

AUGUST 13TH, 2018 – Town Board Meeting

Supervisor Richard Keaveney opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by a moment of silence.

PRESENT: Supervisor Richard Keaveney
Councilperson Brenda Adams
Councilperson Terese Platten
Councilperson David Patzwahl

ABSENT: Councilperson Alan Miller

AUDIENCE:

MINUTES:

MOTION: Motion made by Councilperson Brenda Adams, seconded by Councilperson David Patzwahl, to approve the July 9th, 2018 minutes. 4-ayes

Roll-call showed: Supervisor Richard Keaveney - yes;
Councilperson Brenda Adams - yes;
Councilperson Terese Platten - yes; and
Councilperson David Patzwahl - yes.
Motion carried.

Councilperson Alan Miller arrived at 7:05 p.m.

BILLS:

MOTION: Councilperson David Patzwahl made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Terese Platten, to approve the payment of the August bills: General bills: #207–#237 in the amount of \$13,138.53;

Highway bills: #62–#79 in the amount of \$18,602.99. 5-ayes

Roll-call showed: Supervisor Richard Keaveney - yes;
Councilperson Alan Miller - yes;
Councilperson Brenda Adams - yes;
Councilperson Terese Platten - yes; and
Councilperson David Patzwahl - yes.
Motion carried.

SUPERVISOR MONTHLY REPORT

Town Clerk Revenues	\$ 344.77
Highway Fund	\$561,886.53
Highway Fund Capital	\$112,716.00
Lighting Districts	\$ 1,985.62
Ambulance Districts & Fire Districts	\$ 328.08
Building Inspector	\$ 305.00 (July, Aug.)
Planning Board	\$ -0-
Recreation	\$ 7,834.92
General Fund Balance	\$ 260,013.81
Court Revenues	\$ 5,472.00 (June 2018)
Zoning Board of Appeals	\$ 25.00
Tax Collector	\$ 36.71

RESOLUTION #63 – Approving Donna Gedeon as an Assistant to the CEO for Code Enforcement Legal Matters – approximately 5 hours per week at \$13.94 per hour.

MOTION: Councilperson Brenda Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Alan Miller, to adopt resolution #63. 5-ayes

Roll-call showed: Supervisor Richard Keaveney - yes;
Councilperson Alan Miller - yes;
Councilperson Brenda Adams - yes;
Councilperson Terese Platten - yes;
Councilperson David Patzwahl - yes.
Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #64 – 2018 Budget Adjustments: \$500.00 moved from the Dog Control Account A3510.4, to Traffic Control Account A3010.4 and \$100.00 from the Youth Account A7310.1 to Library Personnel Account A7310.1.

MOTION: Councilperson Brenda Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilperson David Patzwahl, to adopt resolution #64. 5-ayes

Roll-call showed: Supervisor Richard Keaveney - yes;
Councilperson Alan Miller - yes;
Councilperson Brenda Adams - yes;
Councilperson Terese Platten - yes;
Councilperson David Patzwahl - yes.
Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #65 – Appointing Brain R. Clark to the Board of Assessment Review for a 5-year term, beginning October 1, 2018 and ending September 30, 2023.

MOTION: Councilperson David Patzwahl made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Alan Miller, to adopt resolution #65. 5-ayes

Roll-call showed: Supervisor Richard Keaveney - yes;
Councilperson Alan Miller - yes;
Councilperson Brenda Adams - yes;
Councilperson Terese Platten - yes;
Councilperson David Patzwahl - yes.
Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #66 – Abandoning Town of Canaan Road, Korobchuk (formerly known as Fog Hill Road).

MOTION: Councilperson Terese Platten made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Richard Keaveney, to adopt resolution #66. 5-ayes

Roll-call showed: Supervisor Richard Keaveney - yes;
Councilperson Alan Miller - yes;
Councilperson Brenda Adams - yes;
Councilperson Terese Platten - yes;
Councilperson David Patzwahl - yes.
Motion carried.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. **AA annual rental increase** from \$600.00 to \$1,000.00, payable quarterly for the use of the Town Hall meeting room. Supervisor Richard Keaveney said that due to maintenance costs, we increased the fee.
2. **New assessment roll:** Supervisor Richard Keaveney said that Office of Real Property Tax Service (ORPTS) says that the Town of Canaan is valued at 100%. The Assessor has seven (7) SCAR hearings.
3. **NY Municipalities Charitable Reserve Funds** Supervisor Richard Keaveney said that the State is proposing that Towns' create a charitable reserve fund in lieu of taxes for a tax exemption. This proposal was voted down by the IRS.

4. **NYSERDA** (New York State Energy Research and Development Authority): Supervisor Richard Keaveney discussed the Clean Energy Communities program and its ten (10) high-impact actions. Towns must complete four (4) of the ten (10) high-impact actions to become a NYSERDA Clean Energy Community and become eligible for NYSERDA grant funding under the program. The Town of Canaan has completed two (2) of the four (4) actions needed— Unified Solar Permit and Energy Code Enforcement Training—and discussion ensued regarding which of the remaining high-impact actions the town could realistically accomplish to become a Clean Energy Community. Councilperson Alan Miller and Supervisor Richard Keaveney asked about installing LED lighting in the town hall (already installed in the highway garage) to meet energy savings requirements under one of the impact actions. Councilperson Terese Platten volunteered to contact the NYSERDA Clean Energy Community representative to discuss next steps.
5. **Broadband** update: Councilperson Terese Platten said that Spectrum is connected and offering a “triple play” option (cable TV, landline phone via cable, 100 mbps-broadband internet) for their customers; they are also signing new customers to their service. Spectrum’s service is delivered via fiber-optics running along the existing utility poles and using coaxial cable from the pole to the house. Only some areas of the Town of Canaan are being served by Spectrum. Consolidated Communications has also been running fiber-optics along the existing utility poles. Per the NYS Broadband Office representative, Consolidated was excluded from building fiber-optic infrastructure in the areas given to Spectrum, so Consolidated will be serving only some areas of the Town of Canaan. Consolidated plans to also offer a “triple play” (50 mbps-broadband internet, streaming TV, and landline phone via fiber to the house and Ethernet in the house). Consolidated has completed the fiber buildout but has not yet begun service to their customers. The Consolidated representative indicated that service will be offered in the Town of Canaan beginning in the fourth quarter of 2018 (so December 2018/January 2019).
6. **Healthcare option for Jennifer Newton** and family: MOTION: Supervisor Richard Keaveney made a motion, seconded by Councilperson David Patzwahl, to discontinue the Health Care Option offered to Jennifer Newton. 5-ayes. Roll-call showed: Supervisor Richard Keaveney - yes; Councilperson Alan Miller - yes; Councilperson Brenda Adams - yes; Councilperson Terese Platten - yes; Councilperson David Patzwahl - yes. Motion carried.
7. **Firefighter cancer insurance:** Councilperson Brenda Adams asked about PJ Keeler’s proposal for fire companies, past/present, need to purchase cancer insurance for interior firefighters. Supervisor Richard Keaveney indicated that excess county funds will cover the cost for the next few years. The Board of Supervisors’ will vote on this.
8. **Berkshire Farm:** Brenda Adams informed the Town Board that the NY State Troopers are using Facebook and posted information that six (6) children had gone AWOL from Berkshire Farm in July, which frightened some community members. After discussion with the Troopers, Councilperson Adams found out that the incident occurred in June, the information was posted a month later, and that the incorrect information was spread via social networking. The Troopers further told Adams that “they do not have personnel to verify what is posted.” Councilperson Adams also spoke with a local community member regarding reposting unsubstantiated information about the Farm.

Town of Canaan Swim Program 2018 Report – August 13, 2018

It has been great. Haley [Gubitz] has done a wonderful job leading the staff this summer. Daily attendance has averaged [25] twenty-five, upwards of [35] thirty-five on popular weeks. Six employees have been teaching wonderful skills-based lessons from level one to six.

Daily snack, free swim, and games have also been a big hit. We are excited for the end of summer party this Friday [August 17]. Also families have appreciated the generosity of the Adams Point Beach Association [APBA] offering discounted weekday memberships to Rec [swim] program participants thanks to the work of [APBA] President Charlie Long.

Considerations for next year:

1. How to deal with weeklong renters who have a Canaan address and want to participate?
2. Training a guard in junior lifeguarding for graduates of level six who might want to teach swimming in a couple of years.
3. Tons of interest in the return of programming in the afternoon at Town [park] including tennis, other sports, and arts and crafts.

ASSESSOR MONTHLY REPORT:

Final equalization rate is 100%:

- We have seven (7) SCAR hearings.
One was settled between the attorney and the town assessor.
Three (3) are vacant lands, which are not allowed to be heard in a SCAR hearing. I am working on getting them dismissed.
The others are arguing based on percentage of increase, which has nothing to do with the value of their property. They have not done anything to prove the value of their property. Because of that, I would imagine they will not get a reduction.

Around the office:

- I have been having a lot of issues with my database disappearing on my computer. I have worked with NYS and Tech4All to fix the issue. I thought it was taken care of, but as of the 8th, it happened again. [Now fixed]
- We will soon be starting an Exemption Audit within the office to ensure we are compliant with NY State regulations. We will most likely be asking for original forms to be refiled if we do not have all the information needed in the event of a comptroller audit.

HIGHWAY REPORT – Highway Superintendent Meyers read the report.

ACTIVITIES:

- Intense humidity and storms have been the norm lately. We've had a few tree calls; all different size trees came down. I want to thank the state police and sheriff's department; they always made sure I was okay cutting the trees and even offered to help, if need be.
- The intense rain overwhelmed some culverts and caused a few washouts. The grader will be busy!
- Bristol Bridge synopsis:
I filed a certificate of necessity and closed to through traffic effective August 1st. We put up signage, barrels with lights, and snow fencing around the work zone, and yet we still have traffic. I am always amazed that people don't read signs!
We rented an excavator with a jack hammer (under NYS contract prices) to break apart the deck and a portion of the walls; once we got going, we found a second set of walls, which was unexpected. I asked the engineers to make a site visit to see if this affects our construction plans. The prestressed beams, elastomeric bearings, and rebar are all ordered with an ETA of the beginning of September.

REQUESTS:

- Because we are missing a set of keys, I would like to purchase new locks for the highway garage.
- The skylights in the garage are leaking and desperately need to be changed/replaced before

winter. Please find a contractor to replace them ASAP.

- Permission to attend fall conference: MOTION: Supervisor Richard Keaveney made and motion, seconded by Councilperson Alan Miller, for Highway Superintendent, Bernhard Meyer, to attend the fall conference. 5-ayes

Roll-call showed: Supervisor Richard Keaveney - yes;
Councilperson Alan Miller - yes;
Councilperson Brenda Adams - yes;
Councilperson Terese Platten - yes;
Councilperson David Patzwahl - yes.

Motion carried.

Public Discussion: Attorney Kristin Laviolette Pratt representing Marilyn Gellar of 214 County Route 24, East Chatham, NY 12060. The concern is that the building across the street from the Gellar residence has placed two large LED units, which the Gellars believe is in violation to the Town of Canaan zoning code. The Gellars have submitted a FOIL request asking for copies of permits, decisions, or resolutions related to the property located at 215 County Route 24. Councilperson Alan Miller said he would look at the lights of concern after the meeting.

Adjournment: Councilperson Brenda Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Alan Miller, to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m. 5-ayes

Roll-call showed: Supervisor Richard Keaveney - yes;
Councilperson Alan Miller - yes;
Councilperson Brenda Adams - yes;
Councilperson Terese Platten - yes;
Councilperson David Patzwahl - yes.

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlotte L. Cowan, MMC/RMC