

TOWN BOARD MEETING

December 14, 2015

6:00 P.M.

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Ron Galley - The Walton Reporter, Steven Dutcher, Maureen Wacha, Charlie Gregory – Village Trustee

RESOLUTION #102 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Armstrong seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt approving the minutes of November 9, 2015 and December 1, 2015 as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

FLOOR TIME:

Maureen Wacha on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce thanked Supervisor Dolph and the Board for all they have done over the years and for working with and helping the Chamber.

SUPERINTENDENT OF HWY. REPORT:

Requested permission to attend a Highway Conference in February.

RESOLUTION #103 PERMISSION TO ATTEND CONFERENCE

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Govern granting the Highway Superintendent permission to attend the Highway Conference in February. All in favor, motion carried.

Reported that he received an open Shared Service Agreement from the New York State Department of Transportation. This agreement will allow the State and Municipality to share services not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00).

RESOLUTION #104 NYS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt granting permission to enter into an agreement with New York State Department of Transportation for a Shared Service Agreement not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00). All in favor, motion carried.

Reported that notification has been received from the NYS Department of Transportation that a study has determined that 40 MPH is the appropriate speed limit for Lower Third Brook Road,

Seely Wood Road and Upper East Brook Road from their determined distance as listed in the report.

Discussion took place over the discrepancy in the notification of 45 or 40 MPH. Once clarification is received from NYS Department of Transportation, the appropriate signs will be placed.

Superintendent provided the Board with a recap of the DB and DA accounts since the flood of 2006. He stated that over the past ten years the Town has spent over \$20 million, which most was funding through FEMA and other grants.

He stated that the DB account over the past 10 years had only increased by \$25,398 and the DA account by only \$12,172. He contributed this success to a team effort and thanked Supervisor Dolph for working so well with the Highway Department and the Board.

Councilwoman Wood informed Superintendent Geidel that there have been request to relocate the Iroquois Trail Road sign and that a bank along the Whiteside's property is encroaching into the roadway.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:

Provided my Monthly report.

Reported that I have just received the Tax Collector's Settlement Sheet from the Delaware County Treasurer for the May 2015 returned taxes.

Reported that we are still waiting for reimbursement from the Village for the \$20,000.

Reported that we currently have 44 past due dogs licenses. Our collection totals are down slightly from 2014 due to a larger number of multiple year purchases last year.

A reminder that the \$10.00 late fee will go into effect January 1, 2016. I have received notification from NYS Secretary of State that they have received and filed our Local Law #2 of 2015. A local law amending Local Law #1 of 2002, which is the Town of Walton Dog Control Law. This law will also enforce a bench warrant for the failure to appear to answer a dog ticket.

CEO/DOG CONTROL REPORT:

DCO Dutcher informed the Board that he has spent 6 hours this past month going door to door trying to address the past due dog licenses. He has served 6 to 7 tickets and reported that 6 dogs have been given away or are deceased.

He stated that this is very time consuming and a lot of driving. He hopes that this new law will help address this issue.

Supervisor Dolph questioned if the tickets issued now will follow the old law. Dutcher stated no because of a clause in the new law, the tickets can be prior to the January 1, 2016 date.

Reported that the State is in the process of adopting a new International Building Code. Once this is completed, the Town will receive the new code books for free.

Reported that the flood maps have been cleared from the protest process and the Town should be receiving them soon and will have six months to review and adopt.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Supervisor Dolph presented the following resolution to the Board for review.

RESOLUTION NO. 105

**TITLE: URGING STATE REPRESENTATIVES TO ENSURE FUNDING
EQUALITY/PARITY BETWEEN NEW YORK'S HIGHWAY, BRIDGE AND TRANSIT
SYSTEMS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

WHEREAS, last month, Governor Cuomo and Mayor de Blasio announced they had reached an agreement to jointly subsidize the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (MTA) nearly \$11 billion funding gap for its more than \$29 billion 2015-19 five year capital program and;

WHEREAS, there is currently no Department of Transportation five year capital program for the repair and replacement of bridges and roads to address a severely deteriorating motor vehicle surface transportation system in the state; and

WHEREAS, in the early 1990's the Legislature created the Dedicated Highway and Bridge Trust Fund (DHBTF) to pay for the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) capital program and the Dedicated Mass Transit Trust Fund (DMTTF) to assist with the MTA and other transit system capital programs; and

WHEREAS, at that time, drivers statewide were asked to have a portion of their gas taxes and auto fees directed toward the DMTTF and New York's drivers currently pay hundreds of millions of dollars annually to mass transit and in return drivers were assured that the DOT and MTA five-year capital programs would be similar in size and would be negotiated simultaneously; and

WHEREAS, the DOT five year capital program would include much needed funding for both the state and local roads and bridges through the CHIPS and other programs; and

WHEREAS, a strong DOT five year capital program would ensure safe and functional statewide transportation system, one that supports jobs and economic growth for all communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Walton Town Board for the Town of Walton does hereby call upon Governor Cuomo, the New York State Assembly, the New York State Senate to ensure parity between the two five year programs and to approve both programs at the same time; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the DOT five year capital program include increased funding for the CHIPS and other local programs to help fund upgrades to the local systems; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Walton Town Board shall forward copies of this Resolution to Governor Andrew Cuomo, Senator John J. Bonacic, Senator James Seward, Senator Frederick J. Akshar, Assemblyman Clifford W. Crouch, Assemblyman Peter D. Lopez, Assemblywoman Claudia Tenney, the New York State Association of Counties, and it's Board of Directors.

**RESOLUTION #105 URGING STATE REPRESENTATIVES TO ENSURE FUNDING
EQUALITY/PARITY BETWEEN NEW YORK'S
HIGHWAY, BRIDGE AND TRANSIT SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC WORKS**

A motion was made by Rodriguez-Betancourt, seconded by Wood approving a resolution to urge State Representatives to ensure funding equality/parity between NYS highway, bridge and transit systems. All in favor, motion carried.

Reported that the Town has decided to terminate the Choice Cards and the following resolutions need to be approved.

HEALTH REIMBURSEMENT ARRANGEMENT

AMENDMENT

WHEREAS, the Company maintains the Health Reimbursement Arrangement (the “Plan”) for the benefit of certain of its employees; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Section 8.01 of the Plan, the Company desires to amend the Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Plan is hereby amended as follows, effective as provided therein:

Pursuant to Section 8.02(a) of the Plan Document, the Plan is hereby terminated effective December 31, 2015.

Claims incurred prior to the plan termination date will be reimbursed via manual submission until 3/31/2016.

RESOLUTION #106 HEALTH REIMBURSEMENT AMENDMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt, seconded by Wood granting permission to terminate the Health Reimbursement Arrangement with Choice Strategies effective December 31, 2015. All in favor, motion carried.

Reported that notification was received that the ARC has released funds to the Village of Walton to be disbursed to the Town in the amount of \$3,772.00.

Reported that notification was received from NYMIR stating that a claim filed from Matthew Stafford from an accident on Pines Brook Road has been denied.

Reported that a letter was received from Senator Schumer thanking the Town of Walton for standing with him during his visit to the Kraft Foods plant. The Board was in agreement that a formal thank you letter will be sent to express their appreciation to the Senator in his efforts to keep the plant open.

Reported that he would like the Boards approval to sign a letter to Governor Cuomo asking for tax relief amongst the residents of NYS and that the tax cap is not currently applied in an equitable manner among all governments.

RESOLUTION #107

LETTER TO GOVERNOR CUOMO

A motion was made by Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt, seconded by Armstrong granting Supervisor Dolph permission to sign a form letter to Governor Cuomo on behalf of the Town, asking for tax cap equitable. All in favor, motion carried.

Supervisor Dolph provided a Delaware County Exemption Report to the Board for informational purposes. The report showed that the Town of Walton is 21.30% exempt and the Village of Walton is 25.33% exempt.

Reported that the Town of Walton has received a Land Acquisition request from NYC for a 1,021.06 acre lot on South River Road. A response letter will be sent to NYC.

Discussion took place on the pavilion. CEO Dutcher provided the Board with three quotes for structures.

Beaver Mountain 20x30 = \$15,330
Unalam 20 x 30 = \$9,648.00 (no roof covering)
Unalam 20 x 40 = \$11,251.00 (no roof covering)
Gazebo Creation 20 x 30 = \$12,199

The Board discussed that Unalam quotes do not include a roof covering and estimated an additional \$2,000 for this material. The Board was in agreement to submit the highest quote amount for the purpose of the grant budget and would bring back to another meeting for discussion.

Supervisor Dolph reported that the 1997 MOA Land Acquisition Programs five year opening is between December 24, 2015 and June 21, 2016. The Board will need to make a decision if they would like to expand the hamlet area or if there are property owners that would like to be excluded. Supervisor Dolph informed the Board that I was researching past resolutions and would provide that information once it is compiled.

Councilwoman Wood questioned if a snow fence or flower barrels could be placed as property barriers along the Reporter Green Space property? Discussion took place with Maureen Wacha from the Chamber and the Board, a decision was not made.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

None Reported

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

RESOLUTION #108

APPROVAL OF BILLS

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

General Fund A	#263-286	\$22,117.30
General OV B	#24-25	\$156.09
General Hwy DA	#142-150	\$13336.63
OV Hwy DB	#56-64	\$4585.94

Prior to closing the meeting, Councilmember Armstrong on behalf of the Board, presented Supervisor Dolph with a plaque for his years of service as Councilmember and Supervisor.

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronda Williams
Town Clerk