Catskill Town Board Committee Meeting

Catskill Town Hall

April 19, 2023 6:30 PM

PRESENT: Dale Finch, Supervisor

Jared Giordiano, Councilman

Patrick McCulloch, Councilman

Dawn Scannapieco, Councilwoman

Paul Vosburgh, Councilman

Supervisor Finch opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed all in attendance.

TREE REPLACEMENT – Supervisor Finch stated Pat Esposito approached him regarding replacing trees in the cemetery as some have some blight and some which have been removed have not been replanted. Ms. Esposito is on the Village Tree Council and is a master gardener. She would like to initiate a program to replace the trees beginning in the middle of the cemetery. Councilwoman Scannapieco liked the idea of planting a tree in memory of a loved one. Councilman Vosburgh stated the cemetery is a sacred place and not a park. Councilman Giordiano said flowering trees will be a nice addition. Ms. Esposito would like to plant native species and trees which will support wildlife. All board members agreed to begin the project. *Resolution # 39-2023 on motion of Councilman Vosburgh second by Councilwoman Scannapieco to authorize the expenditure of $3,000 for the purchase of trees to be planted in the Town of Catskill Cemetery. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes*

Little Red Schoolhouse – Jonathan Palmer, Greene County Historian, spoke to the board about the possible use of the LRSH as a public space for presentations and to house historical documents of the Town of Catskill. The building is on the national register and dates to 1833. Councilman Giordiano always thought it as an ideal space for town history. Supervisor Finch mentioned reaching out to Bob Carl and the possibility of a friend’s group to oversee use of the building and Rich Rapplyea to see what structurally would need to be done. Mr. Palmer stated Orrie Vincent told him the color of the schoolhouse used to be yellow. It has a barrel-vaulted ceiling which is rare. Supervisor Finch thanked Mr. Palmer for his time.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution # 34-2023 on motion of Councilman McCulloch second by Councilman Giordiano approving the name Gateway Drive for the Gateway Greene Commercial Park which road will be county owned and maintained. Adopted Vote 5 Yes

Resolution # 35-2023 on motion of Councilman Giordiano second by Councilwoman Scannapieco authorizing the Supervisor, Deputy Supervisor and Finance Clerk as points of contact for the credit card. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes

Resolution # 36-2023 on motion of Councilman McCulloch second by Councilman Giordiano approving the hire of Patrick Darling as seasonal highway laborer pending pre-employment screening at a rate of pay $15.00 per hour. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes

Resolution # 37-2023 on motion of Councilman McCulloch second by Councilwoman Scannapieco approving the hire of Paul Ormerod Sr. as seasonal highway laborer for the Five Mile Woods Rd. Brush Dump pending pre-employment screening at rate of pay $15.00 per hour. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes

Resolution # 38-2023 on motion of Councilman Giordiano second by Councilwoman Scannapieco accepting the 284 Agreement submitted by the Highway Superintendent. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes

*Councilman Vosburgh stated the state budget has not passed yet and we don’t know the amount of CHIPS money the town will receive. Councilman McCulloch stated we have rollover from last year. Councilman Vosburgh is worried about it being less than last years’ amount and spending money we may not have. Supervisor Finch stated it is a valued point and will check tomorrow.*

CAMERAS SENIOR CENTER – Councilman Giordiano spoke of the quote from Mid-Hudson for security cameras at the center. These would be leased. Councilman Vosburgh stated it is a lot of money and we can buy a camera for $800. Supervisor Finch stated we will need other quotes per our procurement policy. He would like to have it professionally installed. Will discuss further at the next meeting.

CSEA CONTRACT – Supervisor Finch stated he is happy to vote on this or if the board wishes, enter executive session to discuss further. All agreed with the contract. It is a 3 ½ percent increase for the next 3 years. It has been ratified by the highway union. *Resolution # 39-2023 on motion of Councilman Giordiano second by Councilman Vosburgh authorizing the Supervisor sign the CSEA Agreement with the Highway Department. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes*

SUMMER RECREATION – Councilman McCulloch gave an update of the program. From July 26th to August 10th the program will be at the Community Life Church. He stated the school wants a contract with the town and that is in progress. We are finalizing the permit with DOH. We will not have a nurse available to use and George cannot distribute medications. There is a call into DOH regarding this and we are still proceeding like the program will happen. The cost is $50 per student with a max of 50 students. There is one director, one assistant director and seven counselors. It will be a first come first serve basis. Applications will be handed out at the school. Wages were discussed. The program will be offered to Town of Catskill children only.

CHAMPLAIN HUDSON POWER EXPRESS – Supervisor Finch gave a map of the route. They will start in October and work through the winter.

SENIOR CENTER – Supervisor Finch stated he is fine with Rev. Turpin using the Senior Center but the board will need to review who is using, when it is being used and what the staffing need will be for future requests. After discussion, currently, the senior center can be used after hours for Town of Catskill non-profits as we do not have the staffing for any other events.

LEEDS CEMETERY – An email was received as to who maintains the graves in the cemetery. It is a very old cemetery. The town mows but does not maintain the stones. Supervisor Finch will contact the person.

With no further business a motion to enter executive session to discuss a personnel issue was made by Councilman Giordiano seconded by Councilwoman Scannapieco. No further business will be conducted after the board exits the executive session. Executive session begins at 7:57 pm.

*As told by Councilman Giordiano, executive session and the meeting ended 8:35 pm.*

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Izzo

Town Clerk