

Weekly Town Board Meeting  
November 14, 2012

The Town Board of the Town of Philipstown held their Weekly Workshop on the above date at 7:55 p.m. at the Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York.

**PRESENT:**

Richard Shea	Supervisor
Betty Budney	Councilwoman
Nancy Montgomery	Councilwoman
John Van Tassel	Councilman
Dave Merandy	Councilman

**AGENDA**

**1. Discussion with regard to the Fee Schedule.**

Supervisor Shea stated that he is prepared to move forward on changing the fee schedule that sets the fees for a Conservation Board Referral. He did however; ask the members of the board to review the entire fee schedule and make notes on items that they may feel are not in line with the Town Board's objective. The Town Board is encouraging applicants to do this, so we don't want to charge extensive fees. Noting that applicants have escrows and any extensive research would be charged against the escrow.

**RESOLUTION #146-12**

The following Resolution was presented by Councilwoman Montgomery, seconded by Councilwoman Budney and unanimously carried;

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board hereby revises the Fee Schedule for the Town of Philipstown adopted on February 2, 2012 to eliminate the \$300.00 fee for the Conservation Board Referral (page 22, item #9) effective immediately.

Supervisor Shea stated that there is a vacancy on the Board of Assessment Review and a resume was received today from Kathy Tomann who is interested in filling that vacancy. He asked the Town Board to review and be prepared to appoint someone to that vacancy at the December meeting.

Supervisor Shea continued discussions on the proposed budget:

He stated that he wanted to add a grant writer position to the budget and fund that for \$1,000 for 2013. Councilwoman Montgomery commented saying that she is in favor of hiring an outside grant writer, but more importantly she would like to see funding for emergency preparedness. Councilman Van Tassel agreed but pointed out that the Supervisor has stated that there are some funds available for purchasing inflatable mattress', blankets, etc. Councilman Van Tassel also reported that there have been meetings with regard to certain purchases that are necessary, such a thumb drive which would enable any

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emergency worker to access information. Councilman Van Tassel also wanted to see funding for preventative maintenance on the generator, which will be included as per Supervisor Shea. Councilwoman Montgomery stated that all the bills for the generator have come out of the recreation budget. Councilman Van Tassel explained that he submitted all the bills to the Supervisor's Office and were charged against buildings.

Councilwoman Montgomery again stated that her priority is emergency preparedness and technology. She went on to say that equipment is needed for the municipal channel. Town Clerk Merando stated that Cablevision should provide the needed equipment.

Councilwoman Montgomery then asked the Town Clerk if technology gets billed into the clerk's budget. Town Clerk Merando responded saying that anything for town clerk is under that line, same as tax collection. The website however, is charged to buildings as it encompasses all the departments. Councilwoman Montgomery stated she had talked to the Mayor of Cold Spring with regard to their Virtual Town Hall Program. She would love to see the town utilize New York Alert, however, it is very costly.

Supervisor Shea stated that an increase of \$1,000 has been added to the Fish Library line. He pointed out that during these past storms, there has been an increase in their up times, with resident using resources that are available. They also experienced a \$7,000 loss due to this Hurricane Sandy.

Supervisor Shea stated that each employee would be receiving a \$1,000 increase for 2013. The department heads for the Highway and Recreation Department would be seeing an increase of \$1,250.00. Supervisor Shea added that he would like to give the Highway Superintendent a bonus at some point, because the last two years he has surpassed the work expected of him. Maureen Etta will be taking over the Safety Coordinator position for an additional \$2,000.00 stipend.

Supervisor Shea stated that as of now, the Town would be \$90k under the 2% cap. He reviewed the tax rates for the A and B funds. The town may see the insurance rate decrease before the budget is finalized.

There being no further business to discuss, Councilman Van Tassel made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Budney to close the Weekly Meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tina M. Merando, Town Clerk