

NEW HAVEN TOWN BOARD MEETING HELD JANUARY 9, 2007

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Wilbur called monthly meeting for January to order at 7:00 p.m. at the New Haven Town Hall. Roll call: Councilman Parkhurst, Councilman Perras, Councilwoman Schmidt, Councilman Yablonski, and supervisor Wilbur present. The minutes of the December monthly meeting were dispensed with.

AUDIT OF TOWN BILLS

Highway Bills: Vouchers #1 - 20 totaling \$14,790.12 were read and duly audited by motion of Parkhurst, second by Yablonski. Unanimously carried.

General Bills: Vouchers 1 - 36 totaling \$20,358.79 were read and duly audited by motion of Schmidt, second by Perras. Unanimously carried.

Water District #3 Bills: Voucher #1 totaling \$2,742.50 was read and duly audited by motion by Perras, second by Yablonski. Unanimously carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Revaluation Update: Dave Hastings, director of Oswego County real property tax services, was present. He reviewed the work that had been done on the revaluation project to date and explained how values are being determined for properties. Mr. Hastings, highly praised the town assessors for the work they did on the project. He stated that the work was done in exemplary fashion, and that this is the first time in his tenure that he has seen the assessors go out and see every single property. The town Board will hold a workshop on January 25th at 6:00 p.m. with Briggs appraisal, New York State real property tax services, and Oswego County Real property tax service to review the shift analysis and the overall effect of the project is in terms of the overall assessment value of the town. Individual properties will not be discussed at this meeting. It will be a public meeting held February 1st at 7:00 p.m. at the New Haven fire station, to explain the same information to the general public. The public is encouraged to attend. Impact Notices will be sent out shortly after the February 1st meeting. The information will be put on the County website. When the impact notices are mailed out. A letter explaining to homeowners how they may appeal their assessment through an informal review with Briggs appraisal will accompany impact notices.

Water District # 3 bids: Bob Guminiak of Burly-Guminiak and Associates, the engineer for water District #3, recommended the town award the bid for construction of water District #3 to the low bidder, Syracuse Constructors including alternates A and B. The total bid amount with alternates A and B, is \$8,333,000.00. Motion by Yablonski, second by Perras, to award the bid for construction of water District #3 to Syracuse Constructors including alternates A and B, for \$8,333,000.00. Unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Firemen's Exemption: Dave Hastings explained that the current local law granting firemen a partial tax exemption on their real property taxes is about to expire, and if the exemption is to be continued the local law would need to be renewed. He continued to say that a new state law allows firemen who are not taking advantage of an exemption on their property taxes, may be eligible to take a \$200 deduction on their income tax. Mr. Hastings recommended letting the local law expire, as the \$200 deduction on income tax would be more beneficial to the firemen than the exemption on the property taxes.

Veterans Eligible Funds Exemption: In order for veterans, with the veterans eligible funds exemption on property taxes, to continue to receive their current level of exemption the town needs to pass a local law changing the way it calculates this exemption. Dave Hastings gave the board a sample local law for this purpose. The board will review the proposed local law at a special meeting on February 19th, at 6:00 p.m. and set a public hearing so that the local law may be passed before taxable status date.

Alternative veterans exemption: In order for veterans, who receive veterans other than the veterans eligible funds exemption, to continue to receive their current level of exemption the town needs to pass a local law changing the way it calculates this exemption. Dave Hastings recommended that the town pass a local law changing the way the exemptions are calculated and having a cutoff level that is in sync with the county's cutoff level. The board will review the proposed local law at the special meeting on February 19th, and set a public hearing so that the local law may be passed before taxable status date.

Executive Session: Motion by Parkhurst, second by Perras, to enter into executive session at 8:14, to discuss union contract in the notice of claim filed by the estate of Scott Ellis. Unanimously carried. Motion by Perras, second by Schmidt, to come out of executive session at 9:04 and re-enter regular session. Unanimously carried

Oswego County Dog Quarantine: There is currently no dog quarantine in place for Oswego County. However, the chairman of the legislature has been authorized to impose a quarantine when and if there is enough snow to warrant it.

County legislator's Report: Kevin Gardner reported that the County is in the process of looking for a new administrator.

Audit of Town Books: The audit committee will be auditing the town books in the near future.

Truck Financing: Motion by Yablonski, second by Schmidt to finance the 2007 dump truck, and plow threw Navistar financial. Unanimously carried

Marriage Officer Reappointment: Motion by Perras, second by Parkhurst to reappoint Debra Allen as marriage officer for three-year term. Unanimously carried.

Planning Board Member Appointment: Motion by Perras, second by Schmidt to table the appointment of a planning board member to the expired term of Joseph Maryak until February, to allow time for anyone interested in the position to apply. Mr. Maryak is interested in being reappointed and one author application has been received. Unanimously carried.

Conservation Advisory Committee Appointment: Motion by Perras, second by Schmidt, to appoint Brenda McAuslan and Linda Bond Clark, each to two-year terms on the conservation advisory committee. Unanimously carried

2007 Slate: Motion by Perras, second by Parkhurst, to accept the Slate for 2007 as presented with the addition of the deputy highway superintendent. Unanimously carried

Transfer of Funds: Motion by Perras, second by Yablonski, to approve the attached resolution, authorizing the bookkeeper to transfer funds to make necessary transfers to close the water funds books of the year. Unanimously carried.

Motion by Schmidt, second by Perras, to approve the attached resolution authorizing the bookkeeper to transfer funds, to make necessary transfers to close the general funds books of the year. Unanimously carried.

REPORTS

Reports: Dog Control Officer, Code Enforcement Officer, Town Clerk, and Supervisor reports to be posted.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned: at 10:13 by motion of Yablonski, second by Parkhurst.

Unanimously carried. Next regular meeting February 13, 2007 - 7:00PM.

Special meeting, January 19, 2007 6:00 p.m. to discuss union contract, and local laws pertaining to veterans exemptions.

Special meeting, January 25, 2007 6:00 p.m. to discuss the revaluation project.

Public meeting, February 1, 2007 7:00 p.m. New Haven fire station to discuss the revaluation project.

Minutes are unofficial until approved by Town Board

Respectfully submitted,

Debra J. Allen
New Haven Town Clerk