

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held at Town Hall on November 19, 2015 at 7:30PM

Present: Ralph Caruso, Supervisor
Timothy Arone, Robert Hunter, Frank Palermo and Marilyn Prestia, Councilpersons
Absent: None
Also Present: Joseph McKay, Attorney for the Town; Robert Weyant, Highway Superintendent; Carol Herb, Tax Collector; David Sutz, Supervisor-Elect; Michael Essig, Councilman-Elect; Arthur Abbott, Police Lieutenant; Maria Hunter, Village Planning Board

I. Administrative Business:

a. Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion was offered by Councilman Arone, seconded by Councilwoman Prestia, to accept the minutes of the regular meeting held November 5, 2015.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Caruso, Arone, Hunter, Palermo, Prestia
NOES 0

Motion was then offered by Councilman Arone, seconded by Councilman Hunter, to accept the minutes of the preliminary meeting held November 16, 2015.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Caruso, Arone, Hunter, Prestia
ABSTAIN 1 Palermo

Councilman Palermo stated he is abstaining because he was not at the meeting.

b. Approval of Budget Modification:

Motion was offered by Councilman Arone, seconded by Councilwoman Prestia, to approve a modification to the budget of the Animal Control by increasing A2706 (Animal Control Donations) by \$1422, decreasing A3510.453 (Gas/Oil/Repairs) by \$578 and increasing A3510.430 (TARA) by \$2000.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Caruso, Arone, Hunter, Palermo, Prestia
NOES 0

c. Approval of Abstract:

Motion was offered by Councilman Hunter, seconded by Councilwoman Prestia, to approve Abstract 21 containing vouchers 20152618 – 20152746 and totaling \$452,956.38.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Caruso, Arone, Hunter, Palermo, Prestia
NOES 0

II. Old Business:

a. Adoption of FY2016 Budget:

Budget Officer Pitt prepared a document informing the Board and public of amendments that have been made to the budget was proposed at the November 5 public hearing and after discussions held at the November 16 preliminary meeting. They are as follows: A962 (Budgetary Provisions) has been decreased \$193,000 and A9950.900 (Transfer to Capital Projects) has been increased \$193,000; L9060.800 (Hospitalization) has been decreased \$2000 and L7410.428 (Children Programs) has been increased \$1000 and L7410.429 (Special Programs) by been increased \$2000. Motion was then offered by Councilman Hunter, seconded by Councilman Arone, to adopt the Fiscal Year 2016 budget as printed in the front of the 2016 minute book.

ADOPTED BY ROLL CALL AS FOLLOWS:

Supervisor Caruso AYES
Councilman Arone AYES

Councilman Hunter AYES
Councilman Palermo AYES
Councilwoman Prestia AYES

III. New Business:

a. Discussion – Tax Certiorari:

Motion was offered by Councilman Hunter, seconded by Councilman Arone, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, several tax certiorari actions have been filed against the Town in 2015; and

WHEREAS, several other tax certiorari cases previously filed against the Town have been pending for four years or more; and

WHEREAS, the Town’s attorneys have advised the Town Board that it would be in the best interests of the Town and its residents to file motions to dismiss several tax certiorari petitions;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town Board of the Town of Woodbury hereby authorizes the Town Attorneys to file motions to dismiss tax certiorari actions commenced by 12 Commerce Drive Associates; Gasho; 2 Commerce Drive Associates; Research Center on Natural Conservation; Timber Trail LLC; ELT Harriman; Greens at 32; Estate at Woodbury Willow; CSL Properties III, LLC; Harriman Commons, LLC, and Central Woodbury Country.”

ADOPTED AYES 5 Caruso, Arone, Hunter, Palermo, Prestia
 NOES 0

IV. Department Reports:

a. Supervisor’s Report:

Motion was offered by Councilman Arone, seconded by Councilwoman Prestia, to approve the October 2015 Supervisor’s Report with receipts totaling \$536,957.94 and disbursements totaling \$1,541,851.67.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Caruso, Arone, Hunter, Palermo, Prestia
 NOES 0

- b. Town Clerk’s Report – October 2015
- c. Parks/Recreation Minutes – September 14, 2015
- d. Animal/Goose Control Report – October 2015
- e. Police/Communications Report – October 2015
- f. Beautification Commission Minutes – November 12, 2015
- g. Library Minutes – September 29 and October 27, 2015
- h. Budget vs. Actual – October 2015

V. Board Member Comments:

The Board collectively wished all a Happy Thanksgiving. Councilwoman Prestia noted the Women of Woodbury will be holding their annual scholarship fundraiser, a craft show, at the Senior Center on November 28. She also noted that at the recent Historical Society Meeting Highland Mills Fire Captain Christopher Burke gave a presentation about the history of the Highland Mills Fire Department. Supervisor Caruso stated that there will be construction on the NYS Thruway I-87 for the Pilgrim Pipeline, which will carry oil from New Jersey to Albany.

VI. Public Comment:

Robin Crouse asked for further clarification on the amendments to the budget presented this evening and she was provided one. She then stated she obtained copies of the invoices submitted by Fusco Engineering relating to the proposed new Town Hall Supervisor Caruso spoke about at the last meeting. She asked who authorized this expenditure and Supervisor Caruso stated he did as

Department Head after he was requested by the Board to investigate possible sites for a new building. He further noted the procurement policy allows him to spend up to \$5000. Mrs. Crouse then stated there were two meetings held at the Senior Center hosted by Supervisor Caruso that were not relating to Town business. At these meetings Attorney McKay and his associates were in attendance and she asked when the Board approved this expense. Supervisor Caruso stated he approved it as Department Head, adding that the procurement policy permits him to spend up to \$5000. Mrs. Crouse stated she does not feel that it was appropriate for the Town to host these meetings as it is not Town related and there is nothing the Town can do regarding the sensitive issue. She further stated she objects to tax dollars being spent on such a matter and that there are more important issues the money should be spent on.

VII. Adjournment:

With no further comments received or business to discuss, a motion was offered by Councilman Arone, seconded by Councilwoman Prestia, to adjourn the meeting at 7:50PM.

ADOPTED	AYES	5	Caruso, Arone, Hunter, Palermo, Prestia
	NOES	0	

Desiree Potvin, Town Clerk