

A **Regular Meeting** of the Town Board of the Town of Cortlandt was conducted on February 11, 2014 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
EDWARD VERGANO	DOTS, Director
GLENN CESTARO	Comptroller
CLAUDIA VAHEY	Human Resources Coordinator
CHRISTINE B. COTHREN	Deputy Town Clerk
ROSEMARY B. LASHER	DOTS/Asst. to Director
JEFFREY COLEMAN	Director, DES

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.

SUPERVISOR’S PROCLAMATIONS AND REPORTS

Supervisor Puglisi spoke of the many plans and projects during the past month including the new Master Plan which will be looking at ways to bring in an indoor ice skating rink to Cortlandt. All the Town Board members are working on their own special projects and there has been a wonderful transition with the new Town Board members, Seth Freach and Debra Costello.

The **Supervisor** commented on a sad note of the passing of two young men in the community and how the Town Board is committed to doing all they can to prevent substance abuse. They’ve spoken with the police and the **Supervisor** has been asked by the Hendrick Hudson School Superintendent to co-host a community forum with speakers educated in this field at the end of February. Details will be on the Town’s website.

Expenditures for the frequent snow and ice have doubled with over 18 snowstorms this year. The Town is fortunate to have the funds without having to borrow. They have been able to pay for the storms which are why they’ve always made sure that they have that money for emergencies.

SUPERVISOR’S REPORTS, (cont.)

Supervisor Puglisi thanked the employees who have worked hard to clear the snow and ice in the community through all times of the day and weather conditions. She also thanked the residents for their cooperation during the difficult weather in keeping their cars off the road for the plows. The school districts make the right decision to keep the students home during these snow days.

This past month the community has lost Captain Clayton Carpenter, a Cortlandt resident who came home after his tours of duty and lost his life in a helicopter accident. The **Supervisor** expressed sympathies to his family and friends as well as the two deaths previously mentioned.

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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 Costello: Asked that the residents consider coming to the High School to the forum regarding the heroin issue in the community. There will be many different groups of people there to answer questions. She thanked the Superintendent of the High School, Supervisor Puglisi and the Town Board for their support in this program. Councilmember Costello hoped that residents will come with questions that can be answered and this will help to start a dialogue so people can discuss more with their families and be educated on the issues going on regarding drug abuse in our community. She asked that they bring hope, compassion and questions to the meeting as it is very important.

Councilmember Costello welcomed new people into our Town Government and wished them well. She thanked all of the Town employees who have been involved in the winter cleanups and commented how they have worked the weekends and holidays that we all look forward to.

Councilmember Becker: Also spoke of his concern with the heroin epidemic in the community and how he wasn't aware of the scope of this issue in the community and it is reminiscent of the 90's with the crack cocaine issue. He explained that what has happened is that young people get addicted to pain killers, but these are expensive and controlled, so what happens is that because heroin is so much cheaper and available, the kids turn to that. This heroin is not pure but mixed with other ingredients and very potent and causes death. Councilmember Becker stated that this is not an inner city or racial problem but across all socioeconomic groups and he is frustrated by the lack of an idea of how to approach this except by coming together as a community and getting

TOWN BOARD REPORTS, (cont.)

educated about it. He thanked Councilmember Costello and Supervisor Puglisi for bringing it to the attention of the Town Board to be pursued.

Councilmember Becker participated at the Eagle Fest events that were around the Town. He commented he never imagined he could go to 4-5 different points along the Hudson and be with experts with spotting scopes and see so many bald eagles. He urged residents to bring their children to the event next year.

Supervisor Puglisi congratulated Councilmember Becker on his new position at Phelps Hospital.

Councilmember Freach: Thanked the DES employees and Town employees with regard to the storms this particularly bad winter.

Councilmember Freach also touched upon the events of the past few weeks regarding the heroin epidemic in the community. He commented that unfortunately this is not a new problem; that it is now having a light shined upon it and he is glad it is being discussed. Councilmember Freach commented that it needs to stay in the forefront of our minds even after it is no longer on the front page of the news. He advised that residents check their prescription pills that are in their house to review and should discard what is not necessary. He wants to reiterate that this Board is committed to addressing this head-on, working with the police and schools to initiate programs to make an impact and change.

Councilmember Freach also spoke of the Solar Task Force that the Town Board approved last month. Letters to experts have gone out and residents to gauge interest and get feedback on how to proceed and Councilmember Freach stated he was happy to report that the feedback has been positive. Meetings will be set up soon.

Councilmember Farrell: Also stated that the community and nation is facing a confounding problem with the heroin issue. Councilmember Farrell commented that the country is spending 50 billion dollars a year to combat the “war on drugs” yet obviously not very successful. Whatever the Town Board can do they will do. Councilmember Farrell spoke of 2 stories in the paper of a doctor of prescription pills as compared with a young man who received 40 years for sale of another drug and the disparity of the two.

Councilmember Farrell commented about municipalities having trouble getting salt for the ice due to the recent storms. The sand is being cut with sand which is effective but is a cleanup problem in the spring. Over 1 million dollars has been spent so far and that will have an effect on the summer operations. The men and the equipment have been taxes to the breaking point and there have been many breakdowns, so a great deal of credit goes to the mechanics and drivers who worked to keep everything running.

The Town is looking at all the Youth programs and looking at the Youth Center which they are hoping will be used more than it is now. They would like the kids to use all the

TOWN BOARD REPORTS, (cont.)

facilities in the Youth Center and they need to tell parents that these activities are available and that they would like them to use them.

Councilmember Farrell stated that the Town is very supportive of, yet not a Town activity, a rowing club forming in Verplanck. More information is to come but it seems to be taking off very well with the Town's support letting them use a building on 7th Street in Verplanck for winter training and other areas used for training. If anyone would like to get involved with this, Councilmember Farrell advised them to go to the website and see the schedule which is open to residents and non-residents to appreciate the river and the lake.

Supervisor Puglisi commented that the million dollars for the winter costs includes all the factors of the snow storm removal. She stated they are fortunate to have the surplus highway fund to cover the cost.

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APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Councilmember Costello moved that the minutes of the Special Meeting of the December 2, 2013 and the Regular Meeting of January 14, 2014 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)

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BID REPORTS

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REPORTS

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

For the month of January, 2014 from Office for the Aging, Receiver of Taxes, and the Town Clerk.

OLD BUSINESS

Receive and File the Following:

1. Quarterly Report from Westchester County with respect to the Ash Pit.
2. Letter from Assemblywoman Galef with respect to the proposed Spectra and West Point Partners.

NEW BUSINESS

Receive and File the Following:

1. Report from the Supervisor with respect to Recreation and Youth Programs and Substance Abuse Issues; and Authorize expanding the responsibilities of the Cortlandt Coalition, use a portion of Coalition grant funds to achieve goals and coordinate a forum to discuss issues; and Appoint Councilwoman Costello to assist the Supervisor with same.

RESOLUTION NO.63-14 RE: Authorize expanding the responsibilities of the Cortlandt Coaliton; use a portion of Grant Funding to achieve goals; and appoint Councilwoman Costello to Assist the Supervisor with same.

2. Letter from the Continental Village Park District.

Discussion: Supervisor Puglisi thanked Assemblywoman Sandy Galaf for supporting the efforts to block 2 projects in Verplanck.

The **Supervisor** also will be using grant funds for the Cortlandt coalition which is affiliated with the Youth Center and then will be going to the meetings to work with them to see what more can be done. When the Supervisor first became the Councilwoman on the Town Board and then Supervisor, there was an epidemic of substance abuse issues and a group formed of which she was the liaison called OCASA (Our Community Against Substance Abuse). They rented a house for a youth center which was then the Kaufman property and this was the origin of the Youth Center with the idea of getting the kids off the street and having a qualified person to monitor it. The Supervisor stated that they need more youths to go to the Youth Center to take part in all the great programs offered there.

All voted **AYE**

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.64-14 RE: Appoint a mechanic's helper for DES.

RESOLUTION NO.65-14 RE: Appoint three (3) seasonals for DES.

RESOLUTION NO.66-14 RE: Appoint a temporary/seasonal intern for the Water Division GIS project.

RESOLUTION NO.67-14 RE: Authorize a Family Medical Leave of Absence for a DES employee.

RESOLUTION NO.68-14 RE: Authorize extending a Medical Leave of Absence for a DOTS employee.

RESOLUTION NO.69-14 RE: Amend the title of a DES employee per a management/union settlement.

RESOLUTION NO.70-14 RE: Authorize the purchase of two benches and trees in memory of Captain Clayton Carpenter and Russell Harrison to be placed in the area of the Town Veteran's Park.

Discussion: Supervisor Puglisi stated that the Veterans thanked the Town Board for supporting their request for the benches and trees at the Veteran's Park.

All voted AYE

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

RESOLUTION NO.71-14 RE: Appoint Members of the Cable TV Advisory Board for 2014.

RESOLUTION NO.72-14 RE: Appoint Members of the Electrical Board for 2014

RESOLUTION NO.73-14 RE: Appoint Members of the Plumbing Board for 2014

RESOLUTION NO.74-14 RE: Appoint Members of the Fire Advisory Board for 2014

RESOLUTION NO.75-14 RE: Appoint Representative for the Historic Hudson River Towns for 2014

RESOLUTIONS, (cont.)

RESOLUTION NO.76-14 RE: Appoint Representative for the Hudson Highlands Gateway Task Force for 2014

RESOLUTION NO.77-14 RE: Appoint Members of the Continental Village Park District Joint Advisory for 2014

RESOLUTION NO.78-14 RE: Authorize re-scheduling the In-Rem Sale date to May 6, 2014.

RESOLUTION NO.79-14 RE: Resolution proclaiming March Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.

RESOLUTION NO.80-14 RE: Authorize the settlement of two Tax Certiorari for Newman & Eisen, Sec. 34.5, Blk.7, Lot 12 and Sec. 54.5, blk. 3, lot 42

RESOLUTION NO.81-14 RE: Authorize the settlement of a Tax Certiorari for Croton View Properties, LLC, Sec. 79.9, Blk. 1, Lot 30.

RESOLUTION NO.82-14 RE: Authorize a contract with respect to Master Plan Consultant Services.

RESOLUTION NO.83-14 RE: Authorize a contract with respect to Survey Services for the Tall property.

RESOLUTION NO.84-14 RE: Authorize a Contract for soil depth testing for the area of Rita and Jerome Drives with respect to a proposed water line replacement.

RESOLUTION NO.85-14 RE: Authorize DOTS and the Legal Department to develop easement agreements with respect to site distance improvements for Ridge and Lafayette Avenues.

RESOLUTION NO.86-14 RE: Authorize the Director of DOTS to solicit proposals for Drafting Services for drainage improvements on Rancho Drive/Skytop and Springfield; site distance improvements for Ridge and Lafayette Avenues; and the Cortlandt Blvd. Streetscape.

RESOLUTION NO.87-14 RE: Authorize the Director of DOTS to solicit Proposals for surveying services related to proposed water main from Jacobs Hill to Gabriel Drive.

RESOLUTION NO.88-14 RE: Authorize the Director of DOTS to solicit proposals for an Archaeological Consultant to assist with the opposition of two proposed projects on Con Edison Property in Verplanck.

RESOLUTIONS, (cont.)

RESOLUTION NO.89-14 RE: Authorize the Reduction of Security in the amount of \$125,000 to \$75,000 with respect to Sunset Ridge Subdivision in accordance with Planning Board Resolution 5-14.

Discussion: Supervisor Puglisi thanked all the members of the committees. She also stated that the Master Plan Consultant Services was due to a grant to the Town was fortunate to receive which was \$175,000.

All voted **AYE**

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

RESOLUTION NO.90-14 RE: Authorize the Purchase of Replacement Pavement Roller.

RESOLUTION NO.91-14 RE: Direct DES to investigate the appropriateness of implementing a Salt Brine System for Anti-Icing.

RESOLUTION NO.92-14 RE: Authorize the purchase of Heavy Vehicle Lifts and Jack Stands for DES.

All voted AYE

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ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

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

Receive and File the Following:

1. Consultant Report with respect to placing the FDR VA site on the National Registry of Historic places.
2. Letter from the Teatown Members Against Cruelty to Animals.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO.93-14 RE: Appoint two (2) part-time cleaners for DES.

ADDITIONS to the AGENDA, (cont.)

RESOLUTION NO.94-14 RE: Authorize a Contract with respect to Brush and Fill Removal.

RESOLUTION NO.95-14 RE: Appoint an Automotive Mechanic for DES.

All voted **AYE**

BUDGET TRANSFERS

REPORTS FROM VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS

REPORTS FROM STANDING & SPECIAL COMMITTEES

SECOND HEARING OF CITIZENS

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. on a motion by Councilmember Freach seconded by Councilmember Farrell in memory of **Captain Clayton Carpenter**.

All voted **AYE**

Respectfully submitted,

JO-ANN DYCKMAN
Town Clerk