

**TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

January 9, 2014

The Town Council met for a regular monthly meeting, and for the reorganization meeting for 2014.

Present: Supervisor Herbert Allen, Councilpersons Judith Burgess, John Toomey, Jr., and Rodney Young; Bookkeeper Amy Kretser, Highway Superintendent David Hodge, Deputy Clerk Marigrace Hoag; Village of Canajoharie Mayor Francis Avery; Town of Canajoharie Judge Gizzi; and Joshua Thomas of the Courier-Standard-Enterprise.

The meeting was opened by the Supervisor at 7:30, and the evening's agenda was presented. Addition to agenda: to include agreement with Village of Canajoharie to clear sidewalk in front of Canajoharie Town Hall.

On a motion by Councilman Toomey, seconded by Councilwoman Burgess, the **agenda** was approved.

On a motion by Councilwoman Burgess, seconded by Councilman Toomey, the **minutes** of the December meeting were unanimously approved.

7:32pm Open- **Public Hearing on Resolution #1 of 2014 to Establish a Local Law which allow the Town Board to Appoint a Maximum of Two (2) Alternates to the Planning Board.** Resolution sponsored by Supervisor Allen, seconded by Councilwoman Burgess.

Whereas: The Town of Canajoharie sees the need to have an alternate to the town planning board and to file a local law to allow for alternates, (2) maximum

Whereas: Local law would allow alternates, which would be appointed for two (2) years by the Town Board

Whereas: the alternate would sit on the planning board when there is a member absent

Whereas: The alternate would have voting powers when the member is absent

No public comment-Closed 7:33pm

The Town Board unanimously **approved Resolution #1 of 2014**

On a **motion** by Councilman Toomey, and seconded by Councilperson Burgess, an agreement was made allowing the Village of Canajoharie to snow blow the sidewalk in front of the Town Office Building, with the Town of Canajoharie compensating the Village of Canajoharie one dollar (\$1.00) per season. Mayor Avery indicated that sanding would be the Town's responsibility. In addition, Mayor Avery requested that the Village be named on the Town's liability insurance in case someone slips on the sidewalk. The motion was unanimously **approved**.

Justice Gizzi speaks of the need for Court Security personnel. He wrote a letter to the Sheriff requesting court security the first Thursday of every month. He states that uniformed bailiffs set a structured courtroom scene. Requested that the part-time deputy or uniformed deputy arrives 3:30pm-3:45pm for about 3 hours each month.

Justice Gizzi also indicates he is making arrangements to take DNA sampling training in order to take DNA samples right in the courtroom.

Councilwoman Burgess **moves** for Justice Gizzi to make arrangements with the Sheriff's Office for court security, seconded by Councilman Young, all in favor, unanimously **approved**.

Discussion regarding Re-evaluation of the Town: Supervisor Allen states that by not being at 100%, people on STAR are also losing out. Supervisor Allen suggests to find money for bids to do re-evals.

Mayor Avery states he spoke to Village Board in support of re-evaluation. Fifteen (15) years has passed since last re-evaluation. Mayor Avery indicates that the Village is in full support of a re-evaluation.

Discussed how Town of Mohawk had a company come in to do re-evaluation, had bids from a few companies, then, had public hearings.

No action taken at this time.

ORGANIZATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Resolution #2 2014

Sponsor: Supervisor Herbert Allen

Second: Councilman John Toomey

Whereas, the Town of Canajoharie must make various appointments for town operation in the coming year,

Resolved, the following appointments are made effective immediately:

Town Attorney: County Attorney, Douglas Langdon, cannot be Town Attorney as of yet per new County Charter. However, he will answer questions, if the need arises.

Bookkeeper: Amy Kretser

Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer: Les Hassan

Town Historian: Kathy Hanford

Planning Board Chairman: William Douglas

Planning Board Vice Chairman: Ivor Jones

Animal Control Officer: Steven Fredenburg

Health Officer: vacant

Deputy Town Supervisor: Rodney Young

Deputy Highway Superintendent: John Klock until April

Deputy Town Clerk: Marigrace Hoag

Deputy Registrar (Subregistrar): Marigrace Hoag

Further resolved, the following miscellaneous assignments are made:

Official newspaper: The Amsterdam Recorder and the Courier –Standard-Enterprise

Official depository: NBT Bank

Mileage reimbursement rates: per IRS rules, as altered through the year

Highway Superintendent may purchase snowplow blades, not to exceed \$8,000, without prior board approval.

Utility bills may be paid ahead of monthly council meeting.

Postage for the postage meter may be paid for ahead of the monthly council meeting.

Resolution #2 was unanimously **approved**.

LEGISLATURE

Animal Shelter Contract

The annual contract with the Ayres Animal Shelter, for housing of stray dogs, same as prior year.

Councilwoman Burgess made a motion to renew and authorize Supervisor Allen to sign the contract with the Ayres Shelter for 2014. The motion was seconded by Councilman Toomey. All were in favor; motion passed.

Agreement for expenditure of highway moneys

The Highway Superintendent brought the annual agreement for expenditure of highway moneys to the Council for signature approval.

HIGHWAY

Superintendent Hodge indicated that the 10 wheeler needs new tires. Motion made by Councilman Toomey, seconded by Councilwoman Burgess, to purchase tires from the Tire Shop in the amount of \$5,152.08.

Superintendent Hodge indicated that the 2011 pickup needs tires. Motion made by Councilman Toomey, seconded by Councilwoman Burgess, to purchase tires from the Tire Shop in the amount of \$3,781.00 [includes road hazzard warranty].

Superintendent clarifies with the Board that he is allowed to spend up to \$500.00 without Board approval.

TOWN CLERK

Town Clerk Vroman informed the Board of the Association of Towns Annual Meeting in New York City, if interested.

Introduced Deputy Clerk Marigrace Hoag to the Board.

BOOKKEEPER

Planning Board did not meet in December.

The Town is in good financial shape for the start of the year, better than in years past.

NEW BUSINESS

Supervisor Allen indicates a need to search for members to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Need to find five (5) people to be on it.

BILLS

The clerk presented the following bill vouchers for approval:

General fund vouchers #1 through #26, totaling \$41,906.41; and

Highway fund vouchers #1 through #24, totaling \$31,828.47

On a motion by Councilman Toomey, seconded by Councilman Young, the bills were unanimously approved for payment.

Adjournment

On a motion by Councilman Young, seconded by Supervisor Allen, the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie M. Vroman

Town Clerk