

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held on October 17, 2019 at 7:30PM

Present: Frank Palermo, Supervisor
Michael Essig and Robert Hunter, Council
Absent: Timothy Arone and Jacqueline Hernandez, Council
Also Present: Joseph McKay, Attorney for the Town; Kevin, Watson, Police Chief; Joseph Gianzero, Parks Director; Thomas Burke and John Smith, Parks Commissioner

I. Public Input:

John Smith feels it is important the public knows what is going on with the budget prior to the hearing being held. He commended Supervisor Palermo for reducing the Library's tentative budget by \$80K. He feels that even more can be cut by evaluating the personal services line-item to see if the number of employees that are currently on staff is deemed necessary based on library usage. Supervisor Palermo stated the reduction was decided by the entire Board. Mr. Smith then stated he feels the salaries proposed for the two judges should also be looked into. They are currently paid \$31K+ per year plus they receive health insurance. By his calculation they each only work about ten hours per month and that should be taken into consideration. They requested a \$10K raise and he feels that is crazy. Supervisor Palermo stated the Board rejected their salary increase request and only approved an increase equal to what everyone else was getting, which was 2.75%. Mr. Smith stated he feels they should not get a raise and since each have their own business outside of being judge they should not be enrolled in taxpayer funded insurance benefits. He then noted that anyone can run for the position of Town Justice and one does not need to be an attorney to do so. He feels it is time for the taxpayer to be considered.

Christine DerOhannesian stated when the last public informational session was held regarding the pool improvements the Board said they would be proposing a variety of options to the public and she asked when that will be made available. Supervisor Palermo stated Councilwoman Hernandez is working on it and the Board will present at least three options to be considered at the next public informational meeting, which has not been scheduled yet. Mrs. DerOhannesian then asked when the plans are proposed will there be public vote on the options. Supervisor Palermo stated tonight the Board will be dismissing the \$3.5 million bond resolution previously adopted and there will be public voting on the options. Mrs. DerOhannesian asked if it would be at the General Election and Supervisor Palermo stated no but it will be mandatory referendum which will be held no sooner than 60 days nor later than 75 days after the Board adopts the bond resolution. Mr. DerOhannesian asked if a petition was submitted requiring a vote on the previously adopted bond resolution. Supervisor Palermo stated one was received by the Town Clerk but since the Board is repealing the bond resolution tonight no election will need to be held. The new election after a decision is finalized will be to improve the bond and then options thereafter. Councilman Hunter stated the Board is willing to have as many meetings as needed until the public is satisfied.

Thomas Burke thanked the Board for all of their time and effort with regards to the pool renovations. He feels it is disappointing that it has stopped due to the petition that was circulated. He is aware the Chairman of the Parks Commission was one of the people walking the petition. He feels this is terrible and suggested the Board look into that. He then noted over ten years ago, when his father was town supervisor, the Town was going through a similar experience with the pool due a tragedy and there was no pool that year while renovations were done. At that time a petition was also circulated requiring an election and it was overwhelmingly approved by the community. He believes the

community as a whole wants Woodbury to have two recreational facilities and he feels it is horrendous that this has become such an issue.

Chris Graziano stated he has agreed all along that something needs to be done with the pool due to the leaking. He also believes that everyone should have a choice. He thanked the Board for taking action this evening that will make it an opportunity and for doing the right thing.

Maria Hunter thanked the Board and the community for speaking up regardless of opinions relating to the pool renovations. She feels the community deserves two facilities and that the reservoir is underutilized. She asked if the funding is not in place does that mean only the reservoir will be used in 2020. Supervisor Palermo stated the pool is losing too much water (90gpm) and it would be too expensive to repair it. The Mayor has spoken to him about water loss concern. If the renovations cannot be done for the season then that will be what needs to happen. The Board will take its time and do what needs to be done in order for it to be done correctly. He has met with the Buildings/Grounds Department and Director Gianzero about lowering the water level at the reservoir so dredging can be done to help expand the swimming area in anticipation of only having one facility next year. Mrs. Hunter stated she hopes by enlarging the reservoir the employees that are usually hired to work at the pool can still be employed.

II. Administrative Business:

a. Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion was offered by Councilman Hunter, seconded by Councilman Essig, to accept receipt of the minutes of the meeting held October 3, 2019.

ADOPTED AYES 3 Palermo, Essig, Hunter
 NOES 0

b. Approval of Abstract:

Motion was offered by Supervisor Palermo, seconded by Councilman Essig, to approve Abstract 20 containing vouchers 20191726 - 20191799 and totaling \$213,901.97.

ADOPTED AYES 3 Palermo, Essig, Hunter
 NOES 0

c. Budget Modification(s):

Motion was offered by Supervisor Palermo, seconded by Councilman Hunter, to approve the following modifications to the 2019 budget:

- Police - increasing B3120.202 (Equipment, Other) by \$31,708 and decreasing B9060.800 (Health Insurance) by \$31,708;
- Woodbury Common BID - increasing SMB3120.100 (Police Personal Service) by \$20,000, SMB3120.200 (Equipment) by \$50,000, SMB599 (Appropriated Fund Balance) by \$70,000;
- Parks - increasing A7110.419 (Water Bills) by \$2500, A7110.433 (Ticket Issue) by \$600 and decreasing A7110.463 (Chemicals) by \$3100.

ADOPTED AYES 3 Palermo, Essig, Hunter
 NOES 0

III. New Business:

Review and Accept Non-Disclosure Agreement with Central Hudson:

The current agreement from 2014 expires October 2019. This agreement is required by Central Hudson so that they may share gas safety, emergency preparedness, customer choice aggregation, REV

and REG 16NYCRR part 6-2. Attorney McKay stated he reached out to Central Hudson about some wording he would like changed/added but has not heard back from them. He feels the Board can authorize the signing of the document and his preference would be the version with his requested changes. If Central Hudson does not agree to the changes then he is also okay with the Supervisor signing the document as is. Motion was offered by Supervisor Palermo, seconded by Councilman Hunter, to authorize the Supervisor to sign the "Confidentiality and Nondisclosure Agreement" with Central Hudson which will expire October 2024, with approval from counsel.

ADOPTED AYES 3 Palermo, Essig, Hunter
NOES 0

EXTRA ITEM - Rescind \$3.5 Million Bond Resolution - John P Burke Pool Improvements:

Motion was offered by Councilman Hunter, seconded by Supervisor Palermo, to adopt the following resolution rescinding the bond resolution adopted on September 19, 2019, which authorized the issuance of bonds for the construction of a new town pool, including demolition of the existing pool:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Woodbury, in the County of Orange, New York (the "Town"), has heretofore adopted a bond resolution on September 19, 2019, authorizing the issuance of bonds to finance the construction of a new Town pool, including demolition of the existing pool; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that it shall rescind said bond resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF WOODBURY, IN THE COUNTY OF ORANGE, NEW YORK, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The bond resolution of the Town of Woodbury, New York, adopted on September 19, 2019 entitled: "Bond Resolution of the Town of Woodbury, New York, adopted September 19, 2019, authorizing the construction of a new Town pool, including demolition of the existing pool, stating the estimated maximum cost thereof is \$3,500,000, appropriating said amount for such purpose, and authorizing the issuance of bonds in the principal amount of \$3,500,000 to finance said appropriation," is hereby rescinded, no indebtedness having been heretofore issued pursuant to any of said bond resolution.

Section 2. The Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to take any and all actions necessary to amend the Town's records, as and where necessary, to reflect the rescission of the resolution referred to herein.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

ADOPTED AYES 3 Palermo, Essig, Hunter
NOES 0

IV. Department Reports:

a) Supervisor's Report - September 2019

Motion was offered by Councilman Essig, seconded by Councilman Hunter, to approve the September 2019 Supervisor's report with receipts totaling \$251,061.28 and disbursements totaling \$921,286.65.

ADOPTED AYES 3 Palermo, Essig, Hunter
NOES 0

b) Town Clerks Report - September 2019

c) Building & Grounds - September 2019

d) ACO Report - September 2019

e) Police/Communications Report - September 2019

f) Beautification Committee - No October meeting held

g) Library - September 24, 2019

h) Parks & Recreation - September 17, 2019

i) Budget vs. Actual - September 2019

V. Board Meeting Comments:

Councilman Hunter commended the Buildings/Grounds Department on the creative way they came up with to save money. They sold some excess equipment at auction and then used the proceeds to purchase a lift for their repair shop. This will save the Town money as it will enable more vehicle maintenance and small repairs to be done in house. He then noted there is a way to consolidate the Town and Village into one government body. He feels both entities need to come together and create a plan so there is one board, one building which will end all the confusion. He challenged those that are running for election to get this done adding he and Councilwoman Hernandez are on board to do it.

Councilman Essig commended Councilman Hunter on his comments.

Director Gianzero announced some upcoming events at the parks and in the community.

Supervisor Palermo also announced some upcoming events in the community. He then stated at the next meeting the budget will be presented for public comment. He is very proud to say that the taxes will be going down again this year while services have increased. Most departments have been given more hours/staff to better serve the community. He noted all repairs to all buildings is paid within the General (A) Fund and that tax levy has increased so that the parking lot at the Police Station can be resurfaced and regraded due to flooding. It also includes a pool bond payment. Without those two items the tax levy would have decreased. He then mentioned each department of each fund and highlighted some aspects within their budgets that are for specific items or personnel. He stressed the Board wants to be sure the public understands that it works very hard to keep the taxes down while not affecting the services that are provided. Regarding the pool renovations the Board has heard the comments of the public and most were about the size of the pool. He feels the pool is probably one of the biggest public pools in the state and he firmly believes the plan that the Board put forth was the best. A new plan will be proposed, public meetings held and comment will be solicited. He noted the Board will proceed with or without a pool for 2020 and the Town will survive either way.

VI. Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss or comments received, a motion was offered by Councilman Essig, seconded by Councilman Hunter, to adjourn the meeting at 8:20PM.

ADOPTED AYES 3 Palermo, Essig, Hunter
 NOES 0

Desiree Potvin, Town Clerk