

The Town of Fenton Town Board held its regular meeting on Wednesday, February 1, 2017, at 7:00 pm, at the Fenton Town Hall, 44 Park Street, Port Crane, New York.

PRESENT: Town Board Members
David Hamlin, Supervisor
Gary Holcomb, Deputy Supervisor
Michael Husar, Councilman
Richard Pray, Councilman
Thomas Moss, Councilman
(arrived at 7:07 pm)
Highway Superintendent Randy Ritter
Town Attorney Albert Millus, Jr. (arrived at 7:08 pm)
Town Clerk Melodie Bowersox

OTHERS PRESENT: Building Inspector Matt Banks, CAC Committee Member Pat Podrazil, Planning Board Chair John Eldred and 10 members of the General Public

David Gunster led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

RESIDENTS' TIME

There were no comments during Residents' Time.

Residents' Time closed at 7:01 pm

TOTAL BILLS – ABSTRACT 13, 2016 approved during the January 19th, 2017 meeting:

FUND	VOUCHER #s	AMOUNT
General	684 – 705	\$9,673.41
Highway	451 – 470	\$12,070.69
Hillcrest Water	240 – 247	\$1,109.62
Hillcrest Sewer	45 – 48	\$1,898.11
Porter Hollow Sewer	18	\$125.00
Port Crane Light District	23 – 24	\$1,086.96
Hillcrest Light District	23 – 24	\$2,443.21
Capital Projects	10	\$37,840.00
Trust & Agency	0	\$0.00

TOTAL BILLS – ABSTRACT 1, 2017 approved during the January 25th, 2017 meeting:

FUND	VOUCHER #s	AMOUNT
General	1 – 49	\$56,179.18
Highway	1 – 19	\$73,706.54
Hillcrest Water	1 – 22	\$13,998.30
Hillcrest Sewer	0	\$0.00
Porter Hollow Sewer	1	\$50.00
Port Crane Light District	0	\$0.00
Hillcrest Light District	0	\$0.00
Capital Projects	0	\$0.00
Trust & Agency	1	\$4,475.21

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT

- Mr. Hamlin reported that he and Mr. Holcomb had been spending a lot of time at Hinman, Howard and Kattell working on several things, including the Union and the Farm Brewery.
- Preparation has begun for the CDBG Grant and the search for an Administrator to run the Grant for the Town.
- A thank you note was received from the Fay Family for the flowers sent in memory of James Fay.

TOWN ATTORNEY’S REPORT

- Report was read by Atty. Millus.

TOWN CLERK’S REPORT

- Monthly Report was read by Melodie Bowersox.
- Total Local Shares for January 2017 were \$3,197.00

TOWN ENGINEER’S REPORT

- There was no Town Engineer’s Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building and Grounds – Mr. Moss reported he has a call into Assistant Town Engineer Rick Armstrong as to what was still pending on the roof punch list. The Library Project has received only one of the two proposals expected. Mr. Moss has a call into the other contractor and recommends we give it to the end of the week. The pricing on the proposal received was under \$15,000. The completion of the project is still on target for the end of February. There was an issue with the boiler in the Town Hall which was repaired by Gerry Sabato. Gerry will be ordering a spare motor to have on hand in the event of an issue in the future so that we will not need to wait for parts to arrive. John Broughton is assisting with some issues with the drinking fountains in the Town Hall. We are looking to determine if they are safe to use or whether they should be replaced with water from Culligan dispensers for public use. Mr. Holcomb reported Highway Superintendent Randy Ritter received three bids for the Highway Department garage door openers. They have decided to go with Gates Door Company bid, which is \$6,000 for the five door openers.

Zoning Enforcement – Report was summarized by Mr. Moss.

Water and Sewer – Report was read by Mr. Pray.

Dog Control – Report was summarized by Mr. Pray.

Highway and Solid Waste – Randy Ritter reported January activity for the Highway Department included tree trimming, cold patching and equipment maintenance in preparation for next Summer. Randy did away with the night shift and has one member formerly of the night shift working with the mechanic during the day.

Building Inspector – Report was read by Mr. Holcomb.

Justice Court – Report was read by Mr. Husar.

Assessor – There was no Assessor Report.

Historical Advisory Committee – There was no formal monthly Historical Advisory Committee Report. Mr. Hamlin received the Historian's Annual Report which was submitted to the State. Activities of the newly formed Committee included various lectures and the printing of a 2017 Town calendar. Mr. Holcomb reported the Historical Advisory Committee found a spillway on the DLA property which is registered in the National Registry of Historical Places.

Conservation Advisory Committee – Mr. Holcomb reported the Committee has been reviewing the Town's current moratorium on wood burners. The Committee has come back with a recommendation to lift the moratorium if certain criteria are met, including specs, type of fuel burned and the meeting of DEC/EPA multiple standards. He and Building Inspector Matt Banks will further review the minutes of the Committee's last meeting.

Mr. Pray made a motion to approve all committee reports as submitted, seconded by Mr. Holcomb. **Motion carried.**

VOTE: Ayes 5 Hamlin, Holcomb, Husar, Moss, Pray
Nays 0

MINUTES

Mr. Pray made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 21st, 2016 Work Session and the January 4th, 2017 Town Board Meeting (as amended today), seconded by Mr. Moss. **Motion carried.**

VOTE: Ayes 5 Hamlin, Holcomb, Husar, Moss, Pray
Nays 0

Mr. Husar had a point of clarification regarding today's amendments to the Town Board minutes. He requested the Board Meeting minutes be corrected because he had a concern that some comments he made during that meeting did not get included. He objected to the fact that he was not able to comment on the Organizational Agenda with the assignment of tasks of the Board and some other things as he had been able to do in the past. He also stated that for the last five or six years a statement was in the Organizational Agenda that the language for the Town of Fenton was English. Mr. Hamlin removed it by his own choice and he felt it was a mistake. Mr. Husar further explained an e-mail went out on December 28th, 2016 from the Town Hall scanner, which was the Meeting Agenda on the first two pages with reference to the Annual Organizational Agenda listed in the middle of the Meeting Agenda. It was a multi-page scanned document that included the Organizational Agenda after the Meeting Agenda, which he missed before closing the document. Mr. Husar went on to say that with all the time he spends at Town Hall and with Mr. Hamlin, he feels it could have been mentioned to him and that he feels he was slighted.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Farm Brewery** – Mr. Hamlin said the Farm Brewery is going to be added to the Agricultural District with a vote on February 17th, 2017. Hydraulic studies have been completed and a new Public Hearing with the ZBA has been scheduled for Wednesday, February 8th, 2017, at 7:00 pm.
- **Library Repairs** – As discussed in the Committee Reports, the Library repairs are progressing and the Library continues to function well, although Librarian Korin Spencer said they miss using the other half of the building.
- **1001 Chenango St/Wells Fargo** – As mentioned in the Attorney's Report, the hope is that Wells Fargo will agree to tear it down.
- **DLA/IDA Agency (Zoning/Public Hearing)** – Mr. Hamlin had a conversation with Kevin McLaughlin of the IDA. It will go before their Board the middle of the month. Zoning changes will need to be discussed at a Public Hearing. Mr. Husar suggested putting some restrictions and penalties in place if the project were to go ahead. Only rezoning the portions of the project rather than the entire parcel is also a consideration.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Resolution #2017-01 2016 – Budget Modifications Resolution** – In order to close out 2016, the Budget Modifications need to be approved through a Resolution. **Mr. Holcomb made a motion to approve Resolution #2017-01 as follows: Lists have been prepared detailing overdrawn appropriation accounts within various Town funds for 2016 along with corresponding accounts and amounts to help cover these overdrawn appropriations,** seconded by Mr. Pray. **Motion carried.** (The lists of the Budget Modifications will be filed with the minutes.)

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Mr. Holcomb aye
Councilman Mr. Husar aye
Councilman Mr. Moss aye
Councilman Mr. Pray aye
Supervisor Mr. Hamlin aye

- **4th Quarter Sales Tax** – The total Sales Tax for 2016 was \$1,464,378.03, which was \$149,378.31 over what was budgeted. Sales tax is always budgeted conservatively. During the course of 2017 there will be a 50/50 split with the County. The County's portion has gone down and ours has gone up.
- **CDBG – RFP & Senior Exemption** – Mr. Hamlin had a printout and labels run that included Residents who are receiving various levels of the Aged/Senior STAR Exemption, which is a gross income cap of \$31,500. The lists were given to the Board to review. Once the CDBG Grant is advertised the Board wants to give the benefit to those who really need it. The most distressed properties that apply go to the top of the list. The RFP (Request for Proposal) has gone out. The Town had to do one advertisement in a Minority Reporter Publication out of Syracuse. Direct mailings were to J. O'Connell and Associates (Clarence, NY), Tedra L. Cobb and Associates (Hermon, NY), Kenday Management Services (Syracuse, NY), Glen Martin Research Associates (Albany, NY) and Highland Planning (Rochester, NY). Additional direct mailings went to First Ward Action Council, Metro Interfaith Housing Management Corp., SEPP Management Group and Thoma Development. Proposals are due back by noon on February 22nd, 2017.
- **Hillcrest Fire Company** – Mr. Hamlin texted Fire Chief Rick Larson regarding the Board's concerns and invited Rick and Assistant Fire Chief Jeff Corey to attend the February 22nd, 2017 Work Session, stating there were concerned Residents and fewer fire personnel. Rick responded, 'If I'm out of the hospital I'll be there. We've kicked five out and we've gained two more. We've had better responses. I'll bring the proof to show you this.' Mr. Holcomb commented that the Board has not received any applications for the two new Members. Mr. Hamlin has a call into the Director of Emergency Services to see what they have in their records. Mr. Holcomb asked whether the contact at Emergency Services would be able to determine if the Hillcrest Fire Company can fulfill their contract with the Town, as it may be advantageous to have a third party involved in evaluating the situation.
- **Water Retention System** – Mr. Hamlin met with the Port Crane Fire Company President, the former President and Earl Drury regarding the Water Retention System they are interested in installing. They became aware of the Town being awarded the SAM Grant for the Library and Well Refurbishment and inquired about funding for their project as well. Mr. Hamlin said if they want to go down to meet with Senator Akshar he will make the appointment for them to go down. It would be a 15 minute appointment with the Senator.
- **Key Bank Online Banking Statements** – Mr. Holcomb commented that he and Bookkeeper Sue Crosier have been trying to obtain online access to the Town's banking statements from Key Bank for the last couple of months. Mr. Holcomb said he did obtain a contact name of a bank representative that left one message for him, but the individual has been called four times since then and there has been no return call. Mr. Holcomb said he will continue to try, but at some point he may come back to the Board to discuss getting quotes on interest rates from other banks.

- **Water Meter Pit** – Mr. Pray said he sent a package off to Hillcrest Water and Sewer Operator Dave Grunder and Assistant Hillcrest Water and Sewer Operator Greg Starley to review. They had some comments on how to save money on the valves on the street as well as wanting a larger opening on the top so that it would not be considered confined space. They were contacting John Mastronardi of Griffiths Engineering to update the specs. Atty. Millus will be receiving a revised spec before it is ready to go out for bid.
- **Natural Gas Fueling Station** – Mr. Husar asked whether there was any update on the natural gas fueling station that was discussed at the last Planning Board meeting. Mr. Hamlin received a call today from Mike Boland, who owns some land in back by the park. The project is in the preliminary stages. Dan Griffiths of Griffiths Engineering works for the gas pipeline company and asked whether the Town would have an issue with him doing the engineering for the pipeline. Atty. Millus said it was not an issue. Alex Urda will be doing the hydraulic study. Mr. Pray said there was a half hour presentation at the Planning Board meeting last night. There have been no permits applied for to date. There was some Board discussion regarding the proximity to the park and the high traffic volume as it relates to the current Road Maintenance Ordinance.
- **Hillcrest Saint Patrick's Day Parade** – Mr. Moss said the Hillcrest Saint Patrick's Day Parade is scheduled for Saturday, March 11th, 2017, at 1:00 pm. Staging at the Legion on the East Service Road is at noon.
- **March Town Board Meeting Date Change** – Mr. Hamlin asked whether the Town Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 1st, 2017 could be changed to Thursday, March 2nd, 2017. Board Members agreed to reschedule to March 2nd, 2017. The appropriate advertising will need to be done.

At 8:04 pm, **Mr. Hamlin adjourned the meeting.**

Melodie A. Bowersox, Town Clerk/sf