

Minutes of the Town Board Worksession held at Town Hall on April 30, 2012 at 7:30PM

Present: John Burke, Supervisor
Timothy Arone, Frank Palermo, Marilyn Prestia and James Skoufis, Councilpersons
Absent: None
Also Present: Robert Weyant, Highway Superintendent; Maria Hunter, Village Planning Board

1. Discussion – Amendments to Ethics Law:

The Board reviewed the existing Ethics Law and decided to amend Section 39-7(C) by removing the FICO credential investigation. A draft proposed law will be prepared for the Board to consider at the May 3 meeting.

2. Discussion – Proposed Local Law to Control Cats:

The Board discussed in detail the law proposed to assist in the control of cats. Councilman Skoufis stated he agrees a problem exists but feels it may be difficult to enforce a law. Councilman Palermo stated he prefers to not require the licensing of cats but feels that something needs to be in place when a nuisance is occurring. He stated he has spoken with the County and was told that residents cannot contact them if there is a problem but the ACO can only if the Town has a law. A discussion was held regarding if the Board can require that all cats be neutered/spayed. It was decided that Dr. Carol Roshkind from CV Animal Hospital be invited to the next worksession to discuss cats. The Board members will work on the law to address the issues that were discussed this evening.

3. Update – Senior Citizen Issues:

Councilman Arone stated he spoken with the representative from Jewish Family Services (JFS) and from the Montgomery senior group. When determining how many homebound seniors there are in the town, they found that attending their senior center meetings provided the information, as well as contacting the Office of Aging to find out how many are enrolled in the “Meals on Wheels” program. Montgomery did not do a formal survey of the Town but did put a notice in local papers to determine if there was interest, which resident could call into Town Hall to show support. He noted that Montgomery has 85 enrollees; Mount Hope has 20 and Newburgh as 45. Blooming Grove is just starting their program. Mount Hope is funded 100% by fundraising and Montgomery has a majority of their program funded by fundraising as well. They recommend beginning small, noting the number one issue for seniors is transportation. Regarding providing this service to disabled residents in addition to seniors, JFS stated that would be acceptable but the individuals must be able to get in and out of a vehicle without assistance. JFS also suggests checking with our insurance company to be sure all aspects are covered (noting that volunteers will be using their own vehicles to transport individuals). The average start-up time for this type of venture is six to twelve months, with the biggest hurdle being forming the committee and getting the service information to the public that needs it. It was decided that Councilman Arone would see if the representative from JFS can come to a meeting to discuss the issue further with the Board.

Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss, a motion was offered by Councilman Palermo, seconded by Councilman Arone, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35PM

ADOPTED AYES 5 Burke, Arone, Palermo, Prestia, Skoufis
 NOES 0

Desiree Potvin, Town Clerk