

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Durham held February 16, 2010 at the Town Building in Oak Hill, NY.

Present:
Gary Hulbert - Supervisor
Linda Sutton – Councilperson
William Carr – Councilperson
Jodi Wood – Councilperson
Jerry Cunningham – Councilperson

Secretary: **Chris Kohrs – Town Clerk**

Others Present: **Larry Cooke – Code Enforcement Officer**
David Cunningham – Building Inspector

Supervisor Hulbert called the meeting to order at 7:33 P.M. Fourteen people were present.

Ms. Wood moved to approve the minutes of January 5 and January 19, 2010 seconded by Mrs. Sutton all in favor motion carried. (Hulbert-yea, Sutton-yea, Cunningham-yea, Carr-yea, Wood-yea)

Highway Superintendent Moore submitted the following report: (absent due to storm)

In the last four weeks there were five storms causing the crew to scrape and sand using approximately 980 tons of sand.

They hauled 602.37 tons of #1b stone for snow sand from Carvers and had more road salt delivered as they were getting low on materials.

The storm on January 25 produced heavy rain and warm temperatures causing some flooding leading to shoulder damage on some of the town roads. Over the next few days, the crew made repairs to the damaged areas using most of the crusher run we had in the yard. He had Carvers haul in 1000 tons and when our trucks were available, they continued to bring in additional product to build our stockpile back up.

The transmission in the 2005 Dodge ¾ ton 4x4 pickup broke down on February 8, 2010. We delivered it to Catskill Transmission who called on Friday and reported they found metal pieces in the oil pan. They will pull it apart to see if it can be rebuilt; if not they will install a rebuilt unit.

Building Inspector Cunningham reported issuing seven certificates of compliance and two certificate of occupancy, one permit for a wood stove (indoor), one permit for an addition and one demolition permit.

Code Enforcement Officer Cooke reported having completed twelve inspections and issued one new violation. Four existing cases have been closed. The violation on Stone Bridge Road Extension has been closed with the civil penalty being paid, the building

permit had been issued, the final inspection has been done, and the Certificate of Occupancy has been issued. No other certificates were issued.

He will be in Lake Placid the first week of March to attend the annual codes conference and receive is required hours of in-service training.

The reports from the Judges were received with a note stating Court Clerk Hull has been researching old unpaid fines that have been due the court since 2004. She collected \$3,350.00 between December 2009 and January 2010 and will continue to work on as time and workload permit.

Clerk/Collector Kohrs reported we are 70% collected for the 2010 tax cycle, which is 2% less than last year at this time. We have collected approximately \$400 more in penalties and twenty-two more parcels. The town has received their money and now money collected minus penalties will be sent to the county.

Town Historian Nick Nahas reported the Oak Hill Preservation Committee has received an \$800 grant for Oak Hill Days from Greene County Council on the Arts and thanked Jan Perlin for her assistance in securing the funding.

Mr. Carr stated he plans to have a power point prepared for the March 16 meeting sharing his research and conclusions on the moratorium and how our current Site Plan Law and Comprehensive Plan work to maintain the goals of the comprehensive plan.

Supervisor Hulbert explained that Attorney Rappleyea is completing the revised wording and contract with the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society, that he was unable to attend do to the storm.

Board members Wood and Sutton will work with the Building Department and Board members Carr and Cunningham will work with the Police Department.

Code Enforcement Officer Cooke updated the board on the septic issue at Erin's Melody. He has not heard officially from DEC however, he is aware that DEC made a surprise inspection to the property, Erins' Melody was asked to increase the pumping schedule, and DEC confirmed that the drain was capped as requested.

The board will review the 2009 books of the Town Clerk and Court Clerk at the March 2, meeting.

Supervisor Hulbert will contact the NYS Department of Transportation to inform them that their proposal to shut down State Route 145 to replace the culvert in East Durham was not accepted and the board has requested to meet with DOT to discuss options.

The board received the Mass Gathering Application MGP2010-01 from MJQIC&SC for May 29 and 30. They will review the provided information and discuss at the March 2, 2010 meeting.

Mr. Cunningham motioned to approve the appointment of Janet Partridge to the Board of Assessment review from October 1, 2009 to September 31, 2014, seconded by Ms. Wood all were in favor motion carried. (Hulbert-yea, Sutton-yea, Cunningham-yea, Carr-yea, Wood-yea)

It was noted that the Board of Assessment Review seat held by Charles Soderblom would expire September 30, 2010.

Greg Korner-Fox with Durham Rescue reported having received 239 calls for 2009 of which 69 turned over not able to assemble a crew, 72% of calls were covered with 30 riding members. They expect to be 100% on line with the Electronic Patient Care Report by April 2010. Columbia Memorial, Albany Medical and Albany Memorial currently participate in the EPCR program, St. Peter's is expected to be on line soon. Greene County is one of the first to switch to EPCR which will greatly enhance patient to hospital care as well as billing for transportation and meds received in route. The billing by the squad is 100% improved and turn around on billing and payment has picked up. The board can expect to receive quarterly reports from the ambulance squad.

Mr. Cunningham moved to accept the resignation of Dan Clifton from the Historic Commission and to appoint Nick Naha to complete Dan's term, seconded by Ms. Wood, all in favor motion carried. (Hulbert-yea, Sutton-yea, Cunningham-yea, Carr-yea, Wood-yea)

Walk-About-Mountain School (formally Good Tidings Bible Camp) will hold a fundraiser February 20, 2010, snow tubing and skating from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. \$20 per person or \$50 per family.

Rich Garvin of Erin's Melody questioned if the moratorium is to increase tourism what exactly was being considered. It was explained the purpose for the moratorium is to preserve the tourism. Mr. Garvin suggested the town adopted a program similar to Cairo (Bears & Butterflies) and Catskill (Cats) such as leprechauns, unicorns, pot of gold and/or rainbows. It was also stated that should a business demonstrate a hardship with the moratorium they could apply for a hardship variance.

Abstract #1002, consisting of 2010 Vouchers #140 through #156 for \$61,907.14 was reviewed and approved for payment. The total was broken down as follows:

Trust & Agency	\$ 29,573.11
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Abstract #1003, consisting of 2010 Vouchers #157 through #209 for \$325,639.46 was reviewed and approved for payment. The total was broken down as follows:

General Funds	\$ 70,798.00
Highway Funds	\$ 57,815.55
Fire Protection	\$ 193,022.00
Street Lighting	\$ 798.91

Ms. Wood motioned to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. seconded by Mr. Carr.

Minutes approved:

Chris Kohrs, Town Clerk