

TOWN BOARD MEETING

September 9, 2019

6:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

Patty Wood

OTHERS PRESENT:

Renee Hardenkamp, Candyce Ricco, Ann Rusmussen, Mike DeGroat, Sean Hardenkamp, and Chris Cerf

FLOOR TIME:

Ann Rusmussen and her husband Chris Cerf from Upland Center located on Dunk Hill Road approached the Board for the purpose of providing information about the center and its mission. Mrs. Rusmussen stated that the Upland Center is to serve those that serve others. Providing retreats to hospice workers, fire department members, teachers and emergency personnel to mention a few. They have opened the property to schools for student educational purposes and events as well.

Supervisor Cetta questioned the benefit to the community now that the property is exempt from taxes and the remaining residents pick up that difference. Mrs. Rusmussen explained the job opportunities, donations to numerous community centers such as; the Walton Theater, Walton Library, Walton Police and our local food bank. She went on to say they wish this to become a “community building” one that will carry out her parents’ philanthropic purpose.

In closing, Mrs. Rusmussen and Mr. Cerf stated they are open to ideas and encourage input as to how they can continue to offer retreat ideas. Their website address: uplandcenter.org

RESOLUTION #104

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Govern approving the minutes of August 5, 2019 as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

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

Monthly Summary Report
Month of August 2019

Building Permits Issued	4
Building Inspections Completed	21
Fire Inspections Completed	0
Notices of Violation Issued	0
Tickets Issued	0
Certificates Issued	6
Complaints Received	1
Floodplain Development	
Permits Issued	0
CO Searches	1

Reported that he failed to previously request permission to attend an annual training in Syracuse starting tomorrow. This charge will be split with the Village of Walton at an amount of approximately \$600.00.

RESOLUTION #105

PERMISSION TO ATTEND CONFERENCE

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Govern granting Code Enforcement Officer Dutcher to attend a training in Syracuse, NY and to spilt the cost of the conference with the Village of Walton. All in favor, motion carried.

Reported that he has been handling noise complaints about shooting guns and failure to obtain highway access permits.

DOG CONTROL REPORT:

Martin J. Way, Jr.
Dog Control Officer, Town of Walton
129 North Street Walton,
New York 13856
August 2019
Dog Control Activity Summary

Complaints	5
Dogs Seized	0
Returned to Owner	0
Humane Society	0
Dangerous Dogs	0
Tickets Issued	0
Total Redemption Fees	0
Help Requested	0
Mileage	13 Miles

ASSESSOR REPORT:

Penny Haddad
September 9, 2019
Walton Town Board Report

I'd like to thank the Board for my appointment to the position of Sole Assessor in Walton. There has been lots to do to get up and running:

- Set up passwords and accessed email in the office and remotely with the help of Ronda Williams.
- Ronda also recorded a message and taught me about the phone system in the Assessor's Office.
- Set up a password and accessed Pictometry with the help of the Delaware County Real Property Tax Services mapping department member Joe Gifford.
- Set up Secure Online Access with the New York State Department of Real Property Tax Services for online access to state-wide sales, Walton income verification lists, Star eligibility lists, Taxable Stat- Owned Land values, and more for the Town (and Village) of Walton.
- Set up a password and access to the Real Property System v4 with the help of Delaware County Real Property Tax Services.

Business as Usual:

- Meeting with property owners and returning phone calls regarding exemptions and taxable values.
- Working with Delaware County Real Property Tax Services and State ORPTS to apply Enhanced Star exemptions correctly to the assessment Roll.
- Been in communication with Lyndsay Komosinski, Delaware County Office of the Aging to let her know more about the Senior Exemption in Walton. She's offered to help seniors I may refer to her who may need assistance, and will make home visits to any who do not have transportation.

Advertised office hours for the public will be established no later than October 1 and the remainder of work hours beside advertised office hours will be used in field work (such as property inspections, data collection) and additional work in the office (such as valuation, recording exemptions to the roll, returning phone calls) .

Thank you.
P. Haddad

SUPERINTENDENT OF HWY. REPORT:

Reported that one check has been received from FEMA on the August 2018 rain event.

Provided bid information to the Board on the Woodlawn project and what will be involved in repairing this slope failure. The bid was piggybacked from Delaware County bid openings.

Councilman Armstrong stated we need to fix this even if we do not get FEMA reimbursement, stating it is a safety matter.

RESOLUTION #106

WOODLAWN BID APPROVAL TO GSI

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Govern granting permission to approve the bid amount of \$153,065.00 to stabilize the slope on Woodlawn Road by GeoStabilization International (GSI). All in favor, motion carried.

Superintendent Geidel stated the need to spend more than originally budgeted and requested an additional \$35,000 to cover these expenses in the DB fund.

RESOLUTION #107

BUDGET MODIFICATION

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Armstrong granting a budget modification in the amount of \$35,000 for additional expenses in DB5110.4. All in favor, motion carried.

Superintendent Geidel requested permission to change Gregory Dungan's title from MEO to HEO as he has taken on the responsibility of driving the equipment. This will result in a .68 per hour increase and will become effective September 9, 2019.

RESOLUTION #108

MOVE EMPLOYEE FROM MEO TO HEO

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Govern to move Gregory Dungan from a MEO to an HEO position effective September 9, 2019. All in favor, motion carried.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:

Financial Reports Provided

We have received the new postage machine. The DEP has approved the expenditure from the Good Neighbor money in the amount of \$4,722.46 that will be paid over two payments.

I will be away at a NYS Town Clerk's Association Regional meeting on September 22-23, 2019.

I have started the budget process. The tentative budget will be presented at the October 7, 2019 meeting. The board was in agreement that a budget meeting will be held on October 17, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

A use of facility was received from the Walton Chamber of Commerce to hold a Harvest Fest on October 12, 2019 at Veterans Plaza.

RESOLUTION #109

USE OF FACILITIES

A motion was made by Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt, seconded by Armstrong to approve the Chamber of Commerce use of facilities for October 12, 2019 at Veterans Plaza for a Harvest Fest. All in favor, motion carried.

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT:

APPOINTMENTS:

Supervisor Cetta recommended appointing Penny Haddad as Sole Assessor for a six-year term starting October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2025.

RESOLUTION #110

SOLE ASSESSOR

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Govern approving the appointment of Penny Haddad as Sole Assessor for a six-year term starting October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2025. All in favor, motion carried.

Reported that the Town and Village are working together to clear the Japanese Knotweed at the Water Street property. Stating we need to get a head start on this and keep on top of it to rid this area of this to make room for the walking trail.

In addition to this, he stated we need to look into how we are going to fund this area; reporting that he and the Mayor will be meeting to discuss options. Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt proposed two members of the Town Board along with two members of the Village Board to attend this meeting adding that this needs to be a joint effort.

Reported that a pre-bid walk through for the old Breakey Motors building demolition will take place on Friday, September 13, 2019.

COUNTY:

Reported that this week is Chamber of Commerce week.

Reported that positions are available for the 2020 Census.

COMMITTEE REPORT:

None

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

RESOLUTION #111

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	#157-178	\$13,803.68
General OV B	#14-15	\$32,335.68
General Hwy DA	#92-102	\$9,925.54
General OV Hwy DB	#28-34	\$76,545.47

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

RESOLUTION #112

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt to enter into executive session for the purpose of negotiations, all in favor, motion carried.

Entered 7:36 p.m.

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

Out 7:52 p.m.

As a result of executive session, a motion was made to accept the Pilot Agreement from LSE Pavo LLC. Subject to legal approval.

RESOLUTION #113

APPROVAL OF LODSTAR SOLAR LLC

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt approving the Pilot Agreement between the Town of Walton and LSE Pavo LLC in the amount of \$4,000 per Megawatt AC of Capacity with an escalation by one and a half percent (1.5%) per year. All in favor, motion carried.

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronda Williams
Town Clerk