

**Town of Westerlo
Town Board Meeting
Of
Tuesday, August 2, 2016**

The Town of Westerlo Town Board held the regular Town Board meeting on Tue. August 2, 2016 at 7:30 PM at the Town Hall located at 933 CR 401, Westerlo. Supervisor Rapp opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PRESENT WERE: Supervisor Richard H. Rapp
Councilman William F. Bichteman Jr.
Councilwoman Amie L. Burnside
Councilman Anthony W. Sherman

Also attending were: Deputy Supervisor & Code Enforcement Officer Edwin Lawson, Zoning Board of Appeals member John Sefcik, Planning Board Chairwoman Dorothy Verch and members Doyle Shaver & Edwin Stevens, Highway Superintendent Keith Wright Sr., Deputy Hwy Supt. & Dog Warden Jody Ostrander, Town Justice Robert Carl, Town Historian Dennis Fancher, Clerk to the Supervisor Patricia Boice, Town Clerk Kathleen Spinnato and approximately nine residents.

Town Board Minutes of 6/21/2016

Motion to accept the Town Board meeting minutes of 6/21/2016 was made by Councilman Sherman, seconded by Councilman Bichteman, motion carried all in favor.

Town Board Minutes of 7/5/2016

Motion to accept the Town Board meeting minutes of 7/5/2016 was made by Councilman Sherman, seconded by Councilwoman Burnside, motion carried all in favor.

Town Board Workshop Minutes of 7/19/2016

Motion to accept the Town Board Workshop meeting minutes of 7/19/2016 was made by Councilman Sherman, seconded by Councilwoman Burnside, Councilman Bichteman abstained, Supervisor Rapp in favor, motion carried.

Appointment of Council Member

Supervisor Rapp reported the Town of Westerlo Democratic Committee had previously met and interviewed three applicants to fill the unexpired term of office of former Councilman Theodore S. Lounsbury III (resigned 4/4/2016, term exp. 12/31/2017). The committee recommended the appointment of Joseph J. Boone to fill Mr. Lounsbury's unexpired term. Councilman Bichteman made a motion to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS: The Town of Westerlo Democratic Committee has interviewed candidates and has made a recommendation to appoint a Councilmember to fill the vacancy on the Town Board due to the resignation of Theodore S. Lounsbury III, be it hereby

RESOLVED: the Town Board appoints Joseph J. Boone to fill the position of Councilman for the remainder of the unexpired term

Motion was seconded by Councilman Sherman, a roll call vote resulted as follows:

AYES: Supervisor Rapp, Councilman Bichteman, Councilman Sherman and Councilwoman Burnside

NAYS: None

RESOLUTION #29-2016 was thereby duly adopted. Joseph J. Boone was administered the Oath of Office by Town Clerk Kathleen Spinnato. He then joined the members at the table for the remainder of the meeting.

PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS:

Supervisor Rapp made a motion to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS: the Town Board has audited the monthly bills, be it hereby

RESOLVED: the following bills be paid

Voucher # 275 through Voucher # 327 in the amount of \$285,184.63

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

AYES: Supervisor Rapp, Councilman Bichteman, Councilwoman Burnside, &
Councilman Sherman

ABSTAINED: Councilman Boone

NAYS: None

RESOLUTION # 30 of 2016 was thereby duly adopted.

TOWN CLERK'S MONTHLY REPORT

The Town Board had received the Town Clerk's Report for the month of July. Councilwoman Burnside made a motion to accept the Town Clerk's report for July as submitted, Councilman Bichteman seconded the motion, Councilman Boone abstained, motion carried.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS REPORT

Ed Lawson advised the Town Board there was no old or new business for the ZBA, no meeting was held in July.

PLANNING BOARD REPORT

Chairwoman Dorothy Verch reported the Planning Board held a meeting on 7/26/16. A new special use permit from Ronald Thompson to activate the existing gas pumps for property SBL # 139.-3-16, the application was assigned #16-004. Mr. Thompson wants to first activate the pumps due to new State regulations. There was a negative environmental impact declaration, the public hearing will be held on Aug. 23, 2016 at 7:30 PM. There was no old business.

The Broadband Research Committee (BRC) report dated 8/2/16 was read by Dorothy Verch. She advised the Committee members include Planning Board members; Dorothy Verch, Edwin Stevens, Doyle Shaver Jr., Gerry Boone, Richard Kurylo, and also Westerlo residents Michael Sikule, Eric Markson, Leonard Laub and Bob Wilcox. They have met following Planning Board meetings for a period of 4 months. The Committee has reviewed and compared Mid-Hudson Cable's past Franchise Agreement and a proposed Franchise Agreement. It is the overall view of the Committee that Mid-Hudson Cable's (MHC) Agreement has no growth plans, or extensions and no outline of upgrades to be accomplished. The only increase was to the number basic cable channels. The report contained information from the March meeting with Dave Fingar of MHC pertaining to an evaluation of providing new service to 8 residents on County Route 402 with the stipulation that the Town would need to relinquish franchise fee on these 8 residences (3% house/month for 5 yrs.) approx. \$85,000. The report also contained the three options the BRC has considered, the backgrounds on SLIC Network Solutions, a new company named SPECTRUM, the BRC's short and long term goals. Councilman Bichteman had several questions which were answered either by Dotty or other Committee members. Discussion and comment period followed between the Town Board members and the Committee, regarding authorization to the Committee for negotiations, etc. The Town Board thanked the Committee for their input.

Councilman Sherman made a motion to accept the Planning Board & the Broadband Research Committee's reports, seconded by Councilman Bichteman, Councilman Boone abstained, motion carried.

BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Councilman Bichteman reported Delaware Engineering will be attending the August 9th Building Committee meeting. At that meeting they will be reviewing the schedule, discuss the plan and the finish options to define more concretely the cost of the proposed renovation to the Town Hall building. They will also talk about the coordination of the asbestos abatement in the basement and how it will affect the rest of the renovation. Delaware Engineering is bringing plan sheets on August 25th. Councilman Bichteman made a motion to accept the Building Committee report, Councilwoman Burnside seconded, Councilman Boone abstained, motion carried.

WATER BOARD REPORT

Councilman Bichteman advised Wayne LaGrange has resigned from the Water Board. Notices will be sent out to all residents within the Water District for a volunteer to serve on the Board. The volunteer Water Board consists of three members; Wayne La Grange, William Slaver and Councilman Bichteman. Councilman Sherman made a motion to accept the Water Board report, Councilwoman Burnside seconded, Councilman Boone abstained, motion carried.

MEETING OPENED TO PUBLIC

Supervisor Rapp opened the meeting to the Public.

A resident inquired about proposed Solar Moratorium discussions. Councilman Sherman informed the public this was to be discussed at the last Town Board Workshop but Zoning Board Chairwoman Virginia Mangold had signed up for an informational session about solar. They were waiting until she could attend the session and come back with information. The session is scheduled to be held on Aug 3rd. When asked by the resident when this review may happen Councilman Sherman advised it was his assumption that Virginia may possibly present what information she can at the next Town Board Workshop meeting on August 16th.

A resident inquired about emails on the website for Town Board members. Discussions followed concerning several depts. issues with accessing emails.

Tom Diedrich of Westerlo Volunteer Fire Co.(WVFC) reported on the removal of a large evergreen tree behind the Fire Station No. 1, the replacement of a decaying deck behind Modern Woodman Hall, and an announcement from Senator Gillibrand in the news of the WVFC receiving a FEMA Fire Act Grant in the amount of \$130,000 for new air packs and air bottles. The WVFC had to match the grant by 5% in approx. \$6,000 of Fire Co. funds, he credited Chief Flensted who wrote the Grant. Lastly, he announced on Sunday, Aug 7th starting at 11 AM Brooks Chicken BBQ at the Station No. 2 in South Westerlo.

ADJOURN MEETING

Supervisor Rapp asked for any other comments from the public there being none a motion was made by Councilman Bichteman to adjourn the meeting, Councilman Boone seconded, motion carried all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Spinnato Town Clerk

