

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Durham held October 2, 2007, at the Town Building in Oak Hill, NY.

**Present:** Gary Hulbert - Supervisor  
 Robert Elpel – Councilman  
 Linda Sutton – Councilwoman  
 William Carr – Councilman

**Absent:** Jodi Wood – Councilwoman

**Secretary:** Chris Kohrs – Deputy Town Clerk

**Others Present:** Wes Moore – Highway Superintendent  
 Tal Rappleyea – Town Attorney  
 Charles Soderblom – Town Clerk  
 Sean Frey – County Legislator

Supervisor Hulbert called the meeting to order at 7:33. There were 10 people present.

A budget workshop meeting will be held on October 10 at 7:00 PM.

Supervisor Hulbert checked with Alan Beechert on the status of the 911 signs. They are not 100% completed. He will follow up.

Roger Murman of Fraser Associates answered questions on the East Durham Sidewalk Proposal. Mr. Carr had some concerns about the Proposal; storm drains, wet lands, archeological concerns. Mr. Murman can only guess at the answers, but felt the concerns would not be a problem. Supervisor Hulbert said the only wet lands were near the Weldon House and 1/10 of an acre can be disturbed without any litigation. There will be a meeting to determine where the sidewalks will be and where the trees will be planted. There was a discussion on curbs and driveways. There will be a meeting with DOT to discuss. A comment was made that without curbing people would be parking on the sidewalks. Mr. Carr asked if there could be additional information included with curbing and lighting for plans. Dr. Goldstein suggested that having the sidewalk project coincide with the historical Susquehanna Turnpike, might help with DOT funding.

Alan Beechert presented the Oak Hill Durham Volunteer Fire Company budget for 2008. They have increased the capital investments to \$37,000 in anticipation of buying a new truck. They did spend \$13,000 to upgrade the Scott air packs to be in compliance. The other increases were minor bringing the total proposed budget to \$96,100 for 2008.

Supervisor Hulbert presented the East Durham Volunteer Fire Company budget for 2008. They have increased the new equipment to \$20,000. The total budget is \$124,938.84.

A representative from the Town of Durham Volunteer Ambulance presented their 2008 budget. There is an increase under building to add an emergency exit to the outside of the north side of the building. Safety equipment has increased and billing charges for

third party billing have increased. Once again, they are only requesting \$30,000 support from the town. They are in the process of training to do their own billing.

Supervisor Hulbert requested the Ambulance squad resume the quarterly calls received report.

Sergeant Sutton presented the budget for the Police Department of \$67,662. He has increased the hours for part time officers by \$3000 and included a 3% pay raise. He is also requesting \$10,000 to replace the oldest car.

Supervisor Hulbert read the court budget of \$38,650; they have included \$2,500 to attend the Association of Towns training in NYC as well as modest salary increases.

Supervisor Hulbert asked David Cunningham if he had checked his records for 911 numbers that are still needed. David has checked his files and only a few are missing numbers.

There was discussion on the new building permit application. Mr. Carr asked how a person would know what paperwork should be filled out. Mr. Schmidt explained the process. Mr. Hulbert recommended that a person coming in should receive the building permit and fee sheet only. The paperwork would be forwarded to the building department and at that time, they could determine what extra paperwork would need to be filled out. A site plan review is required for all construction, except for a one or two family dwelling. There will be further discussion later on Special Use Permit, which was sent down by the State.

**Mrs. Sutton made a motion seconded by Mr. Carr to renew Richard Frasco to the Board of Assessment Review for three years.**

Durham Community Planners thanked everyone for attending the ceremony on September 23 at the gazebo. They have submitted paperwork to Greene County to receive a \$2500 grant.

Dr. Goldstein explained an Ag & Markets grant opportunity for the town. He feels it would compliment the Open Space grant and Agricultural and Farmland grants, which we are currently working on. The grant could be used to review the need for a right to farm law, additional land use regulations, American Farm land Trust and or for the board to visit other towns and review their land use laws and regulations. He encouraged the board to review the documentation and determine if they would like him to pursue this grant. Jerry Cunningham added that four agriculture applications were submitted for the state's program to sell development rights three of which were submitted however, he doubts they will be funded once stacked against the other applications. Pursuing the Ag & Markets grant may increase the towns or its resident's chances to receive funding. The board will review the criteria and discuss at the next meeting.

Legislature Frey explained the county has a Youth Grant opportunity available to not for profit organizations. The Tourism Department has an aide position available with a salary range of \$18-26,000; the applications are due by the end of the week. The county is completing their budget. There is nothing new to report on the jail proposal. The county is reviewing its property holdings to determine is there are some that would benefit from being sold.

Mr. Carr requested to enter into executive session at 9:17 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue. Supervisor Hulbert opened the regular meeting at 10:03 p.m. with not action taken on the personnel issue.

Mr. Carr motioned to adjourn at 10:04 p.m. seconded by Mrs. Sutton.

**Ms. Wood motioned to adjourn at 9:54 p.m. seconded by Mr. Carr.**

**Minutes approved:**

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Chris Kohrs, Deputy Town Clerk