

June 11, 2014

The Town Board of the Town of Clayton held their regular meeting in the Town Board Room, located at 405 Riverside Drive, Clayton, NY with the following persons in attendance:

Justin A. Taylor
Robert W. Cantwell III
Kathy LaClair

Mary Zovistoski
Christopher D. Matthews

Lance Peterson
Robert D. Boulton

Terra Bach
Seth Crimmins
William Billings
Norma Zimmer
Phil Randazzo

Michael Docteur
Duane C. Hazelton
Ken Knapp
Geneva Phelps Miller

Ben Brannan
Ron Quartulli
Pam McDowell
Shauna Sherboneau

Pledge of Allegiance:

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

Guests:

Legislator Michael Docteur spoke about a presentation given to the Committee concerning the new radio UHS system which will cost up to \$16 million. The radio system the County currently has is now 40-45 years old. The County is looking at 12 tower sites around the County and our Transfer site is a possibility for a tower. Purchasing the property site is about a three (3) year process. The County is looking for Federal funding and has already secured \$6 million from the State. A \$600 thousand annual maintenance agreement also needs to be completed.

Paul Barton, President of WESTELCOM gave a presentation to the Town Board, Village Board and others in attendance. He started by introducing several members from WESTELCOM. Seth Crimmins, Manager of Network Communications, Ron Quartulli, Account Executive and Ben Brannan, longest Employee, started years ago stocking and has been working his way up through the ranks. Mr. Barton's presentation has been a long time coming; with the last presentation being a GISCO presentation back in 1995. Background was given of Westelcom, which was established in 1905 and has been a family owned business since 1952. WESTELCOM donates back 30% to the North Country Community; Key Customers: a partial listing includes Health Care Facilities; Schools, major businesses, and Government Entities. WESTELCOM partners with DANC with their collocation and Data Centers. Clayton Fiber Network is in 4 phases, two of which have already been completed. (Route 12 coming in from Watertown and just completed is coming down James Street, across Riverside Drive, and Webb Street, back to the Traffic light. Phase 3 will be: Alexandria Street & back up to Strawberry Lane; Graves, East Line to the Village water tower and off Webb Street to the Village Offices. Phase 4 will go Route 12 toward Alexandra Bay. A fiber Optic line was circulated to show what the line looks like. This line will convert into Ethernet when attached to buildings. Asymmetric lines coming in are fast and going out is slower. Fiber Optics line sends Symmetric, which is faster coming in and going out. Mr. Barton stated that the benefits with the Symmetric is infinite capacity; high quality of service and synchronous communications. Their future plans are to complete each ring circle (phase) within the next 12-18 months. Mr. Barton is proud to report; they have completed everything so far with their own money and have not received any government dollars. He thanked the Board for listening to the update.

Town Clerk:

Correspondence:

- ✓ Justice Ramseier and James – May 2014 Comptroller Report(s). (See attachment file).
- ✓ Time Warner – June Programming Notice. (See attachment file).
- ✓ Time Warner – Supporting documentation regarding current franchise fee due to municipality. (See attachment file).
- ✓ View Point – May 2014 issue. (See attachment file).
- ✓ Land Trust – Reflections issue. (See attachment file).

Minutes:

Motion by Chris Matthews, seconded by Mary Zovistoski, to approve the special meeting minutes of May 23rd as written. Motion carried.

Motion by Bob Cantwell III, seconded by Chris Matthews, to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 28th as written. Motion carried.

Motion by Mary Zovistoski, seconded by Bob Cantwell III, to approve the special meeting minutes of June 6th as written. Motion carried.

Public Comments: None.

Supervisor Report for May 2014 & Bank Reconciliations:

Held until the next meeting of June 25th.

Bills & Transfers:

Motion by Lance Peterson, seconded by Bob Cantwell III, to pay Abstract #6 in the amount of \$141,188.86. Motion carried.

Transient Docks Update:

Conference call today with Chippewa Bay Technologies; dock will probably be constructed in the Buffalo area and in Hammond, they're waiting on submittals, could possibly be constructed in Watertown. DEC is comfortable with what they have seen on the SEQRA Documentation.

Also conference call on the Attenuator today. This should be completely installed before ice comes in.

Gravel Pit Tax Sale Update:

Supervisor attended the County Property Tax Sale last Saturday. He did bid to \$30,000 on the Carlisle Gravel Pit. Bidding continued up to about \$57,000. The Town of Clayton did not continue past \$30,000.

Mowing on Grindstone Island: Status Update:

Mowing has been taken place on Grindstone Island. No one has inspected the area; no feedback has been received as yet.

Initial Audit for 2013 Feedback:

Five Auditors arrived on Tuesday, 6/4 and they worked for two days. Need to work on the Fixed Asset Report to keep it updated. We should be going into 2015 looking good.

We will be having the Single Audit next year due to funding on the Route 12 Sewer and Boating Infrastructure Grant.

Tentative Assessment Equalization Rate:

NYS Dept. of Taxation and Finance Office of Real Property Tax Services has sent notice of the Tentative Equalization Rate for the 2014 Assessment Roll as being at 100%.

Zoning Ordinance Amendment discussion:

Zoning Officer Henry LaClair, Planning Board Chair, Bud Baril, Doug Rogers, Planning Board member, and Supervisor Justin Taylor met recently to discuss two topics. They all are supportive of the following Potential Zoning Changes:

1. Amending nonconforming structure proposal-
 - a. Current : “Non-conforming structures” **cannot** be altered.
 - b. Proposed: “Non-conforming structures” may be altered if the alteration does not further encroach on the non-conforming set back or any other applicable zoning regulation in that district.
 - c. Rationale: This action will potentially reduce the number of variances that are almost always granted.

2. Setback from property lines for altering nonconforming structures in grandfathered nonconforming mobile home parks and camp grounds.
 - a. Current: Structures may have been on the property line.
 - b. Proposed: Any new construction, alteration, renovation of structures must not encroach within 5” of the property line.
 - c. Rationale: This action will allow for much easier and consistent enforcement.

3. Farm Wineries
 - a. Current: Farm Wineries are not allowed in the A-IR district. (Henry reported that it was intended to be added previously but somehow got left off the amendment).
 - b. Proposed: Add Farm Wineries to the A-IR district.
 - c. Rationale: This action will allow a current Farm Winery to operate in the A-IR District in compliance with the ordinance.

4. Farm Wineries
 - a. Current: Farm wineries are not allowed in the MD or MR districts.
 - b. Proposed: Allow Farm Wineries with a Special Use Permit in the MD and MR districts.
 - c. Rationale: this action will allow Phil Deluke to establish a Farm Winery at or near his current garden center on Rt. 12.

5. Definition Changes
 - a. Current: Agricultural Use: The raising of fruits, vegetables and the like and structures incidental thereto, but not including the raising of keeping of animals.
 - b. Proposed: Agricultural Use: the raising of fruits, vegetables and the like **for sale** and structures incidental thereto, but not including the raising or keeping of animals.
 - c. Rationale: this action will allow Phil Deluke to grow grapes at or near his current garden center on Rt. 12.

Zoning/Planning/Codes Monthly Reports:

Have been received by the Town Board.

DANC Northeast Recycling Council’s (NERC) Grant Application Update:

Notice has been given that the Development Authority has received the Northeast Recycling Council’s (NERC) grant application, and was selected to be funded for Implementing Reuse Programs in rural Communities. Jan Oatman, of the Development Authority, Regional Recycling Coordinator attached an overview of the grant. The Town of Clayton supplied a letter of support for the project.

Personnel Status Change – Kim Johnston:

Motion by Bob Cantwell III, seconded by Chris Matthews, to change Kim Johnston from 32 hours to 40 hours per week, to accommodate working p/t in each of three offices, IE: Assessing, PI/Zoning/Codes and Highway Dept.

Opera House 3rd Floor Final Insurance figures:

Supervisor Taylor supplied the final numbers for the repairs and Insurance coverage from the water line break and structural failure on January 4th, 2014. Total submitted expenses were \$64,392.59; Insurance reimbursed \$51,448.57 (which includes \$2,043.33 of Town staff time); Total cost to the Town of Clayton \$12,944.02.

CLDC TI Inn Support Letter:

Motion by Mary Zovistoski, seconded by Lance Peterson, to writing a Letter of support for the grant application to the New York Main Street Downtown Anchor funding program, being submitted by the Thousand Islands Inn through the CLDC. The TI Inn uniquely fits the criteria that was established by the funding program and no other applications were received that fit the criteria.

Highway Superintendent’s Report:

-  Land Mine Inspection(s): the Transfer Site has a permit and the pit on County Route #4 has a permit.
-  Working on a list of roads to pave: We’ve been working the road in front of Al Jackson’s @ Heritage Heights; Lyellton Dr; Miller Road. (We will be paving as soon as we can.)
-  The crew will be sweeping the river area for brush pick-up.
-  Currently doing some cold patching.
-  Hauling sand.
-  Grindstone Island roads have been graded & rolled. We left the island yesterday.
-  Putting out request for a new 1-ton pick-up truck for the Highway Dept. Hope to have the bids by next meeting.
-  Depv. Sewer Minutes: Depv. Sewer Board didn’t know about the reserve fund or why it was needed.

Council Reports:

Mary Zovistoski: Wine & food show this weekend at the Recreation Park Arena.
Dock Dogs this weekend downtown.
Boater Safety Building: coming along nicely. Water has been pressure tested and Chlorinated. Local contactors doing the masonry work. Rafters are going up.
Hotel: Paving next week.

Public: Submitted Requests to Address the Board:

Ken Knapp: Discussed the Comprehensive Plan. He has sat on 3 Committees and it always starts the same. The Comprehensive Plan was done previously and about 90% completed. All the plan needs is to be fine tuned. There should be no reinventing the plan at this time, but once completed, needs to be updated even yearly to keep it moving. The Comprehensive Plan is the most important document for both the Town & Village. (Side note: the CLDC has authorized Mike Geiss to help out Doug Rogers on this document.)

Adjournment:

Motion by Mary Zovistoski, seconded by Chris Matthews, to adjourn this regular meeting at 6:45 PM.
Motion carried.

Kathleen E. LaClair, Town Clerk