

**TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

March 9, 2017

The Town Council met for a regular monthly meeting at the Town Hall building, 12 Mitchell Street, Canajoharie, New York.

Present: Deputy Supervisor/Councilman Rodney Young, Councilpersons: John Peruzzi, John Toomey, Jr., Councilman William Armitstead; Bookkeeper Amy Kretser; Highway Superintendent David Hodge ; Planning Board Chairman William Douglass; Code Enforcement Officer Les Hassan; Town Justice Philp Gizzi, Jr.; Town Supervisor Herbert Allen not present

Public Present: Attorney Kenneth Ayers; Robert Rocas

The meeting was opened by the Deputy Supervisor at 7:30pm, and the evening's agenda was presented

On a **motion** by Councilman Armitstead, **seconded** by Councilman Toomey, the **agenda** was **unanimously approved**

On **motion** by Councilman Toomey, **seconded** by Councilman Armitstead, the **February 2017 minutes** were **unanimously approved**

Public Comment- Kenneth Ayres, Esq. addresses the Board regarding his client's, Jenna Humphrey, building permit application for property located at 357 Budd St.; Requests that the Board help to move the building permit application along and have the building permit approved as soon as possible and presents timeline as to such application; Atty. Ayres states that the Code Enforcement Officer cannot take into consideration the condition or designation of Town roads when granting/denying building permit applications; Atty. Ayres objects to the Board going into Executive Session in order to discuss his client's building permit process with Code Enforcement Office, Les Hassan

-Deputy Supervisor Young addresses Atty. Ayres' concerns

-Robert Rocas states he has examined the proposed Solar Farm local law that the Planning Board has passed, but expresses concerns regarding a special use permit already submitted

-Planning Board Chairman Bill Douglass counters that there have been no proposed permits submitted as there is a moratorium currently in place for applications for solar farm permits, and nothing can be submitted until the proposed law is passed; Once proposed law is passed, one can make their solar farm plans then go to the Planning Board

-Robert Rocas recognizes that the Planning Board has created an in-depth packet of regulations, however, it does not address the environmental effects aspects; and he requests that the proposed Local Law is examined by the Town Attorney

-Chairman Douglass explains that a SEQR review will be necessary for a solar farm application and should take care of the environmental concerns;

-Deputy Supervisor Young explains that is standard procedure to have the Town Attorney look at proposed local laws

-Chairman Douglass asks the Board if they have any questions regarding the proposed Local Law; The Planning Board has worked on it for approximately a year and also enlisted the help and guidance of Montgomery County; It has been passed by the Planning Board for the Town Board to pass/modify/deny

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT-lost a truck, but not total loss, covered under insurance; New pick-up has arrived, old one will go on Auctions International

-Gave the Board two bids for plows he recommends the Boss plow

-Working on the FEMA reimbursement

-In process of hiring new employee, anticipates new hire in April

TOWN CLERK- 70% tax collection is complete

BOOKKEEPER

TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE-3/7/17 CASH REPORT FEBRUARY 28, 2017

CHECKING ACCOUNTS

General	\$ 208,170.52
Fire District	\$ 39.86
Consolidated Health	\$ 25.28
Highway Town Wide	\$ 178,064.25
Highway Part Town	\$ 248,772.99
Trust & Agency	\$ 101.37
Total	\$635,174.27

MONEY MARKET ACCOUNTS

General	\$ 79,183.29
Highway Town Wide	\$ 34,395.19
Highway Part Town	\$ 90,494.03
Total	\$ 204,072.51

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Consolidated Health	\$ 1,494.03
Highway Cap Reserv	\$ 24,679.60
Gen-Cap Res Garage	\$194,694.10
Gen-Sale of Land	\$ 53,836.96
Total	\$274,704.69

Respectfully submitted,
Amy S. Kretser, Bookkeeper

BILLS

The clerk presented the following bill vouchers for approval:

General fund vouchers #49 through 65, totaling \$41,263.57;

Highway fund vouchers #41 through #57, totaling \$100,615.00

Superintendent Hodge explains that one voucher is for a plow that fell apart under warranty, was able to replace it with a better 9' plow with approx. \$3K credit, was able to purchase a \$7K plow for under \$5K

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

Town Justice Philip Gizzi, Jr. requests that the Board consider raising the Court Clerk's pay from \$10.50 an hour to \$16.00 per hour in order to attract qualified applicants for the Court Clerk position;

He stated most area Court Clerk's receive between \$16.00 to \$21.00 per hour

Code Enforcement Officer Les Hassan- explains that he needs updated window information in order for the Humphrey building permit application to be approved

-Atty. Ayres counters that he has been attempting to schedule a meeting with Mr. Hassan regarding the building permit issues; He gives copy of his timeline to Mr. Hassan;

-Mr. Hassan states that his schedule is tight, and that he is not avoiding Atty. Ayres

-Atty. Ayres requests that the Board replace Mr. Hassan if he cannot do his job

-Atty. Ayres also again objects to the Board going into executive session if it is to discuss his client's building permit application process

Deputy Supervisor Young informs Atty. Ayres that executive session will be entered to discuss a minimum maintenance road legal and personnel matter; He asks both Atty. Ayres and Mr. Hassan to leave the room so the Board can enter executive session

Executive Session

Motion to enter Executive Session by Councilman Toomey, **seconded** by Councilman Armitstead, all in favor, **unanimous ayes**; Executive session entered 8:35pm

Minimum Maintenance Roads and Personnel matters discussed

Motion to close Executive Session by Councilman Armitstead, **seconded** by Councilman Toomey, all in favor, unanimous ayes; Executive session closed 8:50pm

No actions taken upon executive session discussions

Adjournment

On a **motion** by Councilman Toomey, **seconded** by Councilman Armitstead, all in favor, ayes, the meeting was adjourned at 8:51PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie M. Vroman, Town Clerk