



Town of Ballston
Town Board Minutes
November 5, 2009

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Ballston was held Thursday evening, November 5, 2009 at the Town Hall on Charlton Road. Members present were Supervisor Patricia Southworth, Councilman James Briaddy, Councilwoman Mary Beth Hynes, Councilman Timothy Szczepaniak and Councilwoman Kimberly Ireland. Also present were Town Attorney Murry Brower and Town Clerk Muriel Swatling.

Supervisor Southworth called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Supervisor Southworth stated that she had asked the Town Clerk to add wording to a sentence of the October minutes to make it a complete thought, and that has been done.

A motion was made by James Briaddy and seconded by Timothy Szczepaniak to approve the minutes of September special meeting and October regular meeting. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

Building Inspector Thomas Johnson, Highway/Water Superintendent Joseph Whalen, Dog Control Officer John Christopher, Animal Control Officer Thomas Shambo, Supervisor Patricia Southworth, and Town Clerk Muriel Swatling submitted reports for the month of October, and they are on file in the Town Clerk's office.

Zoning Enforcement Officer, Anton Rohrmeier reported that there had been an incident of vandalism on Jacob Street. Profanity had been painted on the house and paint stripper had been poured on a car parked in the driveway. It was also reported by Councilman Timothy Szczepaniak that the vandalism had increased on Skaarland Drive and the Beechwood Drive area in Burnt Hills on Halloween night.

Councilman James Briaddy reported that again, there is a musty odor at the Library. They feel it is due to mold in the area of a previous leak from a cracked window. The Library is going to have this checked out and will take direction from the findings.

Councilman Szczepaniak reported that Town of Ballston Community Day was a success. Numbers picked up from last year. The first hour was slow, so maybe the hours will have to be adjusted. Mr. Szczepaniak said he appreciated the efforts of the other agencies that participated.

Councilman Szczepaniak said he spoke with a representative from the Attorney General's office who said many senior citizens are getting scammed such as work being paid for and not getting done. The Attorney General's office does a program on how to avoid these types of scams. Mr. Szczepaniak was thinking of possibly doing a safety program.

Supervisor Southworth presented her financial report for October.

A motion was made by Mary Beth Hynes and seconded by James Briaddy that the Supervisor's report for October be approved. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

Supervisor Southworth thanked the following people for helping when she had to leave the October meeting due to illness: Vann Judd, Joyce Jackson, and Nancy Rutgers of the Ballston Lake Emergency Squad; and Joe Whalen, Les Bonesteel, and Tom Johnson of the Town of Ballston.



Supervisor Southworth reported that Saratoga County has been declared eligible for Farm Service Agency disaster emergency loan assistance for damage and losses caused by rain and hail from last May 1 through the 2009 growing season. Family farms that lost at least 30 percent of their production may be eligible for loans. Loan applications will be accepted until June 21, 2010.

Supervisor Southworth also reported that the HEAP funding has begun. It will continue until the funds have been depleted. The H1N1 vaccine is on back order. People have been calling asking about the availability. There are new open burn regulations. Check with the link to find out more information.

The public hearing for the 2010 Saratoga County Budget will be held on December 3, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

Councilwoman Ireland asked for additional information regarding the ProAct card which was mailed to households in Saratoga County.

Supervisor Southworth replied that the County mailed out ProAct cards so that residents that don't have prescription drug coverage can purchase prescription drugs at a discounted rate. These cards apply to people and pets.

The following items were presented for discussion and action.

The final revision of the proposed 2010 Budget for the Town of Ballston has been completed, and a public hearing has been held. Supervisor Southworth thanked everyone for working together to reach a compromise everyone is comfortable working with.

09-153: A motion was made by Timothy Szczepaniak and seconded by Mary Beth Hynes to approve the Town of Ballston 2010 Budget. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

The MVP Gold health insurance for retirees is due for renewal.

09-154: A motion was made by James Briaddy and seconded by Kimberly Ireland to approve the renewal of the MVP Gold Health Insurance. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

The guidelines for the proposed Parks and Recreation Committee need to be established. Supervisor Southworth has drawn up some suggested guidelines which now need to be reviewed and finalized.

Councilwoman Ireland said that the people who interviewed for the Committee have expertise so there should not be much cost. There could be programming along with the active recreation. These could be potential uses for the Parks and Recreation funds.

Councilwoman Hynes said that the Committee could identify potential parkland.

Councilman Szczepaniak stated that the Town has to follow through with the candidates.

Supervisor Southworth said she will set a meeting for next week to interview the remaining candidate.

Councilwoman Hynes said she will put a package together with what has already been done.



09-155: A motion was made by Timothy Szczepaniak and seconded by Kimberly Ireland to table approving the guidelines for the Parks and Recreation Committee. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

The contract with Attorney for Planning and Zoning, Peter Reilly is about to expire.

09-156: A motion was made by James Briaddy and seconded by Timothy Szczepaniak to approve a one year contract for Peter Reilly, Attorney for Planning and Zoning, at a cost of \$18,500. per year. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

09-157: A motion was made by James Briaddy and seconded by Mary Beth Hynes to approve the following resolution honoring the memory of Scott Brown, former Ballston Town Supervisor. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

WHEREAS, Scott W. Brown, Jr. died on September 29, 2009; and

WHEREAS, Scott W. Brown, Jr. was a lifelong resident of the Town of Ballston, having graduated from Ballston Spa High School, after which he attended the Eastman School of Business and the General Electric business training course; and

WHEREAS, Scott W. Brown, Jr. served in the Army Air Force during World War II in England and France, participating in the Normandy invasion and the liberation of France for which he received a certificate signed by the President of France and the New York State Libertarian Award; and

WHEREAS, Scott W. Brown, Jr. worked for the General Electric Company for 43 years as manager of utilities accounting, retiring in 1982; and

WHEREAS, Scott W. Brown Jr. served his community as a member, master, and secretary of the Franklin Lodge No. 90 F&AM for more than 50 years; and

WHEREAS, Scott W. Brown Jr. served as a Saratoga County Sewer District Commissioner for more than 20 years; and

WHEREAS, Scott W. Brown, Jr. served the Town of Ballston for 25 years as Republican Committeeman, Councilman and Justice of the Peace;

WHEREAS, Scott W. Brown, Jr. was Supervisor of the Town of Ballston and was a member of the Saratoga County Board or Supervisors from 1966-1975, serving as its Chairman of the Board in 1974; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate and fitting that this Board commemorate the passing of our friend; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Ballston expresses its sense of loss and its sincere sympathies upon the death of Scott W. Brown, Jr. to his beloved family; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk will forward a certified copy of the resolution to the family of Scot W. Brown, Jr.



09-158: A motion was made by Timothy Szczepaniak and seconded by Kimberly Ireland to approve the proposal by Americlean for cleaning the kitchen exhaust system at a cost of \$485.00. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

09-159: A motion was made by Kimberly Ireland and seconded by James Briaddy to approve the following resolution honoring H. Richard Stewart on his 50th Anniversary as a firefighter with the Burnt Hills Fire Department. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

WHEREAS, H. Richard Stewart is a resident and local business owner in the Town of Ballston; and

WHEREAS, H. Richard Stewart attended Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake High School and after graduation he attended Albany Junior College; and

WHEREAS, H. Richard Stewart worked as an insurance agent and for forty years has been an owner and general contractor for Stewart Construction, Inc. building quality homes in the Town of Ballston; and

WHEREAS, In 1959, H. Richard Stewart joined the Burnt Hills Fire Department. During his 50 year tenure, Mr. Stewart served with distinction as a Lieutenant (1965, 1971), Captain South (1974), Assistant Chief (1975-1981), Chief (1982 – 1984) and Fire Commissioner (2006 to the present). H. Richard Stewart is a dedicated firefighter and is trained in Initial Fire Attack, Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting, Cause and Origin, and Fire Police. In addition, Mr. Stewart has always been a willing contributor of his time and talent to serve on numerous committees; he was instrumental in the flag pole memorial and is presently helping to rehabilitate the land and building donated to the Burnt Hills Fire Department by Robert Curtis; and

WHEREAS, H. Richard Stewart is an active member of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Clifton Park Elks Club and the National Ski Patrol. He has enjoyed being a private airplane pilot for 26 years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stewart and his lovely wife Anna Mae reside in the neighboring Town of Charlton. He is the loving father of Todd (Kelly) Stewart and Heather (Mark) McLeod and stepfather to Kevin Emerich and Karen Devernay; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stewart is the proud grandfather to Conner McLeod, Vienna McLeod, Alex Stewart, Sean Stewart and Lanie Stewart and step-grandfather to Nick Emerich, Jessie Emerick, Dana Devernay and Denie Devernay; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, THAT THE Town of Ballston wishes to extend its sincere congratulations on H. Richard Stewart's 50th Anniversary as a Firefighter with the Burnt Hills Fire Department. The Town also wishes to express its heartfelt appreciation for Mr. Stewart's dedicated service and positive influence in the Ballston community.

09-160: A motion was made by James Briaddy and seconded by Timothy Szczepaniak to approve the payment of the difference in the cost of employees' health care coverage from the 2009 cost to the 2010 cost. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.



09-161: A motion was made by Kimberly Ireland and seconded by James Briaddy to approve the stipulation that beginning January 1, 2010, the Town employees prescription drug plan will not include a deductible, so therefore, there will be no reimbursement. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

Attorney Brower stated that the Schidzick Estate will has had second thoughts about giving the Town of Ballston the money for the parkland which was stated in the will of Frank Schidzick. The Estate will purchase the land for the Town and will then deed the land to the Town. The Town hadn't moved forward because of unanswered questions regarding the amount of money there would be for the purchase of land.

09-162: A motion was made by Kimberly Ireland and seconded by Mary Beth Hynes to table the resolution to insure the Schidzick Estate receipts are deposited into the Parks and Recreation Trust Account to be used for the purpose of land purchase. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

There is a federal mandate regarding additional mental health care which the Town learned about after approving the renewal of health care coverage with MVP.

09-163: A motion was made by Mary Beth Hynes and seconded by Kimberly Ireland to approve an amendment to Resolution 09-146 for renewal of health care coverage with Mohawk Valley Physicians for the coming year to include the new rates that incorporate a new Federal mental health parity mandate to cover additional mental health care for all individuals effective 11/01/09. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

09-164: A motion was made by Timothy Szczepaniak and seconded by Kimberly Ireland to approve the following resolution congratulating Timothy Szablewski on achieving the Rank of Eagle Scout. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

WHEREAS, Timothy Edward Szablewski is a resident of the Town of Ballston and is the son of Marcia and Garen Szablewski; and

WHEREAS, Tim Szablewski graduated from the Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake High School in 2009 with Honors. He was the 2008-2009 Co-Captain of the BH-BL Men's Varsity Crew Team, a Scholastic Athlete, President of the Digital Media Club, and received the CSEA Teachers' Union Scholarship; and

WHEREAS, Timothy Szablewski is a freshman at SUNY Plattsburg, majoring in Communication: Digital Media Production; and

WHEREAS, Timothy Szablewski has volunteered his time and talent as a peer leader at Our Lady of Grace Church, assisted two elder neighbors with yard work, raised funds for a fellow student who had a house fire, worked on the fitness building at the Burnt Hills Rowing Association Boat House and participated in roadside clean up and community food drives; and

WHEREAS, Timothy Szablewski was a member of Troop 54 which held meetings at the Ballston Town Hall; and

WHEREAS, Timothy Szablewski has held several leadership positions including Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader and Troop Librarian and he worked at the Boy Scout Camp Wakpominee as a camp counselor; and



WHEREAS, Timothy Szabelwski worked with the Jenkins Park Advisory Board to complete several projects that would benefit the park. He designed, built and placed several bat and bluebird houses around the park. He secured donations for his project from Curtis Lumber and with the help of volunteers, he completed the project to construct, stain and paint the houses, and install them in the designated areas in the park; and

WHEREAS, this project has been a benefit to nature and enhanced the park for the community; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Ballston would like to recognize the outstanding personal achievement and service to his community of Eagle Scout Timothy Edward Szablewski.

09-165: A motion was made by Timothy Szczepaniak and seconded by Kimberly Ireland to approve the following resolution congratulating Ian Robison on achieving the Rank of Eagle Scout. Roll Call: Ayes – all; Noes – none. Carried.

WHEREAS, Ian Robison is a resident of the Town of Ballston and is the son of Carolyn and Tom Robison; and

WHEREAS, Ian Robison attended the Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake High School and graduated with Honors; and

WHEREAS, Ian Robison was a member of the Math and Science Honor Society, participated in LeaderSpark leadership training program sponsored by The League of Women Voters, was the Co-Captain of the 2008-2009 Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake Men's Varsity Crew Team and a member of the 2008 State Champion Men's Varsity Senior 8 Boat Crew; and

WHEREAS, Ian Robison is a freshman at the University of Vermont, majoring in Environmental Engineering; and

WHEREAS, Ian Robison has participated in numerous community service projects. He was a Peer Leader at Our Lady of Grace Church, helped build the fitness building at the Burnt Hills Rowing Association Boat House, raised funds for a fellow student who had a house fire, participated in food drives, road-side clean-up, Veteran's Day Clothing Drive, Jenkins Park Clean-Up Day and ran in the Charlton Fun Run/Walk; and

WHEREAS, Ian Robison was an employee for four years at the local Ellms Family Farm; and

WHEREAS, As a member of Troop 54, Ian Robison was a member of the Order of the Arrow Boy Scout Honor Society; and

WHEREAS, Ian Robison worked with the Jenkins Park Advisory Board to assess the need for additional seating in the pavilion area and developed a project to meet the needs of the park users. The project included Ian designing the benches, pricing and acquiring the materials, assembling a work crew, preparing the materials and the work site, organizing volunteers and supervising the construction; and

WHEREAS, this project has provided much need seating at the park and benefited the Park District residents; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Ballston would like to recognize the outstanding personal achievement and service to his community of Eagle Scout Ian Robison.

Councilwoman Ireland reported that Holiday Party will be held on December 11, 2009.



Arnold Palmer said that he thought that the Parks and Recreation Committee was going to be formed, perform the duties given the Committee and be disbanded. The reply was that the Committee at this point in time is going to be an on going committee.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Muriel K. Swatling

Town Clerk