



Town Board Meeting Minutes
July 6, 2010

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Ballston was held Tuesday evening, July 6, 2010 at the Town Hall on Charlton Road. Members present were Supervisor Patricia Southworth, Councilwoman Mary Beth Hynes, Councilman Jeremy Knight, Councilman Timothy Szczepaniak and Councilwoman Kimberly Ireland. Also present was Town Clerk Muriel Swatling. Absent was Town Attorney Murry Brower.

Supervisor Southworth called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Matthew Spataro of Spataro Insurance Agency who bid Selective Insurance and Michael Hutcherson of SEFCU Insurance Agency who bid U. S. Specialty Insurance Co. (Houston Casualties) were present to answer questions from the Town Board regarding their proposals for the insurance renewals.

The following corrections were made to the minutes of the special meeting held May 25, 2010.

Page 115 – Paragraph 8 – Change the sentence to read as follows: Councilman Szczepaniak asked if they wouldn't try to keep the same variable?

Paragraph 9 – Change sentence two to read as follows:

The reply was about \$800.00 per year for testing.

Paragraph 15 – Change sentence two to read as follows:

The Town needs to provide funding and requested Supervisor Southworth as Budget Officer to earmark funding during the upcoming budget.

Add the following sentence after the one above:

Supervisor Southworth replied that she would add this to the list of budget requests.

The following correction was made to the minutes of the regular meeting held June 1, 2010.

Page 125 – Paragraph 3 – Sentence four should be changed to read as follows:

Councilman Szczepaniak inquired if landscaping should be a separate contract?

A motion was made by Jeremy Knight and seconded by Kimberly Ireland to approve the minutes for the special May meeting and regular June meeting as corrected. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

The Town Clerk read a letter from Assessor June Maniacek announcing her retirement as of August 31, 2010.

Lynette Ziskin from the Jenkins Park Advisory Board reported that the walking trail around the pond has been completed. Volunteers are continuing to work on ongoing projects. Ms. Ziskin also is requesting approval from the Town Board to spend \$800.00 to purchase new basketball backboards, rims and hardware (if needed). The Park originally was going to replace the steel backboards with acrylic but was advised to replace them with steel similar to the current ones. It was explained that for our area, steel is the best way to go. With the changes in temperature, the acrylic is apt to crack.



Councilwoman Ireland reported for the Library. She stated that the reading program has started. The Library now has Tumblebooks which is a reading on-line program. Clerk Joan Weaver has retired after 32 years of service. The Library Director is beginning to think about the budget for next year.

Building Inspector Thomas Johnson, Highway/Water Superintendent Joseph Whalen, Dog Control Officer John Christopher, Animal Control Office Thomas Shambo, Community Emergency Corps representative Ray Otten, Supervisor Patricia Southworth and Town Clerk Muriel Swatling presented reports for June, and they are on file in the Town Clerk's office.

Supervisor Southworth reported that the Town Hall will be opened as a cooling center if the need arises. Councilwoman Ireland asked if the Red Cross has official cooling centers. Supervisor Southworth replied that the Town can work with the Red Cross.

Supervisor Southworth said that the Town received \$175,861 in sales tax revenue which is up over last year. Supervisor Southworth thanked Meg Stevens and the Village of Ballston Spa for Family Fun Day. The Town has a Summer Youth employee working scanning records in the Building Department. The Town Board members received information from the North Country Hardship Fund requesting funds. If anyone is interested in additional information, you can go on their website.

Supervisor Southworth presented the financial report for June.

A motion was made by Timothy Szczepaniak and seconded by Mary Beth Hynes to approve the Supervisor's report for June. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

Paul Simpson asked about the issue of naming the Town of Ballston as additional insured on insurance for events held in the Sewell Community Room.

Supervisor Southworth said the Town doesn't feel comfortable not naming the Town of Ballston as an additional insured on special event insurance. The insurance companies are not willing to provide a rider and the special event policies are quite expensive.

Councilwoman Ireland said that the monopole is up. The equipment is now going to have to be moved over. We need to have contracts. When are we going to paint?

Supervisor Southworth responded that the bid for the painting is ready to go.

Councilwoman Hynes stated that the water demand is less in the fall or early spring so that would probably be the best time to paint. By the time everything is set to go, it will probably be early spring.

Councilwoman Ireland asked how the Emergency Management Committee is coming along.

Supervisor Southworth answered that a lot of review of the Plan has been done. They are meeting next week. The Committee is ready to make recommendations to send to the County.

Ms. Southworth also indicated that all individuals that would respond in case of an emergency should be NIMS trained.



The following items were present for discussion and action.

The New York State Comptroller's Office has required that government municipalities establish a standard work day and reporting schedule for elected and appointed officials who are members of the Retirement System and do not participate in the time and attendance system.

The Town has prepared a resolution but the councilpersons had questions so it was decided to table this resolution until the questions could be answered and changes could be made if need be.

10-95: A motion was made by Mary Beth Hynes and seconded by Timothy Szczepaniak to table the Standard Work Day and Reporting resolution. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

In order to meet the time schedule for the Standard Work Day and Reporting resolution, the Town Board will call a special meeting to act on this resolution.

10-96: A motion was made by Mary Beth Hynes and seconded by Timothy Szczepaniak to set a special meeting for July 13, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. to consider the Standard Work Day and Reporting resolution for elected and appointed officials who are members of the Retirement System and do not participate in the time and attendance system. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

The next item is to award the insurance bid for renewal of the Town's insurance. The Town Board decided to award the bid to Spataro Insurance Agency who bid Selective Insurance.

10-97: A motion was made by Kimberly Ireland and seconded by Jeremy Knight to award the insurance bid to Spataro Insurance Agency who bid Selective Insurance for a cost of \$44,186. plus fees of \$144.84.

Councilwoman Ireland said the replacement values helped in her decision. Supervisor Southworth said she felt the Town should have additional coverage. Councilman Szczepaniak said that the increments for additional umbrella coverage were reasonable. Councilwoman Hynes asked about adding insurance for pollution. The additional amount for pollution coverage would be \$7,500. Additional umbrella coverage would be \$2,845. The additional umbrella coverage would bring the umbrella limit up to \$5,000,000. Councilwoman Hynes asked that the resolution be amended to include an additional premium of \$2,845. to increase the umbrella coverage limit to \$5,000,000. Both Councilwoman Ireland and Councilman Knight agreed to the amendment.

10-97: A motion was made by Kimberly Ireland and seconded by Jeremy Knight to award the insurance bid to Spataro Insurance Agency who bid Selective Insurance for a cost of \$44,186. plus fees of \$144.84 and an additional premium of \$2,845. for a total cost of \$47,175.84. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

Councilwoman Hynes said the awarding of the bid was a close call and the deviations were not major. Councilwoman Ireland stated the bidding was very competitive.

The Town is in need of a representative to the Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake Recreation Commission. The name of Darcy Jones has been submitted to fill this position.



10-98: A motion was made by Kimberly Ireland and seconded by Jeremy Knight to appoint Darcy Jones as the Town of Ballston’s representative to the Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake Recreation Commission. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

10-99: A motion was made by Mary Beth Hynes and seconded by Kimberly Ireland to accept with regret the resignation of Town Assessor, June Maniacek, effective August 31, 2010. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

The Town has received complaints regarding the grass not being mowed at the residence at 49 Forest Road. The owners now live out of state. The Town sent a registered letter which was not picked up. The Building Inspector asked what direction he should take next. Councilman Szczepaniak stated that there is no safety violation. Weigh that against other issues the Town has with unsafe buildings and it seems fairly minor.

10-100: A motion was made by Timothy Szczepaniak and seconded by Mary Beth Hynes to send a non-registered letter to the homeowner and see if the Town receives a response. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

10-101: A motion was made by Mary Beth Hynes and seconded by Kimberly Ireland to approve an \$800.00 expenditure for Jenkins Park to replace the basketball backboards, rims and hardware (if, needed). Roll Call: ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

A motion was made by Mary Beth Hynes and seconded by Kimberly Ireland to move to Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

A motion was made by Timothy Szczepaniak and seconded by Jeremy Knight to move out of Executive Session and reconvene the regular meeting. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

Councilwoman Ireland asked about the status of the railroad and White’s Beach Road. She feels that we have to be very cautious because at this point the issue is between the residents and the railroad.

A motion was made by Timothy Szczepaniak and seconded by Kimberly Ireland to adjourn the meeting. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Muriel K. Swatling
Town Clerk