

TOWN BOARD MEETING
Public Hearing
November 13, 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: Steven Dutcher, Katherine Covell – Recorder, Fran Zujovic – Assessor, Beatrice Bennett, Maxine Locherer, Robert Locherer, Joe Emminger – ENPM, Rev, Wm. Wright Sr., Kathleen Hayek

Supervisor Gregory opened the Public Hearing for anyone wishing to speak in favor or against the proposed 2018 Preliminary Budget

With no comments, Supervisor Gregory closed the Public Hearings at 6:03 p.m.

TOWN BOARD MEETING
November 13, 2017
6:08 P.M.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Joe Emminger of ENPM presented the Board with options to maintain 100% assess values.

Mr. Emminger stated “Hopefully the pain is over.” Now the most important part is to maintain the 100% assessments. He stated the key to this, is to stay on top from day one.

Mr. Emminger was impressed by Assessor Zujovic ability to walk in on a project with little to no experience and pick it up right of way. “The town is very luck!” He stated, he did not think the town would have been in such good shape if it was not for Fran.

Mr. Emminger stated that the law states every property must be visited every six years. His recommendation is every four years. He stated his company can assist in this with a 4-year contract or just provide maintenance service. Upon the request of Supervisor Gregory, he provided a “ball park” fee schedule that would be payable over five years.;

Year 1	\$24,000
Year 2-3	\$36,000/year
Year 4	\$100,000

Supervisor Gregory requested a written proposal to include references. Mr. Emminger mentioned Town of Grand Island, City of Tonawanda, and Town of Cheektowaga as towns his company has serviced in Western NY.

Councilman Govern questioned if there are any references that are local? Mr. Emminger stated no, you are our first community in this area and I'm proud of this project and feel we had a wonderful team.

Assessor Zujovic questioned if the mentioned references are doing the same 4-year plan? Mr. Emminger stated one is. Assessor Zujovic asked for the proposal to be a bit more specific. Mr. Emminger stated we don't like to be too specific, we don't want to charge you for everything, rather than work something out.

Former Historian and Author Beatrice Bennett approached the Board to donate her collection of one room school houses in Walton and the surrounding areas. She went on to explain the contents of the 5 notebooks of which included; districts, joint districts, and with the help of Larry Miller 2 volumes of manuscripts. She also stated she has published a total of 11 books over the years.

Supervisor Gregory prior to accepting the donation acknowledged all the pictures within the board room that Ms. Bennett had previously donated to the Town of Walton and thanked her for all her hard work.

FLOOR TIME:

Kathleen Hayek informed the Board that she had placed the First Alliance concept pictures on her Facebook page and reached 3,821 people. She suggested the town establish their own Facebook page and felt it was time to update the webpage as well.

Mrs. Hayek stated that the County is currently under fire because they don't allow public speaking at their meetings and felt a Facebook page would provide more ways for people to have a voice.

Supervisor Gregory stated the town has placed the concept drawings throughout the village including the Library, Danny's Restaurant, Feather and Stone, Big M and the Village of Walton.

Resident Maxine Locherer suggested updating the agenda on the website. I explained that the website agenda was to provide just the format and committee members. Supervisor Gregory stated the agenda is a working document and is not typically completed until the start of each meeting.

Mrs. Locherer invited the Town Board to march in the parade on Saturday, November 25, 2017. Supervisor Gregory stated this is what small towns communities are all about.

Councilwoman Wood thanked Mr. and Mrs. Locherer for all their help with the parade organization.

RESOLUTION #134

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt, seconded by Wood approving the minutes of October 2nd and October 23, 2017 as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT OF HWY. REPORT:

Reported that the department is in a transition time between seasons right now.

Reported that the auction has ended for the boom mower parts and tractor with boom mower. He requested declining the bid for the tractor with boom mower, as he feels it is low.

Councilman Armstrong felt the tractor was at least worth \$15,000.

RESOLUTION #135

DECLINE TRACTOR/MOWER BID

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Govern to decline the \$11,100.00 bid received for the tractor/boom mower. Granting permission to offer a counter offer of \$15,000.00. All in favor, motion carried.

RESOLUTION #136

ACCEPT ASSORTED BOOM MOWER PARTS BID

A motion was made by Councilwoman Wood, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt to accept the bid of \$660.00 for the assorted boom mower parts. All in favor, motion carried.

TOWN CLERK’S REPORT:

Provided my financial reports to the Board.

Reported that 78 dog licenses are past due and that is equivalent to \$729.00 lost revenue. I am ready to send out second notices for October, but have decided to hold off. I fear if tickets are not going to be issued as indicated in the past due notice, they will not be worth the additional expense.

DCO Dutcher stated he will put more effort on his part to get the delinquent dog list under control.

Supervisor Gregory stated the Town needs to insure dogs are vaccinated to limit the possible exposure to people.

I brought to the Boards attention the replacement lights that have been placed in the foyer.

Reported that I will be out of the office on Monday, December 3, 2017 for a NYS Regional meeting.

CEO/DOG CONTROL REPORT:

Provided Monthly reports to the Board.

CEO Dutcher brought the attention of an unsafe structure at 757 Lower Third Brook. He stated the structure is a barn and trailer that is in the flood plain. He as previously spoke to the landowners

and they started what he believed to be progress by renting a dumpster, weeks later and the dumpster still remains empty. He fears the barn will further collapse into the stream and cause a flood hazard.

Councilwoman Wood questioned if the trailer needed to be removed as well? CEO Dutcher dated the trailer is secure for now but has been condemned.

A lengthy discussion took place on the option of removing the barn.

RESOLUTION #137

UNSAFE STRUCTURE NOTICE

A motion was made by Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt, seconded by Wood granting permission to CEO Dutcher to issue a Notice of Unsafe Structure for 757 Lower Third Brook, Walton, NY and a hearing to be scheduled. All in favor, motion carried.

ASSESSOR REPORT:

Provided monthly report to the Board.

Councilwoman Wood complimented the Assessor on the format of his monthly report and thanked him, "You hit the ground running".

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Provided the Supervisors monthly reports.

Supervisor Gregory reiterated the 2.61% tax levy reduction for the 2018 budget and asked if there were any questions? With no further discussion, a motion was made.

RESOLUTION #138

2018 BUDGET

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt to move the Preliminary Budget to the 2018 Budget. All in favor, motion carried.

Reported that the County and Town of Walton Planning Boards are making progress with the Comprehensive Plan. A survey will be going out by the end of the week.

Reported that the Sidney Elks Lodge had invited veterans for a veteran's dinner on December 7th at 1:00 p.m.

Reported that it was time to renew the Cold War Tax Exemption for Veterans and will now make this an open-ended exemption which will replace the 10-year renewal.

RESOLUTION #139

COLD WAR TAX EXEMPTION RENEWAL

A motion was made by Councilwoman Wood, seconded by Govern to approve the Cold War Tax Exemption for Veterans as an open-ended exemption. All in favor, motion carried.

Supervisor Gregory presented the Board with the 2017-18 Town of Walton and Village of Walton Agreement for Recreational

Services. This agreement is for the approved budgeted amount of \$30,000.00.

RESOLUTION #140

TOWN AND VILLAGE RECREATIONAL AGREEMENT

A motion was made by Councilwoman Wood, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt granting Supervisor Gregory permission to sign an agreement with the Village of Walton for Recreational Services in the amount of \$30,000.00. All in favor, motion carried.

Supervisor Gregory requested permission to have a title search done on the Park Street and Delaware Street properties to help determine acquired ownership. It was decided to table the vote until quotes were received. In the meantime, Supervisor Gregory will contact the insurance agency to be sure the property is listed for insurance purposes.

Reported that an easement was received for a property on Budine Hill Road. Supervisor Gregory will draft a response requesting the same type of recreation privileges as previous requests.

Supervisor reported that another NYC Land Acquisition Project #5707 for property on MacGibbon Hollow Road was received. In the wake of this acquisition, Supervisor Gregory informed the Board that the Delaware County has shared their response requesting NYC to terminate the land acquisition program and place this money toward flood mitigation efforts instead.

Supervisor Gregory reported that the DPW Facilities vote was held off at the last minute. The price for the Hamden property was reduced from 3 million to 1.2 million and the committee will now consider its options.

Councilman Govern stated, a road and bridge on the proposed Delhi site would have future maintenance cost that he did not believe the County had taking into consideration.

Supervisor Gregory provided an update on the proposed Mental Health Facilities site. He stated that it had been over a year since the last public hearing and once the test holes have been dug and results are received, another public hearing will be scheduled.

Reported that the County is starting their budget process.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

RESOLUTION #141

APPROVAL OF BILLS

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

General Fund A	#230-281	\$46,476.30
General OV B	#15-25	\$5,222.26
General Hwy DA	#113-130	\$109,467.40
OV Hwy DB	#35-47	\$84,138.29
CDBG	#10-11	\$38,909.17

COMMITTEE REPORT:

Councilwoman Wood informed the Board that the previously donated tree from Walton Central School is much larger than expected. She stated that after discussion with the Superintendent, the tree is believed to be approximately 35’ tall. Councilwoman Wood feared this may be too large to safely secure.

A lengthy discussion took place over suggestions and idea as to how to property secure that large of a tree while guaranteeing the safety of the public. The Boards concerns were that the tree would not be secured safely without a much larger project and equipment than previously thought.

Councilman Armstrong questioned the reason why the current tree was not enough? I informed the Board that the lights and star purchased were of commercial grade and would be too large for the current tree size.

Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt suggested a maximum 20’ tree or have the WCS students decorate the tree that is currently there. The Board was in agreement with this.

Supervisor Gregory stated he would contact the Superintendent to share this offer.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

RESOLUTION #142

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Councilwoman Wood, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing Real Property Proposal, negotiation of a franchise agreement All in favor, motion carried.

Entered 8:10 p.m.

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

Out 9:05 p.m.

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronda Williams
Town Clerk

Stephen L. Dutcher
Town of Walton Dog Control Officer
129 North St.
Walton, NY 13856
October 2017

Dog Control Activity Summary

Complaints Received	2
Dogs Seized	0
Returned to Owner	0
Humane Society	0
Dangerous Dog Cases	0
Tickets Issued	0
Total Redemption Fees	\$0.00
Vehicle Mileage	0 (complaints requiring travel were handled while on code time or in POV)

Stephen L. Dutcher
Town of Walton Dog Control Officer
129 North Street
Walton New York 13856
October 2017

10/10/17

10:00-10:30 hrs

-Received complaint at village hall of dog owners at 90 Mead St allowing their dogs to defecate on neighboring property and not cleaning it up. Went to 90 Mead St and spoke to Matthew Lawrence and advised him of complaint. Of course he denied any wrong doing and claimed that he cleans up after his dog. I advised that if he doesn't clean up after his dog it is a violation of the dog law and if I receive a written complaint then a ticket could be issued. Checked at the town hall afterward and confirmed that both dogs at that address are licensed.

10/12/17

17:30-18:00 hrs

-Canvassed partial list of past due dog licenses. Left messages when possible.

10/15/17

13:00-13:30 hrs

-Message from Marsiglio's on Freer Hollow Rd reporting their dogs got loose and last seen on CR 21 near CR 23. Canvassed in POV, did not locate.

10/17/17

18:15-18:45 hrs

-Finished canvassing list of past due dog licenses. Left messages when possible.

10/22/17

10:00-10:15 hrs

-Message from E. Grant that 2 dogs were loose on Mead St. Canvassed in POV, did not locate dogs.

Town of Walton
Monthly Assessor's Report
October 2017

- Attended the monthly meeting of the Delaware County Assessors' Association in Delhi.
- Responded to numerous Property Assessment and School Tax Billing questions from parcel owners who received the first billing with the new reassessment roll valuation.
- Investigated the three reassessment property valuation errors that required the reissuance of the corrected School Tax Bills. The Walton Central School Business Office stated that they did not receive documentation from the Delaware County Office of Real Property Tax Services to complete the rebill, which had to be resent.
- Investigated a property split for an owner who was not clear how the process was completed. Met with owner and reviewed parcel change file.
- Completed field inspections for several of the new buildings and property improvements that have been reported by The Town of Walton Code Enforcement Officer.
- The Delaware County RPS Real Property Data System was available for inquiry only during the month of September creating a backlog of file maintenance work. We received notice that the county files were successfully restored to August 13, 2017 for all towns in the county. This required re-entry for all file data entry that had been posted subsequent to that date.

Fran Zujovic
Assessor
Town of Walton
129 North Street
Walton, New York 13856

Town of Walton
Code Enforcement Office
Stephen L. Dutcher, CFM

Monthly Summary Report
Month of October 2017

Building Permits Issued	6
Building Inspections Completed	27
Fire Inspections Completed	0
Notices of Violation Issued	0
Tickets Issued	0
Certificates Issued	6
Complaints Received	0
Floodplain Development	
Permits Issued	1
CO Searches	3
Vehicle Mileage	384

Training:

CRS: