

Town Board Meeting held November 10, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Hall in

Schroon Lake N.Y.

Present:

Town Supervisor: Meg Wood

Councilpersons: Richard Gero, Ethan Thompson, Lynn Donaldson and Leanna Welch

Town Clerk: Patricia Savarie

Also Present: Albert May, Brian Ritching Roger Friedman and Sue Palisano

Supervisor Wood called the meeting to order at 6:05 P.M. with a pledge to the Flag.

RESOLUTION # 173 Approve Minutes of October 13, 27 and November 1, 2022

Councilwoman Welch moved a resolution to approve the minutes of October 13, 27 and November 1, 2022, seconded by Councilman Thompson; carried.

RESOLUTION #174 Approve Vouchers

Councilman Gero moved a resolution to pay the bills as reviewed, seconded by Councilwoman Donaldson; carried. (Councilwoman Welch – Abstained)

General Fund \$28,737.60 Sewer \$7,504.57 Water \$ 16,638.71 Highway \$139,187.84

RESOLUTION #175 Approve 2023 Town Budget

Councilman Gero moved a resolution to approve the 2023 Town of Schroon Budget, seconded by Councilwoman Welch; carried.

RESOLUTION #176 Approve change to ordinance #6 Private Sewers & Drains –

Article VIII Section 2

Councilman Thompson moved a resolution to approve the change to ordinance #6 Private Sewers & Drains –Article VIII Section 2 to state:

Article VIII. PENALTIES Section 2: “Any person who shall continue any violation beyond the time limit provided for in Article VIII, Section 1 shall be guilty of an offense, and on conviction thereof” **ADD “and with the approval of the Town Board:”** , seconded by Councilwoman Donaldson; carried.

RESOLUTION #177 Approve Jessica Botterbusch - Rabies Clinic

Councilwoman Donaldson moved a resolution to approve Jessica Botterbusch at \$15.00 and hour for the Rabie Clinic, seconded by Councilman Gero; carried.

RESOLUTION # 178 Approve Hunter Allison \$.50/hour raise per wage agreement

Councilman Gero moved a resolution to approve Hunter Allison \$.50/hour raise per wage agreement for \$20.63 and hour effective October 26, 2022, seconded by Councilwoman Donaldson; carried.

RESOLUTION #179 Approve Contract for Countryside Veterinary Medical Group 2023 Dog

Control Updates and Fees Schedule

Councilwoman Donaldson moved a resolution to approve Countryside Veterinary 2023 Contract, seconded by Councilwoman Welch; carried.

2023 Dog Control Updates and Fee Schedule

Countryside Veterinary Practice,PC

270 Queensbury Ave

Queensbury, NY 12804

518-793-8055

Contact will be Haley Kirby, Kennel Manager

Fee Schedule

A. Yearly Administrative/Facility Fee \$1250

B. Daily Impoundment Fee \$40

C. Flea Treatment \$7

D. Emergency Examination \$120

E. Daily Hospitalization (SICK) \$50 (Medication is additional)

F. Euthanasia and Transport \$100

G. Cremation (Dependent on Weight) \$65- \$150

H. Spay/Neuter \$150

I. Rabies Vaccination \$79

DISCUSSION: Town of Schroon Ordinance #7 SNOWMOBILE HIGHWAYS

Supervisor Wood stated there had been talk about trying to take care of Thilo Road a Qualified Abandoned Road under the Town Highway Law it states:

“Disposition of title upon abandonment Section 6-6B”

1. It shall no longer be worked at public expense
2. It shall continue to be use as a public highway.
3. It may not be impaired or obstructed
4. No person shall be required to repair it.

Councilwoman Welch stated in the past Thilo Road had been maintained by other Highway Superintendents for the Snow Mobile Club and it is now hard to get through the road. The Past President of the Snow Mobile Club had written Dana Shaughnessy, Highway Superintendent, a letter asking him to help clear it out but never heard back from him. Supervisor Wood stated it can be maintained but not at taxpayers expense. The land owners can keep the road up to get back to their property but the Town can not spend tax dollars for that.

DISCUSSION: Short Term Rentals

Supervisor Wood stated a few people have expressed to me instead of having the codes enforcer officer go and inspect everything we have our Town Attorney craft an affidavit that list everything and everything is up to code and signed by all owners and notarized. It would shorten the process of issuing a licenses and it may protect the Town against any legal inability. We are trying to compile different properties to see who needs to get registered with the Town. Councilwoman Donaldson stated she thinks they still need to be inspected. Councilman Thompson asked how many have registered so far, Supervisor Wood stated twelve.

DISCUSSION: George Berka proposal

Supervisor Wood stated she had talked to Mark Schachner about George Berka’s proposal and he stated he is not starting at the right place he needs to go to the NRC they

identify the proper location. The Town is not under any obligation to entertain this and that no action needs to be taken.

Discussion : Polar Plunge Sponsor by the Town of Schroon

Supervisor Wood stated that the Chamber of Commerce would like the Town of Schroon to sponsor the Polar Plunge. The Chamber does not have insurance to cover the liability. I wrote to Mark Carpenter our Insurance man and he will get back to use to see if we are covered for that and will get back to you next week.

Resolution #180 Approve to Sponsor the Polar Plunge if the Town is covered for Liability on this event.

Councilwoman Donaldson moved a resolution to approve to sponsor the Polar plunge for the Old Time Christmas Event for that one item of the day only if the Town of Schroon has adequate coverage and a diver on sight and safety precautions will be in place with participants signing a waiver with the Chamber makes sure this is in place seconded by Councilwoman Welch; carried.

Discussion: Skate Sharpener for Youth Commission

Supervisor Wood stated she also asked Mark Carpenter if we are covered for a skate sharpener and have Youth Commission responsible for this, he will get back to me. We are hoping that they will have room in the old Fire House to store there things soon. Councilman Thompson stated they might want to purchase a mat before getting on the Hockey Rink.

Discussion: On our Zoning Amendment

Supervisor Wood stated that we were notified by the County that we did not have our Zoning Amendment go in front of the Board of Supervisors, which the Community Services didn't think that was a problem. The state law is different now and states if you are doing more then 25 acres you must have a seeker study done. We have three choices;

1. We can start from scratch, which means we rescind what we did and do the proper paper work.
2. We can do nothing and let it sit and leave it for the future.

3. We can wait and do it with the Comprehensive Plan.

Councilman Gero stated that what triggered this was it is adjacent to a County or State road and this is adjacent to Route 74. Town Clerk Savarie stated that after her conversation with Assessor Shoenstadt, that from Route 74 to Craig DeZalia house it is already zoned B2, so this does not involve the County. Supervisor Wood stated that we still have the 25 acres and I will check with the Town Attorney, Mark Schachner to see if we are doing it properly.

Board Comments

Councilman Thompson stated in the spring I had asked Dave Whitty to look at the Mower at the Severance Cemetery so far to date nothing has been done. We now have someone mowing for us so the question is do we keep the mower and have it fixed or put it up for surplus. The Water Department is in need of a mower so they may want it. We can have Dave look at it and give us an estimate as to what it will cost to fix it. Councilman Thompson stated we still need to figure out wages for part time and seasonal employees. I have been working on this and what I have come up with is treating them the same as our full time employees with the step program. I would like the Board to think about it and meet soon to discuss this. Councilman Thompson stated the Short Term Rental is coming up to begin January 1, 2023 so we need to see who has to register their rentals with the Town. In that law we have penalties for not following through and I don't want a repeat of the Sewer Law, where we don't fine them. We need to follow through with this and get letters out to the renters to get registered before they start renting for the season. We need to identify who is renting and Supervisor Wood stated she can write the letter.

Councilman Gero stated we need to find a Christmas tree for the Park we have been looking around but most are too big. We need to find one between 20-30 feet high. Councilwoman Donaldson stated they could go look at her mom's house; she has some blue spruce that might work. It would be nice to have the Christmas decorations up before Thanksgiving. We have a real problem with the snow being dumped on the area where we put the tree and it would be nice if possible to ask the Highway Superintendent if it could please be put somewhere else because we had a lot of lights broken.

Supervisor Wood stated Brian Ritching, the Wastewater Chief Operator, suggested we take the tree down by the sewer line at the Town Hall so that the sewer lines are not damaged by the tree roots. Supervisor Wood will have someone take the tree down.

Councilwoman Donaldson moved to recess at 7:42 P.M. and reconvene on Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at 11:00 A.M. to go into Executive Session on and Employee issue seconded by Councilwoman Welch; carried.

I, Patricia J. Savarie, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct transcript from the minutes now on file in my office and of the whole such original minutes.

Dated: November 15, 2022 _____ Town Clerk