

TOWN BOARD MEETING

July 9, 2018

6:00 P.M.

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

ABSENT: Stephen Dutcher- excused

OTHERS PRESENT: Lillian Brown – The Reporter, Maureen Wacha, Mary Cullen and Reverend Wm. Wright

RESOLUTION #86

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Wood approving the minutes of June 11, 2018, June 25, 2018 & June 27, 2018 as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

FLOOR TIME:

Maureen Wacha informed the Board that the Chamber of Commerce will hold their free Music in the Park on the second Monday of each month until September from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Lillian Browne explained to the Board that Charlie Gregory had previously sent a letter to NYSDEC requesting the trails on Bear Spring Mountain to be mowed and maintained. She informed the Board that within a week of that letter, all trails were mowed.

She continued to inform the Board that the DEC has informed her that this would only be done once a year. Her concern is the high grass would potentially result in more ticks and deter others for using the trails. We need to rely on these trails to promote tourism.

Joe stated he will research the particular correspondence and will follow up with the NYSDEC and questioned if there was a map of all trails posted? Lillian stated that there was and in fact, PBS was here filming a couple of weeks ago on the trails.

Maureen Wacha indicated that the Chamber of Commerce provided a letter of support as well. Maureen stated, “A first impression is the best impression” We need to have the trails in an impressive state to have people return.

Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt stated perhaps the Town could share in the mowing if NYSDEC would provide an answer.

CEO/DOG CONTROL REPORT:

Supervisor Cetta explained to the Board that CEO Dutcher was excused from this meeting as he had a Village of Walton meeting with pressing issues to attend.

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

Monthly Summary Report
Month of June 2018

Building Permits Issued	13
Building Inspections Completed	32
Fire Inspections Completed	0
Notices of Violation Issued	0
Tickets Issued	0
Certificates Issued	2
Complaints Received	0
Floodplain Development	
Permits Issued	0
CO Searches	1
Vehicle Mileage	321

Stephen L. Dutcher
Town of Walton Dog Control Officer
129 North St.
Walton, NY 13856
June 2018

Dog Control Activity Summary

Complaints Received	3
Dogs Seized	2
Returned to Owner	0
Humane Society	2
Dangerous Dog Cases	0
Tickets Issued	0
Total Redemption Fees	\$0.00
Vehicle Mileage	86

SUPERINTENDENT OF HWY. REPORT:

Superintendent Geidel explained to the Board that the previous Agreement for Expenditure of Highway Monies submitted came in under budget due to the reduction in the cost of material as originally estimated. This will allow for an additional 3 miles of roads to be sealed. Superintendent Geidel presented an additional Agreement of Expenditure of Highway Monies for approval.

RESOLUTION #87

ADDITIONAL AGREEMENT FOR EXPENDITURE OF HIGHWAY MONIES

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt approving the Agreement for Expenditure of Highway Monies in the amount of \$41,230.00 for Bill Finch, Industrial Park, Tom Demann, Wakeman Brook Road, Tuttle Road, Weber Road and Miller Road. All in favor, motion carried.

Superintendent Geidel informed the Board that a resident on Bonnefond Road has placed a chain across the town roadway. Discussion took place about the reasoning and legality of the action. It was decided that Superintendent Geidel would go and remove the chain and Attorney Walas will follow up with a letter to all landowners. Superintendent Geidel stated the property owners have an option of abandoning the road, but all owners must agree. Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt suggested the police go with Walton and put a sealed letter on the chain.

Superintendent Geidel informed the Board that Home Land Security was here to sign off on the #4233 declared snow event. We will receive 12 ½ percent from the State at some point.

Supervisor Cetta informed the Board that he spoke with the FEMA representative while he was here and he indicated that it was a pleasure to work with Walt and that his paperwork and process is “spot on” and the best he has ever seen.

TOWN CLERK’S REPORT:

Provided my financial reports to the Board.

Requested permission to declare the Whirlpool air conditioner that was purchased in August of 2005 surplus as it no longer works.

RESOLUTION #88

DECLARE 2005 WHIRLPOOL AIR CONDITIONER SURPLUS

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Wood declaring the 2005 Whirlpool Air Conditioner surplus. All in favor, motion carried.

RESOLUTION #89

USE OF FACILITY

A motion was made by Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt, seconded by Govern granting permission for use of Veterans Plaza on August 4, 2018 for a car cruise event. All in favor, motion carried.

RESOLUTION #90

USE OF FACILITY

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt granting permission for use of More Park on August 25, 2018 for a wedding event. All in favor, motion carried.

I informed the Board that as a result of the CDBG audit, it is necessary to adopt a grievance process for applicants applying for CDBG fund in the event an investigation of complaints concerning housing discrimination become necessary.

RESOLUTION #91

**A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR A PLAN
FOR THE INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINTS
CONCERNING HOUSING DISCRIMINATION IN THE
TOWN OF WALTON**

WHEREAS, the Federal Fair Housing Law, as well as the Laws of New York State, prohibit discrimination in the sale, rental, financing, and brokerage of housing based on race, creed, color, gender, national origin, familial status, or handicap; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Walton is committed to furthering the Federal Fair Housing Act within the boundaries of the Town of Walton.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Town Board of Trustees of the Town of Walton, as follows:

SECTION I. The Town Clerk of the Town of Walton is hereby designated to receive and accept written complaints and grievances concerning allegations of discrimination in the sale, rental, financing, and brokerage of housing based on race, creed, color, national origin, familial status, or handicap within the boundaries of the Town of Walton.

SECTION II. All such complaints shall be promptly referred to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development or his designee, for investigation and such other action as the Secretary shall deem appropriate.

SECTION III. The Town Clerk and all other officials, employees and agents of the Town of Walton shall fully cooperate with the Secretary or his designee, in any such investigation or other action as a result of a complaint.

SECTION IV. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

This resolution entered by Councilwoman Wood seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt and passed with 5 voting aye and 0 voting nay, at a regularly called meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Walton, this 9, day of July, 2018, a quorum being present and voting.

ASSESSOR REPORT:

Town of Walton
Monthly Assessor's Report
June 2018

- Attended the monthly meeting of the Delaware County Assessors' Association in Delhi.
- Completed field inspections for several of the new buildings and property improvements that have been reported by The Town of Walton Code Enforcement Officer.
- Responded to Property Assessment and Tax Billing questions from parcel owners regarding changes in their roll valuation.
- Completed field inspections on parcels at the request of the property owners who questioned the accuracy of reassessment data or valuation.
- Reviewed and submitted the completed 2018 Board of Assessment Review Grievance Determination Reports to the County Director of Real Property Tax Services for posting in Final Roll.
- Prepared the required annual Notice of Filing Completed Assessment Roll for 2018 and submitted the posting to The Reporter for the week of July 1st publication.
- Completed the research and document preparation for the Local Update of Census Addresses Operation (LUCA). The report was reviewed with our County Planning Representative and submitted to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- The New York State Department of Taxation and Finance has forwarded the Town of Walton with the Notice of Tentative State Equalization Rate for the 2018 Assessment Roll which is 100%.

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

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT:

Supervisor Cetta thanked the Board for choosing him. Stating, “I am extremely humbled that the Board would look at me to replace a guy of such caliber and qualities of Charlie. I appreciate your willingness to let me move forward in this position with your support and I will work as a team.”

Presented a sympathy card from ISD to the Board.

Informed the Board that upon a request made by Charlie Gregory, we have received notification from NYSDOT that they will be milling and paving the pull off on Bear Spring starting today. “This is a start to keeping it nice and presentable, if you do, they will come.”

Reported that a letter was received from the Office of Real Property informing the Town of Walton that we are at 100% tax value. A revaluation has not been done in 40 years and what will it take to keep Walton at 100%? Over the long term it will be cost effective and we just need to continue with the conversation as to how we will maintain it.

Reported that a letter was received from Teamsters Local 317 that the current collective bargaining contract will end on 12/31/18. We will be starting negotiations soon.

APPOINTMENT:

Supervisor Cetta appointed Kevin Armstrong as Deputy Supervisor

Supervisor Cetta reported that he will be meeting Chairwoman Mole’ on Wednesday.

COMMITTEE REPORT:

As a follow-up to last month’s discussion on placing signage at More Park, I presented the signs that were purchased and stated they just need to be placed in the park.

Councilwoman Wood questioned where we are on updating the website and developing a Facebook page? Supervisor Cetta stated he would rather focus on our website first. He will turn over the file to Len and Patty to follow up on.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

RESOLUTION #92

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	#131-159	\$12,388.45
General OV Fund B	#7-8	\$ 1,784.18
General Hwy DA	#71-78	\$ 3,183.97
OV Hwy DB	#23-28	\$149,849.41

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

RESOLUTION #93

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Wood to enter into executive session for the purpose of a potential litigation matter. All in favor, motion carried.

Entered 6:58 p.m.

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

Out 7:45 p.m.

It was brought to the Boards attention that the Walton Fire District may be in need of a local law to be adopted allowing for the District to perform full criminal background checks on all applicants instead of just the minimum requirements. Discussion took place and the Board directed Attorney Walas to look into the current law and if need be draft a local law.

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronda Williams
Town Clerk