

TOWN BOARD MEETING

August 7, 2017

6:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Councilpersons: Kevin Armstrong, Leonard Govern, Luis Rodriguez-Betancourt, Patty Wood, Supervisor Charles Gregory, Hwy. Supt Walt Geidel, Attorney Carly Walas and Town Clerk Ronda Williams

OTHERS PRESENT:

Bruce Dolph, Steven Dutcher, Katherine & Ted Hayek, John Gawley, Reverend William Wright, Carl Sacco, Jason Miller and Ken Prestidge – Delhi Telephone, Deputy Sheriff Craig DuMond

**RESOLUTION #96**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Govern approving the minutes of July 10, 2017 and July 25, 2017 as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

FLOOR TIME:

Delhi Telephone General Manager Jason Miller approached the Board to inform them that the company will be expanding their service area to the Town of Walton. Mr. Miller explain this was possible through NYS Broad Band grants.

Mr. Miller explained DTC has received three rounds of funding totaling \$16 million in projects which will allow for the expansion of services as indicated in the map he provided.

Mr. Miller and Mr. Prestidge explained what sets their service apart from competitors is the fact that DTC will put a direct fiber optic line to each home instead of a shared line or copper.

Mr. Miller explained that the survey crews are out and DTC will be applying for Phase 3 of the funding process. With the Governors new requirement, DTC will go from 250 miles of fiber to 600 miles of fiber.

Mr. Prestidge explained that a technician is required to be in the plant within an hour of a trouble ticket and Walton currently has two technicians living locally so the service time will be much quicker.

Councilwoman Wood asked if the company is looking to expand? Mr. Miller replied, we are always looking to expand.

Councilman Armstrong questioned if DTC was awarded additional funding, would you build out the remaining Walton area? Mr. Miller stated right now the Village of Walton has two carriers, but it would make sense to do this now.

It was agreed that a Public Hearing will be set for September 11, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. for persons wishing to speak in favor or against

the proposed Franchise Agreement between the Town of Walton and Delhi Telephone Company.

Undersheriff Craig DuMond approached the Board to provide an update on crime in Delaware County and provided different options for the public to contact the Sheriff's Office to report suspicious activity. It was asked for an example of suspicious activity, the Undersheriff responded that if you see an enormous number of visitors to a resident or between a specific time each day, get a description of the vehicle and plate number.

Currently, you can call the main phone number, the Tip Line, email and Facebook. He stated "We need Information". Undersheriff DuMond explained, we may ask for a name and contact number for additional questions or information, but if you would like your name withheld, it will be withheld from the investigation.

Supervisor Gregory told Undersheriff DuMond that he has a remarkable staff and please let them know we appreciate their service. Undersheriff DuMond thanked him and explained the difference between a Sheriff Department and a Police Department is the fact that a Sheriff is an elected official and at the end of the day, the conduct of a Sheriff's employees rise and fall with him.

SUPERINTENDENT OF HWY. REPORT:

Superintendent Geidel informed the Board that he was able to seal roads at a lesser amount than previously anticipated and presented an Amended Agreement for Expenditure Highway Monies. This amendment will allow for additional roads to be sealed this year.

**RESOLUTION #97**

**AMENDED AGREEMENT FOR EXPENDITURE HIGHWAY MONIES**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Wood, seconded by Govern accepting the amended Agreement for Expenditure Highway Monies as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

Superintendent Geidel requested an additional \$45,000 for the purpose of processing winter abrasives. I clarified that after the use of the equipment reserve funds to cover the equipment purchases, that there would be enough money to fund this request.

**RESOLUTION #98**

**PERMISSION TO SPEND AN ADDITIONAL FUNDS ON WINTER ABRASIVES**

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Govern granting permission to fund and additional \$45,000 for the purpose of process winter abrasives. All in favor, motion carried.

Reported that the Storm Water Grant application has been signed and submitted. He stated he asked the C&S what the fee was and their response was if the project is successful, hopefully you would hire our firm to complete the grant process.

Supervisor Gregory informed the Board that the March 14 -15, 2017 Blizzard has been declared a Major Disaster and the Town of Walton will be seeking FEMA funding. It is expected to be between \$25,000 - \$27,000 reimbursement.

Councilman Govern informed the Board that his recent conversations with other Highway Superintendents was their respect of Superintendent Geidel and how lucky we are to have him with the Town of Walton.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:

Provided my financial reports to the Board.

Reported that the department worksheets will be sent out to kick off the start of the budget process.

Reported that a Use of Facility to use More Park in 2018 for a wedding ceremony was received.

**RESOLUTION #99**

**USE OF FACILITY**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Wood, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt granting permission for the use of More Park in August 2018. All in favor, motion carried.

Superintendent Geidel expressed concern about fixing More Park after vehicles continue to damage the grass area. It was suggested placing cameras at the park and was turned over to the committee to look into.

CEO/DOG CONTROL REPORT:

Provided Monthly reports to the Board.

Informed the Board of a resident at 3386 County Highway 23 who refused to pay for a building permit after shingling their roof. CEO Dutcher informed the Board that the resident will be issued a ticket to appear before the Walton Town Court. CEO questioned if the Board had any issues with him doing so in which the Board responded no.

Reported that a condemned barn on Lower Third Brook Road has deteriorated more and the landowner appears to be in the process of cleaning up the property.

Discussion took place on the Visioning Workshop that was held at the Walton Fire Hall and what the Town of Walton wishes to be a top priority.

Supervisor Gregory requested three designs from the Engineer for the Breakey Motors Property, Veterans Plaza and the River Edge Trail. The Board will review the designs after they are completed and make a decision as to how to prioritize the projects.

Flood Plain Manager Dutcher stated that he was not a fan of placing a bunch of items in the green area because this will still be a critical area even after Water Street project is complete.

Supervisor Gregory stated the Flood Commission is looking into lowering the road between McDonald and Family Dollar as well as the road between Veterans Plaza and Family Dollar.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Provided the Supervisors monthly reports.

Reported that there is money left from a Senator Bonacic awarded grant and will be looking into the possibility of purchasing a mower.

Reported that Verizon submitted a questionnaire to be completed prior to joining our tower.

Supervisor Gregory read a letter he submitted to New York City stating the Town's concerns with their Land Acquisition Program. (Letter attached)

Reported that the current truck used by the CEO has not been reliable and will seek another vehicle for his use. CEO Dutcher stated there are things we can do in the meantime, he will approach the Village to see if they have a vehicle he could use.

Supervisor Gregory supplied a tax roll assessment comparison for 2016 and 2017. (Attached)

Supervisor Gregory reported that the town is still withholding the final payment to ENPM as there are still items that need addressing.

Supervisor Gregory provided an update on Delaware County issues. He informed the Board that NYSEG has pulled their Hamden facility off the market so that will no longer be an option for the DPW Facility.

Reported on the other areas where the Office of the Aging prepares senior meals for residents.

Reported that the contractor for the Mental Health Facility has been visiting current sites to see what a new facility may need.

Reported that many good ideas have been shared at the most recent Shared Services Committee meeting but we have a way to go. Supervisor Gregory introduced Mr. Ted Hayek who worked as a Shared Service Consultant for 15 years and that Mr. Hayek is willing to assist to move forward.



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Coalition of Watershed Towns  
1 Courthouse Square, Suite 3  
Delhi, NY 13753

Dear CWT:

July 20, 2017

The Town of Walton strongly disagrees with the conclusion reached in the New York City Watershed Land Acquisition Program 2017 Town Level Assessments. In particular, we dispute that there is “a relative abundance of developable land” in the township. The study fails to take into consideration numerous factors that greatly reduce the amount of land that can actually be developed. Factors such as: highways, zoning regulation, conservation easement, agricultural easements, New York State land, forestry easements, and special use tracts such as hunting clubs, topography and parcels that are land-locked, significantly reduce the amount a land available for development. Our research shows less than 6% of land in the Town is still suitable for development. This severely hampers our ability to ever grow our tax base.

With the limited developable land available in Walton, further land acquisition clearly threatens the economic viability of the community. It is for this reason the Town of Walton calls on the New York City Environmental Protection and Bureau of Water Supply to place a permanent moratorium on the land acquisition program in the town and recommends that you instead dedicate those funds to flood mitigation initiatives in Walton and throughout the county.

Regards,

Charles Gregory  
Walton Town Supervisor

Attachments:

- 1) Town of Walton – Build out Acreages
- 2) Hunting Clubs and State Land

### **Attachment 1**

## **Town of Walton – Build out Acreages**

Town Acreage: 61,454.36 acres

- Watershed: 54,514.95 acres
- Non-Watershed: 6,939.41 acres

Highway Mileage / Acreage

Road Width of 24'

- Town Roads: 116.2 miles / 486.34 acres
- Village Roads: 17.87 miles / 2.16 acres

Existing Lot build out

- Watershed: 2,488 parcels, 27,774.67 acres
- Non-Watershed: 50 parcels, 887.08 acres

Buildable Vacant Land

- Watershed: 482 parcels, 1,770.49 acres
- Non-Watershed: 31 parcels, 292.22 acres

Zoning District: Vacant Buildable

Watershed

- R2 District Zoning District: 482 parcels, 608.48 acres
- R5 District Zoning District: 189 parcels, 1,161.71 acres
- Industrial Zoning District: 1 parcel, 1.98 acres

Non-Watershed

- R2 District Zoning District: 16 parcels, 38.41 acres
- R5 District Zoning District: 15 parcels, 254.58 acres

Buildable Agricultural Land

- Watershed: 59 parcels, 1,031.54 acres
- Non-Watershed: 1 parcel, 1.37 acres

Zoning District: Agricultural Buildable

Watershed

- R2 District Zoning District: 50 parcels, 333.76 acres
- R3 District Zoning District: 45 parcels, 697.78 acres

Non-Watershed

- R2 District Zoning District: 0
- R3 District Zoning District: 1 parcel, 1.37 acres

**Attachment 2:**

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>Tax ID #</u>	<u>ACRES</u>
<b>State Land</b>			
	Bear Spring Mountain	317.-1-16	2398.4
	State Land	298.-2-5	<u>111.5</u>
			<b>2509.9</b>
<b>Hunting Clubs</b>			
	Walton Mountain Sportsmen, Inc.	294.-2-19	556.1
		994.-2-17.15	39
		315.-2-1	424.1
	Oak Ridge Club	317.-1-9	330.8
	Sunrise Rod & Gun Club	295.-1-20	<u>169.73</u>
			<b>1519.73</b>

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

**RESOLUTION #100**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Armstrong approving the vouchers as presented for payment. All in favor, motion carried.

General Fund A	#157-178	\$ 8,482.07
General OV B	#8-12	\$30,776.87
General Hwy DA	#86-94	\$16,218.77
OV Hwy DB	#17-23	\$170,441.05
CDBG	#8	\$12,660.00

COMMITTEE REPORT:

Councilwoman Wood questioned whether or not we have guidelines for Veteran’s Plaza. Attorney Walas will look into this. Councilman Armstrong stated he was willing to visit the areas after an event to see if everything is picked up and look for damage prior to refunding the deposit.

CEO Dutcher stated the electric line to the flag pole and tree has been laid by summer employee Christian Sicorski and Luke Munyon has volunteered to hook the electric up.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

**RESOLUTION #101**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Wood, seconded by Govern to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing Update on Former Assessor’s Computer, Kraft Assessment Challenge, Board of Assessment Review Membership, Assessor, Code Enforcement & Floodplain Manager Contract. All in favor, motion carried.

Entered 7:45 p.m.

Motion by Councilman Govern, seconded by Armstrong to close executive session. All in favor, motion carried.

Out 8:35 p.m.

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronda Williams  
Town Clerk