

**TOWN OF WESTERLO
TOWN BOARD MEETING
ON
TUESDAY, JULY 1, 2014**

The Town of Westerlo Town Board met on Tuesday, July 1, 2014 in the Westerlo Town hall at 933 County Route 401, Westerlo, NY. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Richard H. Rapp at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge to the Flag.

PRESENT WERE: Supervisor Richard H. Rapp
Councilman Alfred L. Field
Councilman Theodore S. Lounsbury III
Councilman Anthony W. Sherman
Councilman William F. Bichteman, Jr.

Also present were Deputy Supervisor Edwin H. Lawson, Highway Superintendent Keith Wright Sr., Planning Board Chair Dorothy Verch, Zoning Board Chair Virginia Mangold, other Planning Board members, several highway department employees, Deputy Town Clerk Gertrude A. Smith, and approximately ten residents. Town Clerk Kathleen J. Spinnato was absent.

The minutes of the May 20, 2014 Town Board workshop were presented by the Town Clerk. Supervisor Rapp asked for a motion to accept said minutes. Motion to accept the minutes was made by Councilman Lounsbury, seconded by Councilman Bichteman and passed with a unanimous vote.

The minutes of the Town Board meeting of June 3, 2014 were presented by the Town Clerk. Supervisor Rapp asked for a motion to accept said minutes. Motion to accept the minutes was made by Councilman Field, seconded by Councilman Sherman and passed. Councilman Bichteman abstained because he was absent.

The minutes of the June 17th Town Board workshop were presented by the Town Clerk. Supervisor Rapp asked for a motion to accept the minutes. Councilman Sherman made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilman Lounsbury and passed. Councilman Bichteman & Councilman Field abstained because they were absent.

Supervisor Rapp informed the Board that they need to appoint a clerk for the Planning, Zoning and Water Boards. Councilman Sherman made a motion to appoint Jennifer Bungay to the position, seconded by Councilman Lounsbury and passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Rapp introduced the following resolution and made a motion for adoption:

WHEREAS: The Town Board members have audited the monthly bills, be it
RESOLVED; that the following bills be paid:

Voucher # 257 through # 309\$32,276.21

Councilman Sherman seconded the motion and a roll-call vote resulted as follows:

AYES: Supervisor Rapp, Councilman Sherman, Councilman Bichteman,
Councilman Field. and Councilman Lounsbury.

NAYS: None.

RESOLUTION #32-2014 was thereby duly adopted.

Supervisor Rapp turned the meeting over to Deputy Supervisor Ed Lawson regarding the purchase of new computers and a server, etc. Ed informed the Board that he had received information from Claire Marshall, who had done some research, contacting several computer IT companies. PTS (Prevelle Technology Services) had given the best price, with a total price of \$6,012.25, including servers, back-up, e-mail, license fees. etc. Five new workstations are \$3625.52. He gave the Board more information regarding maintenance fees, etc. Mr. Lawson provided the Board with copies of the proposed prices. He noted that Claire Marshall had obtained all of the information and prices. He advised that new computers are necessary so that all computers will be updated to the current

Microsoft programs. Mr. Lawson mentioned that the quote from PTS is actually below the State Contract price, and that right now, the Board should act on the purchase of the servers, work stations etc, which are needed at this time. Other items may be purchased at a later date. Councilman Sherman commented that the present situation regarding the website is costly and it should be done in house. He suggested having the PTS technician attend a special Board meeting so that they can ask what other services they can offer. Right now, the Board needs to act on the items brought before them. After a discussion, Councilman Sherman made a motion to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS: it has become necessary to up-date the computers, servers, e-mail, etc for the Town, be it

RESOLVED: that Supervisor Rapp be authorized to purchase from Prevelle Technology Services computers, upgrades and updates, as per proposal #1622 and #1626, not to exceed \$10,000.00.

Councilman Bichteman seconded the motion and a roll-call vote resulted as follows:

AYES; Supervisor Rapp, Councilman Sherman, Councilman Bichteman, Councilman Lounsbury, Councilman Field.

NAYS: None.

RESOLUTION #33-2014 was thereby duly adopted.

Supervisor Rapp asked for a report from the ZBA. Chairperson Virginia Mangold gave the report, which is attached. After hearing the report, Councilman Sherman made a motion to accept the report; motion was seconded by Councilman Lounsbury and passed with a unanimous decision. Chairperson Mangold asked when they will get a new clerk. Supervisor Rapp answered that will be as soon as he calls the person.

Supervisor Rapp asked for a report from the Planning Board; which was given by Chairperson Dottie Verch. She reported on the Webinar, which was sponsored by the State, and had residents from Westerlo, Berne and Rensselaerville present. She spent a total of \$164.86 for training. All members had three and one-half hours of training. The Comprehensive Plan long form SEQR still needs the signature of one member. Councilman Lounsbury made a motion, seconded by Councilman Field to approve the Planning Board report. Motion carried with a unanimous decision. Councilman Bichteman made a motion to accept the bill for training, seconded to Councilman Lounsbury and passed with a unanimous decision.

Supervisor Rapp asked for a Water Board report. Councilman Bichteman recommended adopting what the State Controller's office had suggested regarding the billing; which was to increase the minimum usage from 2,500 gallons to 5,000 gallons per quarter. He explained that this will not affect many of the residents because many do not use over 5,000 gallons per quarter. He also reported that the monies owed to the Town by the Water District be repaid, with no particular schedule for transferring the funds back into the General Fund. and may be included in the 2015 Town Budget. The new rates should be in place for the November billing.

A resident asked if someone outside of the Water District could serve on the Water Board. She feels that because some money from the General Fund has been used, there should be representation from the Town, other than those within the District. Councilman Bichteman said that Town Law prohibits that. Discussion followed, after which Councilman Bichteman asked for a vote on his report.

Councilman Field made a motion to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS: The Water Board has met and has recommended some changes in the billing, be it hereby

RESOLVED: that the Town Board adopt the new rates recommended by the Water Board, effective August 1, 2014.

Councilman Lounsbury seconded the motion and a roll-call vote resulted as follows:

AYES: Supervisor Rapp, Councilman Field, Councilman Lounsbury, Councilman Sherman, & Councilman Bichteman.

NAYS: None.

RESOLUTION #34- 2014 was thereby duly adopted.

Councilman Lounsbury made a motion to adopt the Water Board report. Motion was seconded by Councilman Field and passed with a unanimous decision.

Supervisor Rapp informed the Board that he had received a request from a resident to use the hall for several occasions. After a discussion, motion was made by Councilman Sherman, seconded by Supervisor Rapp and passed that the request be denied.

Supervisor Rapp asked the Board if the Town should extend the moratorium regarding Hydro-fracking. It was noted that the Town could re-shape the Zoning Law, but no matter how it is done, a public hearing will need to be scheduled prior to August 1, 2014, which is when the present moratorium expires. There was a discussion about whether or not the Town has the authority to place a moratorium, because the State has not acted on it. After a discussion, Councilman Sherman made a motion to schedule a public hearing for the adoption of Local Law #1-2014; a Local Law which will extend for one year from August 1, 2014, Local Law # 1, 2013. Said public hearing is to be held on Thursday, July 24, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at a special Town Board meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilman Bichteman, and passed with a unanimous decision.

Councilman Bichteman asked for an up-date regarding the highway garage. Ed Lawson explained that the front end forms contract is being gone over by the town attorney. He explained the asbestos problem, and the need to fix the roof. Ed informed the Board that they need to get the package together and get it out to bid. Councilman Lounsbury stated that the bid package needs to be done ASAP. Ed Lawson will work it up to present to the Board.

There being no further business, Councilman Lounsbury made a motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Councilman Bichteman and passed with a unanimous decision. Meeting was adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gertrude A. Smith
Deputy Town Clerk