

TOWN BOARD MEETING

February 13, 2017,
6:00 P.M.

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

ABSENT: Luis Rodriguez-Betancourt,

OTHERS PRESENT: Bruce Dolph, Steven Dutcher, Abby Butler – Walton Reporter, Tim Dietz – videographer, and Mary Kilmer – Delaware Opportunities, Adam Tiberio, David Breese, Sharon Underwood, Lonnie Schafer, Dale Dewing,

RESOLUTION #40

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Govern approving the minutes of January 26, 2017 as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

FLOOR TIME:

Adam Tiberio from Tiberio Custom Meats approached the Board and displayed a power point on his plans to bring a slaughterhouse to Walton. Mr. Tiberio informed the Board of his experience in meat markets in New York City and through his contacts, farmers will be able to bring their animals to Tiberio to be butchered and then shipped to meat markets in the city under the farmer's own label.

As Mr. Tiberio went through his power point describing the property layout, the high tech refrigerated modular containers that will be used for his facility and that he plans to hire up to 10 employees.

Mr. Tiberio plan is to have almost every part of the animal used and explained that the waste disposal will be held in sealed containers until it is carried away by companies like JC Rendering.

Resident David Breese questioned what is the chance of the children in the nearby Head Start of seeing the animal? Mr. Tiberio stated none. The animals are delivered and enter chutes leading right inside of the facility.

Resident Sharon Underwood questioned the timeline that the animals are held at the facility before being butchered? Mr. Tiberio stated the max would be twenty four hours.

Mr. Dale Dewing questioned if a farmer wanted his meat back, would the meat still go to NYC? Mr. Tiberio explained that the meat would still be butchered in NYC and brought back to Walton.

Mr. Tiberio stated he is willing to work with anyone even if they want nothing to do with selling their meat in NYC. He then provided his website www.tiberiocustommeats.com

Supervisor Gregory presented the Delaware Opportunities Block Grant applicant WTHRCD-03 to the Board for approval.

RESOLUTION#41

CDBG GRANT APPLICANT WTHRCD-03

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Wood approving applicant WTHRCD-03 through the Delaware County Delaware Opportunities Block Grant Program. All in favor, motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT OF HWY. REPORT:

Superintendent Geidel reported that the Highway Committee has decided to table the bids received for the tractor and boom mower until more information can be obtained.

Reported that the conversion truck has been delivered from Watertown NY today.

Reported that he will be going out to bid for crushed stone material, sluice pipes, processing gravel and winter abrasive material, excavator with operator and installation of guiderails.

Reported that he is just shy of using double of sand from last year.

Reported that Deputy Foreman Mike Merwin is doing a nice job filling in while he recovers from an injury. Councilwoman Wood stated the Highway Department is doing a nice job, "Our roads are in much better shape than most." Superintendent Geidel stated there is approximately a three hour turn around by the time the trucks get back around to the same road again.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:

Provided my financial reports to the Board.

Reported that tax collection is 71% collected and the Supervisor has been made whole in the amount of \$1,645,003.

I provided the Board with the annual Disclosure of Possible Conflict of Interest forms to be completed and returned to me.

Reported that I will be out of the office on March 13, 2017 for a NYS Town Clerk Regional Director meeting.

Reported that we currently have 77 past due dog license.

I provided the Board with an update on the Bonacic Grants that I have applied for:

Project #6528 was a 2015 \$100,000 awarded grant that has been closed out.

Project #6214 was a 2014 \$50,000 awarded grant and still waiting for final financial review.

Project #7496 was a 2015 \$50,000 awarded grant and is currently in the final financial review and hope to have a close out soon.

We have just received notification that the Town of Walton has been awarded another \$50,000 for the purpose of capital improvements.

I presented the annual Intermunicipal Agreement between the Town of Walton and the Town of Colchester for Trout Brook Road and Wilson Hollow Road.

RESOLUTION #42

INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WITH TOWN OF COLCHESTER

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Armstrong granting Supervisor Gregory permission to sign the Intermunicipal Agreement between the Town of Walton and Town of Colchester. All in favor, motion carried.

CEO/DOG CONTROL REPORT:

Code Enforcement Officer Dutcher presented the following resolution for Board approval. He stated this program will insure communication reaches intended audience of the risks before, during and after a flood.

TITLE: Program for Public Information

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Walton (the Board) recognizes that the potential and/or actual damages from flooding and erosion are a problem to the residents of the Town of Walton; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that such damages may include destruction or loss of private and public housing, damage to public facilities, both publicly and privately owned, and injury to and loss of human life; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that informing the public of the risks before, during and after a flood is key in protecting life and property; and

WHEREAS, the Board understands that an effective public outreach program is necessary to ensure that the risk communication reaches its intended audience; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Walton hereby adopts the Program for Public Information developed by the Walton Flood Commission in its capacity as the joint committee for Town and Village of Walton as the primary tool for developing and instituting outreach projects to communicate the risk and mitigation strategies associated with flooding.

RESOLUTION #43

PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION

A motion was made by Council man Armstrong, seconded by Govern approving the Program for Public Information as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

CEO Dutcher also presented a proposed Local Law Prohibiting Dumping in Streams. He was looking for support before pursuing it any further.

Councilman Armstrong stated he was not in favor of the requirement of an engineer to address water runoff as well as looking for clarification as to what is a waterway.

Supervisor Gregory expressed his concern over grass clippings and the difference of it blowing into a ditch verses raking and dumping a pile into a ditch.

Councilman Armstrong questioned if the DEC has laws regulating this already? CEO Dutcher stated he was not able to find anything.

Superintendent Geidel expressed his concern with temporary logging and stone roads creating runoff that did not exist before.

The Board was in agreement to address their concerns and modify then bring back to the Board.

CEO Dutcher requested the Board to consider having the Towns Laws and Zoning Laws compiled into one book. He stated the Village currently uses General Codes Publishing which provides one book with all the laws and zoning in one location.

He stated the towns information is difficult to locate quickly and these companies can combined them allowing for quick access. He estimated a cost between \$7000.00 - \$10,000.00 and stated some companies have indicated could be paid over a couple of years.

Councilwoman Wood stated it sounds like something we should look into.

CEO Dutcher will provide quotes and more details at next month's meeting.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Supervisor Gregory reminded the Board of the Revaluation Public Forum that will take place on February 27, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. at the Walton Fire Hall.

He informed the Board that Assessor Zujovic has reviewed over 100 residential and 40 business data sheets for accuracy.

Councilman Govern questioned if ENPM will have information available at the meeting to translate what the new assessment will mean in terms of the tax amount? Supervisor Gregory stated he believes this information will be provided.

He read aloud a statement to the public on the Boards opinion of the \$20 million grant from the Empire State Development for Kraft Heinz.

The Town of Walton fully supports Empire State Development's (ESD) Kraft-Heinz retention initiative. Breakstone's, now Kraft-Heinz has been a vibrant part of our community for generations; not only offering employment, but as a market for dairy farmers, and they offer a superb product popular throughout the nation and beyond. I was proud, while stationed overseas, to buy Breakstone's cottage cheese at the commissary and see 'made in Walton' on the container.

Breakstone's has also been active in the community, donating products to the local fire department, schools, the community 'Walk for Hunger', the youth booster club, and as many may recall, at the Delaware County Fair every summer.

I know a lot of Walton residents make sure to buy Kraft, when choosing products at the supermarket to support our local plant.

Like many communities, the downturn in the economy over the past few years has taken a toll on Walton. We applaud ESD's efforts to keep Kraft-Heinz in New York State and particularly in Walton. Not only would it save the 141 local jobs at our local plant, as noted in the November 2015 press release, but it is our sincere hope that the grant will be used to continue to upgrade and modernize the Walton plant, thus paving the way for even more jobs to be created.

A November 9, 2016 article in the Wall Street Journal highlighted the growing market for cottage cheese and the expertise of the staff at the Walton plant is perfectly situated to exploit this growing market. Our proximity to the New York City market, including our large second home owner population, along with other major markets up and down the East coast provides a tremendous opportunity for growth.

We look forward to seeing the specifics on how much of the proposed \$20M grant Kraft-Heinz intends to dedicate to the Walton plant. We hope it includes what construction, renovations, and equipment/machinery purchases will occur as a result of the grant, as well as their projections for the long-term future of the Walton plant.

Charles F. Gregory
Walton Town Supervisor

Supervisor Gregory informed the Board that the Town Justice have applied for a grant in the amount of \$2000.00 for a new desk for the Court Clerk. He stated the grant does not cover the total amount of the desk and they request permission for the Town to contribute \$525.00 toward the purchase.

RESOLTUION #44

PURCHASE OF DESK FOR COURT CLERK

A motion was made by Councilwoman Wood, seconded by Govern granting approval to pay the difference of \$525.00 toward the purchase of a desk for the Court Clerk. All in favor, motion carried.

Supervisor Gregory informed the Board that Sprint has agreed to move forward with the test tower on town property and will anchor the tower as required.

Attorney Walas expressed some concerns with the proposed Sprint Tower Agreement

1. Paragraph #1: The "Site" is not defined on Exhibit A. We need to make sure that the "Site" is not the entire parcel because this lease gives Sprint the exclusive use of the "Site." So when we get the proposed Exhibit A, it needs to be reviewed to make sure the other tower is not included.
2. Paragraph #6: allows Sprint to sublease all or a portion of the "Site" to someone else without the Town's approval or notice. I suggest putting in language requiring the approval of the Town.

3. Paragraph #12: Sprint can terminate this lease for any reason without any liability to pay future rent, and we have to repay them for the rest of the month's rent.
4. There isn't anything about the removal of the cell of wheels after the termination.
5. There isn't anything about the anchor requirement agreed upon.

The Board was in agreement for the Supervisor and Attorney to work out the details of the Sprint Agreement.

RESOLUTION #45

SPRINT TEMPORARY TOWER AGREEMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Wood approving the Sprint Temporary Tower Agreement contingent on the proposed changes deemed necessary by Attorney Walas. All in favor, motion carried.

Supervisor Gregory informed the Board of an update on Verizon joining our cell tower stating they plan to move forward with a summer 2018 construction date.

Supervisor Gregory informed the Board of a DEP Land Acquisition on Marvin Hollow Road. He sent letter to the surrounding land owners and will request the normal recreation request and will include snowmobiling.

Informed the Board due to the inactivity of the Citizen Drive Account, he would like to consolidate with the General Fund savings.

RESOLUTION #46

CITIZEN DRIVE ACCOUNT DISOLVED

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Wood approving the consolidation of the Citizen Drive Account into the General Fund savings. All in favor, motion carried.

Supervisor Gregory provided an update on the computer server and requested permission to move forward with the battery backup for the server only and not for each work station. He stated the server only would cost \$255.00 compared to \$855.00 for server and all workstations.

Councilman Govern asked if the server gets backed up daily to an offsite location. Supervisor informed him that it does.

RESOLUTION #47

BATTERY BACKUP FOR SERVER

A motion was made by Councilwoman Wood, seconded by Armstrong granting permission to purchase a battery backup for the town's server. All in favor, motion carried.

Supervisor Gregory informed the Board that the Town of Walton has been approached about placing a clothing drop box on Town property. Superintendent Geidel provided additional information as to the size of the area needed and that the clothing would be sent to Third World Countries and the revenue generated would go toward fireman training.

The Board tabled the discussion for lack of space or convenience to the general public. Superintendent Geidel will follow up with

the Fire Department to see if they plan to place one at their location.

Councilman Govern complimented Supervisor Gregory on his State of the Town stating it was very well done and thorough.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

RESOLUTION #48

APPROVAL OF BILLS

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

General Fund A	#18-47	\$57,724.15
General OV B	#2-3	\$ 575.46
General Hwy DA	#6-21	\$29,829.43
OV Hwy DB	#1	\$ 220.19
WTHRCD-03		\$30,000.00

COMMITTEE REPORT:

The Veterans Plaza Committee agreed on holding the dedication during Memorial Day weekend. Councilwoman Wood and Supervisor Gregory will work out the details.

CEO requested permission to purchase a POW flag for the Veterans Plaza flagpole. The Board was in agreement.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

RESOLUTION #49

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Wood to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing Kraft Assessment and Board of Assessment Review Position. All in favor, motion carried.

Entered 7:43 p.m.

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

Out 7:58 p.m.

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronda Williams
Town Clerk