were placed at Cortlandt Waterfront Park and then to Nicholas Meranda for his project of beautifying the hiking trail at Jacob's Hill Complex.

Ken Sherman stated that the Eagle Scout project is a long task from idea to completion and that Eric knew what he wanted his project to be and the handicap accessible picnic tables came out great. In Nicholas's case, they came up with a project for him to do and Jacob's Hill now doesn't look remotely they way it did originally.

Supervisor Puglisi introduced and thanked their parents commenting that they are the driving force in their lives and helped them to achieve their awards. Eric then explained how he came up with his idea and the benches came out good and he thanked his family for their help.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORTS, (cont.)

Nicholas explained that he didn't have any ideas to begin with and then the Jacob Hill complex hill was suggested. He went there with his Dad and it was really overgrown so he then knew what he wanted to do. Nicholas stated he actually finished earlier than expected and thanked his family for their support and Ken Sherman for suggesting the project.

Ken Sherman added that the project itself is almost half the work. The amount of paperwork they have to do is half the battle and that is why it takes so long, waiting for the approvals. He also listed a few events coming up:

October 29th Events:

- 5K Road Race at the Cortlandt Waterfront Park
- Hobgoblin Parade at the Town Center
- Halloween Dog Parade at the dog park

All info will be on the Town of Cortlandt's website

Supervisor Puglisi thanked everyone at the Recreation Department for all the events they sponsor.

Every month the Town has been recognizing and honoring all the departments in the Town government. **Supervisor Puglisi** stated that tonight they will be honoring the offices of the Receiver of Taxes, Town Assessor and the Town Comptroller's. She introduced Mary Breining as the Receiver of Taxes and the following employees were presented with proclamations: Michelle Davis, Deputy of Receiver of Taxes, Inga Colbran, and Darlene Mazza. Mary Breining thanked the Supervisor and the Town Board and stated it has been an honor to be the Receiver for the Town of Cortlandt. She noted that they do a large volume of transactions and 69% of what they collect is for the 5 area school districts. Ms. Breining also discussed their strong commitment to provide online services for payment. They also will have the tax roll available for look up which will be a huge support to our financial institutions and title searches. She commented that she has had the honor of working with wonderful people who each have an outstanding commitment to customer service.

The Town Assessor's office was also honored. Proclamations were given to Rita Mancuso and Tom Waitkins. Tom stated that two employees were absent, Jane Fitzgerald and Grace Esposito. He thanked Rita Mancuso for her work and stated that the mandate for his department is to maintain a fair and equitable assessment roll. They have approximately 15,400 parcels of which the information needs to be constantly updated everyday. Exemption administration is also a large part of what they do along with day to day work.

The Town Board then introduced the Town Comptroller's office; Patty Robcke, Town Comptroller, Donna D'agostino and Betty Camarra. The **Supervisor** stated that Patty has been the Comptroller for about 1 year and was the Deputy for 22 years. Patty thanked the Board and the **Supervisor** and that it is special to the employees to be recognized for their hard work and dedication. She commented that the staff has been her friends for many years along with a new employee, Lynn Fox, the payroll clerk. They all are very careful and diligent with the money and makes sure that appropriations are properly accounted for to keep taxes low and doing the best they can for the community.

SUPERVISOR’S REPORTS, (cont.)

Supervisor Puglisi noted that they have been working on the budget for 2017. By State law they must come out with the **Supervisor’s** proposed budget by the end of October. She explained the process by which the budget will be adopted and commented how important it is to know how entwined these three departments are.

Supervisor Puglisi noted events that they attended during the past month and that it is a very busy time of year.

- October is Fire Prevention Month with many open houses and inspections
- Golf outing for First Responders
- Youth Center- the Supervisor said that there is much enthusiasm from the Director and Assistant Director and its participants. They attended a Breast Cancer Awareness and Prevention Walk-a-thon and raised \$5000 for this cause.
- The VA Nursing Home held its 15 year anniversary available to Veterans and their spouses.
- Peekskill Cortlandt Civil War Monument had its rededication, located in the City of Peekskill which both Peekskill and Cortlandt share.
- The Cortlandt Rotary Club had a “Touch a Truck” event at the Mt. Carmel Society in Verplanck.
- The Cortlandt Community Swap took place and Supervisor Puglisi thanked the “Green Team”.
- Many attended the Hudson Valley Irish Festival

Upcoming Events:

- The Hollow Brook Trail near the Hollow Brook Golf Course will have a dedication of its trail system of 70 acres of land deeded to the Town.
- There will be an open house for Seniors at the Cortlandt Community Center for those interested in joining the club.

Supervisor Puglisi stated that all of the Town Board is continuing to fight the Coast Guard anchor plans on the Hudson River.

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ROLL CALL

On a roll call attendance taken by Town Clerk Dyckman all Town Board members indicated their presence.

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TOWN BOARD REPORTS

Councilmember Farrell: expressed his gratitude to the Town Board members for agreeing to bring a water line into Meahagh Park. It has become such a hub of activity and much has been done on the three acres with gardens, basketball court, path walkers and the rowing club.

TOWN BOARD REPORTS, (cont.)

Much needed water has been missing so the Town has agreed to put in the water line, though it is in a flood zone. Councilmember Farrell explained how this will be remedied.

Councilmember Farrell commented how busy he has been with the Rowing Club and they have been very active with traveling to races. This last weekend they were out at 5:30 a.m. practicing on the Hudson and he commented how the people are on the Hudson enjoying this great resource. Councilmember Farrell commented they are fighting to prevent it from being turned into a huge parking lot with barges filled with oil.

New street lighting is being installed throughout the Town and Councilmember Farrell has received a number of favorable complements on it. They are taking place of the costly old ones and being replaced by LEDs so that now it is a more even lighting and less expensive use of electricity and maintenance. The lights can be adjusted if homeowners are having an issue with them.

Councilmember Freach: no report

Councilmember Becker: was told that another oil company has signed up for the Cortlandt Home Oil Program (CHOP). Councilmember Becker strongly encouraged everyone to join and to be sure to utilize the CHOP card to save about \$50 on a 500 gallon tank of oil. There is a one time fee of \$5 and Councilmember Becker stated it was really worth doing and encouraged everyone to sign up.

Councilmember Costello: congratulated the Eagle Scouts and said hopefully they younger scouts will watch and get inspired. Councilmember Costello also congratulated new employees, George, in the Comptroller’s Office and Trevor Straub who will be a student representative to the Parks Advisory Board and that is good to get the youth involved. She also gave kudos to the Youth Center for the wonderful job they and the staff did.

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APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Councilmember Costello moved that the regular minutes of September, 2016 be approved as presented by Town Clerk Dyckman. Councilmember Becker seconded the motion.

All voted **AYE**

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PUBLIC HEARINGS

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HEARING OF CITIZENS, (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

Bill Talbot

Has been a resident for 35 years or so. He stated that he understood there would be an issue related to Valeria’s letter of credit that was to come up at a meeting. He was confused if it was this meeting or another. The second part is whether there is public comment at the meeting.

Tom Wood explained that there was a request filed with the Planning Board with respect by Toll Brothers asking for a reduction of the performance bond. That is being withdrawn. He explained that a performance bond is to guarantee public improvements are completed. It starts with the Planning Board and there is an opportunity for public comment and then comes to the Town Board.

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Councilmember Becker moved that the following reports be received and ordered filed. Councilmember Freach seconded the motion

BID REPORTS

- 1. Receive and File bids opened October 7, 2016 with respect to an emergency water main replacement on Baron De Hirsch Road, and Award a Contract for same.

RESOLUTION NO.249 -16 RE: Award a contract with respect to an emergency water main replacement on Baron De Hirsch Road.

REPORTS

For the month of September, 2016 from the Office for the Aging, Purchasing Department, Receiver of Taxes and the Town Clerk.

OLD BUSINESS

Receive and File the Following

- 1. Memo from the Director of DOTS with respect to #4 and #8 Oak Road.

NEW BUSINESS

Receive and File the Following:

- 1. Draft Environmental Impact Statement from the NYC Environmental Protection with respect to the “Upstate Water Supply Resiliency”.
- 2. Letter from David Wald representing Baker Street West Corp. requesting to have two parcels on Rt. 6 reinstated into the Peekskill Sewer District; and forward same to Westchester County for their consideration.

NEW BUSINESS, (cont.)

RESOLUTION NO.250 -16 RE: Authorize request to have two parcels on Rt. 6 reinstated into the Peekskill Sewer District.

- 3. Letter from Scott and Ronit Mendelowitz requesting a parcel on Hill and Dale Road be reinstated in to the Peekskill Sewer District; and forward same to Westchester County for their consideration.

RESOLUTION NO.251 -16 RE: Authorize request for a parcel on Hill and Dale Road be reinstated into the Peekskill Sewer District.

- 4. Report from DOTS with respect to the Yeshiva Sanitary Sewer update.
- 5. Email from a resident of Lake Allendale regarding stop signs; and refer to DES for review.

Discussion: Supervisor Puglisi stated that the resident from the Lake Allendale section of the Town had sent a request for a stop sign. The Town Board refers to the applicable departments, a report is done and then the Town Board can take action on it at the next official Town Board meeting.

All voted **AYE**

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RESOLUTIONS

(All resolutions adopted at this meeting are to be found attached to the end of the original document.)

Councilmember Freach moved that the following resolutions be adopted, seconded by Councilmember Farrell:

RESOLUTION NO.252-16 RE: Appoint George Nyarakunnel to the title Accountant to fill a vacancy in the Comptrollers Office.

RESOLUTION NO.253-16 RE: Appoint Trevor Straub as a student representative of the PRC Advisory Board.

RESOLUTION NO.254-16 RE: Authorize DOTS to seek bids for the Croton Park Water Tank replacement.

RESOLUTION NO.255-16 RE: Authorize the purchase of a replacement vehicle for the Supervisor's use.

RESOLUTION NO.256-16 RE: Authorize a Contract extension with respect to the Sprout Brook Multi Purpose Field.

RESOLUTIONS, (cont.)

RESOLUTION NO.257-16 RE: Authorize the settlement of a Tax Certiorari with respect to Yorkcon Properties vs. the Town.

RESOLUTION NO.258-16 RE: Authorize an extension to the current paving contract for resurfacing Justin Court, Peachtree Drive, the cul-de-sac on Cordwood and Forest Avenue from Evergreen to Crompond Road to be paid by Spectra.

RESOLUTION NO.259-16 RE: Authorize a reduction in security from \$60,000 to \$35,000 in accordance with Planning Board Resolution 23-16 with respect to Mountain View Estates Subdivision.

Discussion: The **Supervisor** welcomed the new employee of the Comptroller’s office, George Nyarakunnel and Trevor Straub for the PRC Advisory Board

All voted **AYE**

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ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Councilmember Farrell moved that the following be received and filed and resolutions be adopted. Councilmember Costello seconded the motion.

RECEIVE AND FILE:

1. Letter from Croton Park Colony with respect to road and parking issues; and refer to DES.
2. Report from DOTS with respect to a License Agreement request from the Verplanck Fire District; and Authorize same.

RESOLUTION NO.260-16 RE: Authorize report with respect to a License Agreement request from the Verplanck Fire District.

Discussion: Michael Preziosi explained that there was a good opportunity to continue the sidewalk replacement along the Rt. 9A corridor. There is an 80-20 Grant that has given funds and that the Town’s share will be 20% and the State 80%

RESOLUTION NO.261-16 RE: Authorize a Family Medical Leave of Absence for a DES employee.

RESOLUTION NO.262-16 RE: Authorize a Contract with respect to snow and ice control for 2016-2017.

RESOLUTION NO.263-16 RE: Authorize a Contract renewal with Westchester County with respect to bus shelters.

RESOLUTIONS, (cont.)

RESOLUTION NO.264-16 RE: Authorize staff to circulate to involved agencies that the Town Board is seeking Lead Agency with respect t Medical Overlay District (MOD).

RESOLUTION NO.265-16 RE: Authorize an Agreement with respect to winterizing the Charles Cook Pool.

RESOLUTION NO.266-16 RE: Authorize amending a design Contract with Lothrop Associates LLP with respect to Charles Cook Pool.

RESOLUTION NO.267-16 RE: Authorize DOTS to apply for grant funds with respect to sidewalks along Rt. 9A from Roundtree Lane to the VA Campus.

RESOLUTION NO.268-16 RE: Authorize DOTS and DES to install a water line into the Lake Meahagh Park area.

RESOLUTION NO.269-16 RE: Schedule a Public Hearing for November 15, 2016 to consider two sewer improvement areas along Rt. 6.

All voted **AYE**

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**BUDGET TRANSFERS
REPORTS FROM VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS**

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REPORTS FROM STANDING & SPECIAL COMMITTEES

SECOND HEARING OF CITIZENS

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ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m. on a motion by Councilmember Becker, seconded by Councilmember Freach.

All voted **AYE**

Respectfully submitted,

**JO-ANN DYCKMAN,
Town Clerk**

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