

March 26, 2014

The Town Board of the Town of Clayton held their regular workshop meeting in the Town Board Room, 405 Riverside Drive, Clayton, New York with the following persons present:

Justin A. Taylor
Bob Cantwell III
Kathy LaClair

Mary Zovistoski
Chris Matthews

Lance Peterson
Bob Boulton

Terra Bach
Jim Schnauber
Ken Knapp
Gunther A. Schaller

Andrew Wood
Fred Schmidt
Karen Peters

Pam McDowell
Cindy Grant
Erin Green

Opening & Pledge of Allegiance:

Supervisor Taylor led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance after opening the meeting at 5:00 PM.

Guests:

Andrew Wood, Acting Executive Director of the Thousand Islands Opera House and Erin Green, President of the Thousand Islands Performing Arts Fund addressed the Town Board. Mrs. Green thanked the Town Board for all they do in supporting them. Also Mrs. Green thanked the Board for the stabilization project on the 3rd floor and repair of the ceiling project. She expressed that the project looks wonderful. She also thanked the Town Board for all the work that they do.

Andrew Wood, Exec. Director expressed the economic impact that the theater has on the Town. In a survey that they had completed, it showed that on average each person coming here for a performance was spending on average about \$30 per person on meals, drinks and/or purchases. The Opera House saw about 12,000 patrons last year. Mr. Wood distributed the Thousand Islands Performing Arts Fund Inc. Profit & Loss for fiscal years 2011, 2012 & 2013. He explained that they are working on a tight budget and try to enhance their revenues by opening up to also offer weddings, receptions, extra shows & seminars to help work on their budget to break even. They try to offer a variety of things and strive to keep ticket prices affordable. The Performing Arts Fund has a wish list of things that are needed, ie: new computers, chairs, dishwasher, etc. They are looking into being able to sell alcohol at their events.

Councilman Peterson stated that the Town Board is always looking at ways to save tax dollars and that those they help fund, they're looking to lean on all those entities to help them to be accountable for tax dollars that come their way. Some of the problems the Town Board is hearing about concerns the parking that some of the shows take away from the Downtown Merchants. Merchants state that parking during a function, for 2-3 hours at the Opera House causes their down time for shoppers. Councilman Peterson inquired as to whom does the surveys and does the sponsors of this events help out in any way. A survey is needed yearly to keep abreast of the situation. A survey of the merchants to see where people are patronizing would also be helpful and grade the merchants as well.

Mrs. Green stated that was a good idea and that TIPAF would a line themselves with Restaurants and Sponsors in surveying.

Councilman Peterson stated that if the Performing Arts is doing well, they should help pay a portion of the utilities for this building or possibly we should turn the building over to them. He also inquired if the TIPAF Board had hired a new Executive Director as yet. Answer: Not at liberty to discuss at this time other than they're in discussions.

Mr. Wood stated that the Cultural Capital is the Clayton Community Band, even though there is not money attached to this. The community is culturally expressed and the Opera House has a great venue for this community.

Jim Schnauber thanked the Town Board for all that they do for the Performing Arts and that they do at great job for the community.

Supervisor Taylor stated that the Town Board understood their plight, however that TIPAF also needs to understand: The Town did the renovations and ceiling project upstairs that was not anticipated in a very tight budget. We have a \$2500 insurance deductible; and about \$10,000 of expenses that will not be covered by the insurance claim that was not anticipated in this year's budget.

Councilman Cantwell III expressed that the Board believes that TIPAF is doing a excellent job. We the Town Board have to think outside the box. The tax base needs to grow. We help with infrastructure whenever possible for new construction. This helps in the long run to support what needs to be supported for the betterment of our Community.

Town Clerk:

Correspondence:

- ✓ Time Warner Cable – Routine programmers and broadcasters agreements about to expire or have been extended. **(See attachments file.)**
- ✓ Grants Action News – March 2014. **(See attachments file.)**

Minutes:

Motion by Chris Matthews, seconded by Bob Cantwell III, to approve the regular minutes of March 12th as written. Motion carried.

Motion by Lance Peterson, seconded by Mary Zovistoski, to approve the special minutes of March 24th as written. Motion carried.

Supervisor Reports:

Transient Docks Update: Held a Special meeting this past Monday evening concerning the docks. The Board awarded the bid to Chippewa Bay Marine Technology at a cost of \$475,000 for the Galvanized Steel Frame and Pontoon Floats. The steel pontoons are rated for 45lb/sq. ft and have pressure treated decking. Chippewa Bay is the only local bidder. Fourth Coast Inc will work with Chippewa Bay on fabrication and delivery schedule. The schedule calls for dock "B" to be delivered by July 1st, and Dock "C" to be delivered by August 1st.

Side discussions: Very close to design with the Wave attenuator –pre-cast concrete pilings, steel, 12 foot wide, 250' long; talked about the utilities and budget for entire project.

Opera House Repairs Update:

This was discussed earlier in the meeting. Work is completed on the 3rd floor. The cleaners have been upstairs and cleaned up from the construction. TIPAF is happy with everything that was done.

Financial Disclosures:

Town Clerk is still waiting on four (4) more returns.

SASS Meeting Reminder:

Thousand Islands Regional Assessment Project, Scenic Areas of Statewide Significance (SASS) meeting will be Friday, March 28th at the Antique Boat Museum starting at 9:00 AM - 1 PM. Coffee and pastries at check in, 8:30 AM to 9:00 AM.

DOS Meeting with Town/Village:

Meeting will be next Thursday, March 3rd at the Village Municipal Building at 5:30 PM with representative Sean Maguire from Dept. of State. His topic will be shared services and government efficiencies.

GI Cemetery Mowing Bid:

Bids will be due, April 9th and awarded at the Town Board meeting that evening.

TILT:

A couple of Fact Sheets were distributed to the Town Board concerning the Land Trust Alliance. This is informational on Economic Benefits of Open Space Protection and The Economic and Tax-Base Benefits of Land Conservation.

Court Clerk:

The Justices have interviewed Jamie Sanchez for the Court Clerk position. Ms. Sanchez also works part-time for the Village of Alexandria Justice Court. The recommended salary will be paid at \$12.50 per hour. Justice James is already working with a different Court Clerk who will be paid by voucher.

Highway Superintendent's Report:

-  Received a letter from Rolly Churchill, EMT-P, Executive Director of Thousand Islands Emergency Rescue Service recognizing Keith Dasno and Mark Meeks for their heroic life saving measures on the morning of March 10, 2014.
-  Brush pick-up – many calls concerning whether the Town will be picking up brush as soon as the weather permits. The answer is yes we will have a pick up when the weather is so we can.
-  MSHA Training will be Thursday, 4/3 at O'Brien's Restaurant.
-  CPR Training will be at TIERS on 4/4 at \$60 per person X9.
-  Transmission for the pickup – In house labor re-building this 2005 transmission. Fix up and will go out to public sale. We'll need to go out to bid for another truck.
-  Talked about getting rid of the 1965 gas tractor previously. This has been getting over hauled and will be back together by tomorrow.
-  Shared Services Personnel is done this Friday.
-  Highway Supt. Boulton had a question on the budget. Joint monies at the end of the year will be put in a "reserve fund". Money will be needed to purchase a new truck.
-  Highway Supt. Boulton discussed as soon as weather permits, the crew will be going to work on a job that was put off from last year when they came down to work at the Boater Safety Building.
-  Discussion of unfinished utilities; and digging out and gravel fill brought in for the Boater Safety Building.

Discussion by Councilman Matthews that we should possibly put out to bid for the remaining work that needs to be finished at that location. Possibly ask Jordstat to do a change order and get this done. The Board needs to look at and see what the dollars are.

Discussion that part of the dock project and that the Highway and Rec. Park would put together the docks.

Council Committee Reports:

Chris Matthews: Received a call on the Skid Steer – Will talk to Keith Wood about it.

Mary Zovistoski: Hawn Library is working on their By-Laws and defining the Executive Directors duties.

FYI: Depauville Annual Fire Banquet coming up.
Alexandria Bay Saturday, March 12th, noon to 4 PM Economic Summit Meeting.

Public Submitted Request to the Town Board: None.

Adjournment:

Motion by Chris Matthews, seconded by Lance Peterson, to adjourn this regular workshop meeting at 6:35 PM. Motion carried.

Kathleen E. LaClair, Town Clerk