

Weekly Town Board Meeting
February 20, 2013

The Town Board held their Weekly Meeting on the above date at 7:30 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
David Merandy	Councilman

AGENDA

1. Resolution re-appointing Mary Ellen Finger as a member of the Planning Board.

RESOLUTION #65-2013

The following Resolution was presented by Councilwoman Budney, seconded by Councilman Van Tassel and unanimously carried;

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby re-appoints the following to the Planning Board:

Mary Ellen Finger Planning Board 4-year term expiring March 31, 2017

2. Discussion regarding salt use throughout the Town of Philipstown.

Supervisor Shea stated that someone had attended the Monthly Meeting and expressed his concerns about salt use on town roads. Councilman Merandy stated for the record that his thought is that Mr. Chirico should respond to this issue, as there has been no defense with regard to the amount of salt used. Councilman Merandy strongly feels that an explanation would set the record straight for everyone.

Roger Chirico explained that two of the trucks were malfunctioning, leaking salt due to the chute, which led to an excessive amount of salt dispensing on East Mountain Road and Perk's Blvd. He went on to say that he couldn't make a judgment call using last year's usage, because they used a minimal amount due to the mild weather. As a matter of fact, there was an issue as to how we were going to order salt for the rest of the year, resulting in cutting back on the amount of salt ordered for this year. The town's quota is 18,000 tons, otherwise, the price increases.

Mr. Chirico explained that town roads are salted twice during a snowstorm, once in the beginning of the snowfall and again when the storm stops. The reason for salt use at the beginning of the storm is so the snow doesn't pack. When a coat

of salt is laid at the beginning, it turns to brine and it makes it soft. When it accumulates the plows can scrape it. If there was no salt treatment, it is going to pack, i.e. Route 9, as the DOT takes so long to arrive. He went on to say that is the last time that salting takes place until the end of the storm. The final plowing takes place and another salt treatment is used. The total salt usage is 88 tons for one particular storm. Highway Superintendent Chirico further explained the procedures that are used by the Highway Department during storms. His comments covered, open chutes for sand disbursement verses chutes for salt use, work sheet procedures, etc.

He then explained treatment of dirt roads; the department uses a temperature gun to properly determine what is needed on the roads. Salt, sand and calcium is then used as indicated.

He encouraged the general public to contact him directly with any questions, or concerns they may have.

Following a lengthy discussion, Mr. Chirico agreed to apply a magnesium brine to paved roads on a test area.

3. Any other business that may come before the Town Board.

Supervisor Shea asked the Town Boards permission to call Jim Requa in to ascertain the town's vulnerability with regard to our computer system. He stated that it appears that someone got the town's e-mail list. He went on to say that he had discussed this with the Town Clerk and she is unaware how anyone could have gotten it. He said that this brings up the whole cyber security issue.

Town Clerk Merando stated that she had explained to Supervisor Shea that if the e-mail weren't blind copied, the list would be exposed to everyone. However, she stated that she had looked back to 2011 and didn't find anything that was not blind copied. She admitted that a few years ago, it did happen. Discussion continued resulting in further review of this matter.

Supervisor Shea turned the discussion to the newly appointed Town Attorney and the creation of a policy in which town personnel will have a clear understanding as to how the attorney is to be used, phone calls, etc. He stated that he would get that out this week and distribute to Town departments.

Supervisor Shea noted that he and Councilman Merandy met with Michael Lambert regarding CSEA negotiations. Councilwoman Montgomery asked if Mr. Lambert was involved in negotiations last year or is this new. Supervisor Shea responded saying that this is new. He also added that he spoke with Drake, Loeb and informed them that the Town would not be using the attorney at every Town Board meeting, but would, however, advise in a timely manner when they are needed.

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Councilman Van Tassel reported that he attended the meeting with the Village of Cold Spring, which addressed the Emergency Action Plan for the Foundry Dam reservoir. He noted that the EOC is at the North Highland's Firehouse, and he believes it's in a risky area. However, the engineer stated that it's really outside the flood zone. They discussed draining the upper reservoir, however, they can't drain that until they can tap into the Catskill Aqueduct. Once we drain the dam, we are officially in a drought.

There being no further business to discuss, Councilwoman Montgomery, seconded by Councilwoman Budney to close the workshop at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tina M. Merando
Town Clerk