

**TOWN OF DEERPARK
TOWN BOARD MEETING
TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2015**

Invocation by Arthur Trovei (Participation Optional)

Attendance

Supervisor: Gary Spears

Councilmember's: Alan Schock, Ken Smith, Arthur Trovei, David Dean

Attorney: Glen Plotsky

Engineer: Alfred Fusco, Jr.

Call to Order at 7:35 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance by Councilman Dean

Presentations/Communications

Supervisor Spears referred to the first communication on the electric renewal pricing stating they have been dealing with M & R Energy Resources Corp. and they have been researching the new rates. They have recommended that they go with GDF Suez for savings of about 33% from Orange & Rockland. The information was available to the board.

Nancy Gibson, Founder of Animal Manor Sanctuary gave a presentation and provided brochures. She invited everyone on October 8th to their Spay and Neuter and Rabies Vaccination clinic and people should call their number on the flyer. Also, Saturday, October 17th at 6:30 p.m. at Par for the Course Restaurant at 87 Neversink Road, she is having a fundraising event. The suggested donation is \$40. There will be a 50/50 raffle, a tricky tray and wonderful speakers and a fabulous dinner. She is working on a surprise for that night. She invited everyone to visit the Animal Manor FB page.

Supervisor Spears thanked Ms. Gibson for her presentation. Councilman Dean also thanked her and said this was a good alternative to the Humane Society, then commended her and urged everyone to get involved. Supervisor Spears asked that Flo Santini to put these dates on the town's website.

Tom Faggione, Orange County Legislator of the 13th District (comprised of Port Jervis, Town of Deerpark and a portion of Mount Hope, which includes Route 211). He provided an update to let the Board know what he is working on at the county level impacting the Town of Deerpark. He mentioned Rocky's Law being the first legislation he voted for. The animal abusers must sign on a registry. He mentioned the vote last week by the Legislature regarding the Village of Kiryas Joel and the Town of Monroe annexation of 164 acres and given in essence to the Village of Kiryas Joel. There are bigger impacts and the Legislature voted to join with 8 municipalities committing money, including the Town of Deerpark, to seek a lawsuit to examine that annexation and see the legalities and impacts to western Orange County. He supported that legislation. He promised to be an ally to the Town of Deerpark. He then thanked Flo Santini and the town for the 9/11 ceremony that he was part of.

Dusanka Marusic, 260 Galley Hill Road – asked if she could make a comment and stated she was very concerned about the over development in process in Deerpark. She noticed the article in the newspaper over the weekend and felt that was happening over there (Monroe/Kiryas Joel), is happening in our neighborhood. She asked that the mixed use of their rural road be revisited and said it was done without public hearing. The building is happening overnight and is quite alarming. Mr. Faggione responded to her comments and fully supported two municipalities coming together to decide their fate. He offered she come to the Planning Board and Zoning Board meetings if she wants and encourage her neighbors to do the same.

Supervisor Spears said that when the zoning change was made up the corridors of Route 42, 209 and 211 it was to try to bring in more business on the roadways to improve on the tax base and help provide businesses to help the residents. Those zoning changes were done for economic development. He said there was a public hearing and there was a notice. Things are different than they imagined, so they are looking into that and all the buildings on Galley Hill Road have permits and are before the Planning Board. He will check that for her, but he was pretty solid that anything being built up there has been before the Planning Board.

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Port Jervis Ambulance Corps – George Ewing, Business Manager, Mike Diamond, Operations Manager and Chris Spenner – Ambulance Reimbursement Systems. The Port Jervis Ambulance Corps provides ambulance service to the entire Town of Deerpark, the City of Port Jervis and the Borough of Matamoras, PA. Supervisor Spears explained that the Board had been discussing with George for months, the financial situation of the Port Jervis Ambulance Corps. It is part of the Board's duty to make sure those public services of fire and police and ambulances are provided for all the residents in the Town of Deerpark. They have been listening and reading over the information given them, then given recommendations of what might be a good business plan for the viability over time. He said Councilman Smith has been very active in that. They want to see what progress they've made on business plans and they want to see where Deerpark fits in with the City of Port Jervis and Matamoras and others to make this beneficial for everyone.

Mr. Ewing gave a report and the audio report is on file in the Town Clerk's office. Supervisor Spears explained that one of the ways the Ambulance Corps was to increase their income, was to do private transport from the hospital given out to private companies. They had a pretty good deal set up with Bon Secours, but due to them being sold to Westchester, that's been put on hold. Mr. Ewing then said that Mike Diamond is the Operations Manager and tried to get information from Bon Secours, but now they are not being given any information. The new billing system is based on a 240 day cycle: 120 days with the Billing Company and 120 days with the Collection Department. The uncollected bills have been between \$350,000 to \$375,000 a year. The first year is the initial process and the first year will need donations. The bills are anywhere from \$900 to \$1,500 and the insurance coverage makes a difference. After a certain point, they can't go after the patient. They have policies in place for negotiating, and have created about 8 more policies all to help recover their revenue. Their annual payroll is \$320,000. The first year, they are asking for a contribution of \$42,000 from the Town of Deerpark; \$89,250 from the City of Port Jervis and \$14,000 from Matamoras, PA for a total of 145,250,000. They welcomed the Board to attend any of their business meetings. Discussion continued.

Public Comment: None

Motion to Table Approval of Minutes

Motion by Arthur Trovei, 2nd by Ken Smith to table the approval of minutes until the next meeting October 5th.

VOTE: 5 AYES: Alan Schock, Ken Smith, Arthur Trovei, David Dean, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

New Business

Supervisor Spears read his Supervisor's/Budget Officer message regarding the 2016 Tentative Budget submitted to the Town Clerk. He said his Bookkeeper, Danielle Glynn and Town Accountant, Rob Schultz provided a lot of input to this process.

Appropriations, Budget, and Payment of Bills – Budget Officer's Report

Motion to Pay Bills

Motion by David Dean, 2nd by Alan Schock to pay bills that have been signed by three council members and may be viewed in the Town Clerk's Office:

General Fund Abstract #17 of 2015 in the amount of \$218,913.59
Highway Fund Abstract #17 of 2015 in the amount of \$79,399.75
Deerpark Manor Street Lighting Fund Abstract #9 of 2015 in the amount of \$501.93
Engineering Fund Abstract #11 of 2015 in the amount of \$516.00
Special Revenue Reserve Fund Abstract #10 of 2015 in the amount of \$963.53

VOTE: 5 AYES: Alan Schock, Ken Smith, Arthur Trovei, David Dean, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Closing Board Comments

Councilman Schock said he was impressed with the Ambulance Corps and how they are fighting this out.

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Councilman Smith agreed and said the Ambulance Corps gave them a good presentation and they will look at it further and he thought they were going in the right direction. They'll look into it.

Councilman Dean also agreed and appreciated all the effort that went into that. They are acutely aware of their situation. Most communities find themselves in similar situations. The economy in this country has a long way to go. He said he was ready to do something for the ambulance corps and he commended everyone in their organization for their hard work. He also thanked the supervisor for the budget and looked forward to looking at that closely.

Councilman Trovei thanked the Ambulance Corps guys for the efforts they are all doing and it is life changing and he said, they'll do what they can. They are extremely cautious. They are serious about how the tax payer's money is spent. That is the only reason why they can climb out of an \$800,000 hole to put the town back on its feet again in a much more solid position. They may take longer to make a decision but it is because they are trying to protect the tax payers. He and his family fully support Tom Faggione. He appreciates his position and thanked him for coming to see them. He also thanked Ms. Marusic for voicing her concerns. They have them too. They are not falling on deaf ears. He commended the Supervisor for his hours spent on his job and doesn't know how he does it all. He thanked him as a friend and as a resident. He also expressed thanks to the other councilmen.

Supervisor Spears thanked Nancy Gibson saying he has been around while this was being put into operation and he even learned a great deal more of the job she is doing in our town and for the animals in general. It is a noble effort and he was impressed with her presentation and the job she is doing. He said the Port Jervis Ambulance Corps is doing a great job and he has had them at his house, for his 92 year old father living with him. He appreciated their efforts. He thanked Tom Faggione for coming and said he has known him a long time. He appreciated him and his brother and the work they do in the community. He has complete faith in his job as Legislator.

Town Engineer, Al Fusco, Jr. reported on:

- the Community Development Block Grant for \$45,000 and discussed with both the Supervisor and Highway Superintendent for paving of Hook Road for paving;
- the Big Pond final design and they'll be going out to bid on that in the next 30-60 days;
- Shinhollow has some options to discuss;
- he is available for the addition for the Police and could meet and finalize that.

Motion to Enter Executive Session after a recess to Discuss Litigation with Town Attorney at 9:00 a.m.

Motion by Arthur Trovei, 2nd by Ken Smith to enter Executive Session after a recess to discuss litigation and invite in the town attorney, Glen Plotsky at 9:00 p.m.

VOTE: 5 AYES: Alan Schock, Ken Smith, Arthur Trovei, David Dean, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to Re-Enter Regular Session at 9:50 p.m.

Motion by David Dean, 2nd by Alan Schock to re-enter regular session at 9:50 p.m.

VOTE: 5 AYES: Alan Schock, Ken Smith, Arthur Trovei, David Dean, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to Adjourn at 9:51 p.m.

Motion by Arthur Trovei, 2nd by Ken Smith to adjourn at 9:51 p.m.

VOTE: 5 AYES: Alan Schock, Ken Smith, Arthur Trovei, David Dean, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted by,

Kathy Basile, Deputy Town Clerk
for Florence T. Santini, Town Clerk