

TOWN OF KIRKWOOD
TOWN BOARD MEETING

March 3, 2015

A regular meeting of the Kirkwood Town Board was held on March 3, 2015 at 6:00 PM at the Joseph A. Griffin Town hall with Supervisor Gordon Kniffen presiding.

Present: Supervisor Gordon Kniffen
Councilman Robert Weingartner
Councilman Lewis Grubham
Councilman William Diffendorf, Jr.

Absent: Councilwoman Linda Yonchuk

Also Present: Oliver Blaise III, Deputy Town Attorney
Gayle Diffendorf, Town Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 3, 2015 Town Board Meeting

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Blaise updated the Board in regard to the trailer park code violations prosecutions he is handling. For the first round of hearings held today, two of the three defendants showed up. The Judge is going to issue a criminal summons for the defendant that did not show up to appear later this month. The initial feeling is that Josh Hunt, the owner of the trailer park on Johnson Road, will be cooperative and has already taken steps to fix some of the things he was cited for. Mr. Blaise noted that Josh is having additional problems within the park that do not fall under the Town's jurisdiction and they are trying to take that into account. Since this involves a meth lab, Scott Russell is going to check with his contact with the Dept. of State to determine whether or not there is any code involvement. It is Mr. Blaise' impression that Josh owns all the trailers in the park. In regard to the trailer park on Route 11, Mr. Blaise said that Ms. Long has hired an engineer who is supposedly helping her, although there has been a concern in that regard noted by Scott and the Dept. of State. The next round of hearings is scheduled for the end of the month.

Councilman Weingartner reported that he received insurance renewals from Haylor, Freyer & Coon. There is a slight increase of about \$300 over last year. The flood insurance renewals were received as well with about a \$200 increase for each building.

Supervisor Kniffen reported that at a County flood task meeting today he learned there is a new organization named Community Organization Active In Disaster (COAD) which is part of the United Way and deals strictly with flooding. This organization will assist people during and after a flood in a variety of ways. He will provide more information in the future.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion – Comprehensive Plan Update – Representative from Broome County.

Frank Evangelisti, Chief Planner for Broome County, explained they have updated the Comprehensive Plans for seven municipalities in Broome County; the Towns of Binghamton, Lisle, Dickinson, Triangle, Maine, Fenton and the Village of Whitney Point, and are currently working on updating the Town of Colesville's plan. He and Lora Zier, along with Beth Lucas, work with committees from each municipality. Mr. Blaise said they are reviewing the draft agreement submitted by Mr. Evangelisti and he feels there is not much that needs to be changed. Mr. Evangelisti said the committees are normally comprised of five to seven people with members from the Town Board, Planning Board or other members of the community. Supervisor Kniffen said at this point committee members for Kirkwood will be Councilman Grubham, Planning Board Chairman Marchie Diffendorf, ZBA Chairman Duane Travis, Attorney Herb Kline and/or Attorney Oliver

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Blaise and Roy Tondeur, an interested member of the community. According to Mr. Evangelisti they will most likely meet for about an hour once a month or so for about a year. A copy of the Town's current Comprehensive Plan will be needed. They start by inventorying all the assets, infrastructure, work force, housing, financial resources and Lora will review all the Town's ordinances to see if any inconsistencies have cropped over the years or to determine if any terminology is outdated. They will want input from the Town boards in regard to whether there are a lot of variances, whether there are uses that have not been thought of before, etc. Mr. Evangelisti said they find it is effective to conduct a survey by mail to all the property owners in the Town, and he reviewed some options in that regard. He said two public hearings are held and he reviewed how those are conducted as well. After the public hearings they put together everything from the public hearings, the survey, input from the boards and start to draft the new plan. This will basically result in a set of recommendations. He added that this committee is basically serving as consultants, but it is the Town's plan. They also prepare the SEQR for review. Mr. Evangelisti said the second hearing is more of a formality. At that time they are looking for comments or corrections on the new plan. He asked the Board to consider what the hot topics are in the Town and whether there are specific areas of the Town that need to be addressed. Since they will be finished in Colesville in May they can get started in Kirkwood any time. He also noted that a resolution will be needed naming the members that will be serving on the committee. All the municipal plans that have been updated can be found on the County's website at www.gobroomecounty.com.

Discussion – Post Office Lease.

Supervisor Kniffen reported the post office lease runs out at the end of this year and he has been notified that they want to extend it for another five years. A proposal from them is being reviewed.

OLD BUSINESS:

36-15
C&G
Planning &
Zoning Legal
Agreement

Councilman Diffendorf moved to adopt resolution authorizing Supervisor to enter into an agreement with Coughlin & Gerhart, L.L.P. regarding legal counsel and assistance to the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals, in accordance with the attached agreement. Councilman Grubham seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Councilman Weingartner - yes
Councilman Grubham - yes
Councilman Diffendorf - yes
Supervisor Kniffen - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

37-15
C&G
Paralegal
Agreement

Councilman Grubham moved to adopt resolution authorizing Supervisor to enter into an agreement with Coughlin & Gerhart, L.L.P. regarding paralegal of the attorneys, in accordance with the attached agreement. Councilman Weingartner seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Councilman Weingartner - yes
Councilman Grubham - yes
Councilman Diffendorf - yes
Supervisor Kniffen - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

38-15
Sched PH
Amend
Zoning LL
Aquifer Dist.

Councilman Weingartner moved to adopt resolution scheduling a Public Hearing for March 31, 2015 at 6:00 PM regarding amending Zoning Local Law regarding Renewal of Special Permit in the Aquifer Protection District. Councilman Diffendorf seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Councilman Weingartner - yes
Councilman Grubham - yes
Councilman Diffendorf - yes
Supervisor Kniffen - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

39-15
Donation
Br co
Firefighters

Councilman Diffendorf moved to adopt resolution authorizing a donation of \$1,000 to the Broome County Firefighters' Association to be used towards the purchase of a new Fire Safety Trailer. Councilman Grubham seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Councilman Weingartner - yes
Councilman Grubham - yes
Councilman Diffendorf - yes

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Supervisor Kniffen - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

Councilman Grubham moved to adopt resolution authorizing Supervisor to enter into an agreement with Blu Tower, Inc. and Network Oriented Solution for the purchase of water meters, in accordance with the attached agreement. Councilman Weingartner seconded.

40-15
Blu Tower/
Oriented Sol.
Water Meters
Agreement

Roll Call Vote: Councilman Weingartner - yes
Councilman Grubham - yes
Councilman Diffendorf - yes
Supervisor Kniffen - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

AUDIT AND PAYMENT OF CLAIMS:

Councilman Weingartner moved to adopt resolution authorizing the audit and payment of the following claims: General and Highway Funds, Special Districts (Fire, Light, Water and Sewer Districts), Professional Services, Capital Projects and Reserve Funds claims, and ratifying the payment of the prepaid claims as authorized by resolution adopted January 3, 2015, all in accordance with the abstract of claims on file in the Town Clerk's Office. Councilman Diffendorf seconded.

41-15
Audit/Pay

Roll Call Vote: Councilman Weingartner - yes
Councilman Grubham - yes
Councilman Diffendorf - yes
Supervisor Kniffen - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Weingartner moved to adopt resolution to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Diffendorf seconded. All voted in favor.

MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Gayle M. Diffendorf
Town Clerk