

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held at Town Hall on April 16, 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; Maria Hunter, Village Planning Board; Sandra Capriglione, Village Zoning Board

### I. Public Hearing:

#### a. OC Community Development Grant FY2016:

A public hearing was held to entertain suggestions for projects to be applied for funding through the FY2016 Orange County Community Development grant program. The public notice was printed in the Times Herald Record on April 9, 2015 and the following comments were received:

Maria Hunter suggested roof repairs to any municipal buildings as needed, especially the Police Station. She also suggested that both entrances to Town Hall be attended too, noting the deplorable state of the steps in the front and disabled access ramp in the back. The rear entrance door is also rusted and rotted and should be replaced. She also suggested that Smith Clove Road, from Route 32 to the train trestle, have a revitalization plan created.

Councilman Hunter and Councilwoman Prestia suggested demolition work on the recently acquired Town property located by Gasho.

Councilman Arone suggested renovations to the soon to be acquired police tactical vehicle.

Supervisor Caruso noted the old cemetery located behind the Highland Mills Methodist church is in very bad shape. He suggested the gravestones be repaired and perhaps fencing installed. A discussion was then held questioning the ownership of the cemetery and whether the Town should be maintaining the property that may not be ours to do so. Supervisor Caruso stated he is researching the issue with the Historical Society.

Clerk Potvin suggested a municipal center be explored.

With no further project suggestions made, a motion was offered by Councilman Arone, seconded by Councilman Hunter, to close the public hearing.

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

Supervisor Caruso stated the projects suggested this evening will be forwarded to the Town Engineer for review with the County to see if any will qualify for funding.

### II. Administrative Business:

#### a. Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion was offered by Councilman Arone, seconded by Councilman Hunter, to accept the minutes of the regular meeting held April 2, 2015.

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

Motion was then offered by Councilwoman Prestia, seconded by Councilman Arone, to accept the minutes of the preliminary board meeting held April 13, 2015.

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

#### b. Budget Modification:

Motion was offered by Councilman Arone, seconded by Councilman Hunter, to approve a modification to the 2014 budget of the Beautification Commission by decreasing A9950.900 (Interfund

Transfer) by \$5000 and increasing A8510.445 (Beautification Lease) by \$5000. This modification is being done in accordance with the State Comptrollers reporting requirements and is for the funds that were contributed to the John P Burke Memorial Fund.

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

c. Approval of Abstract:

Motion was offered by Councilman Arone, seconded by Councilman Palermo, to approve Abstract 7 containing vouchers 20150799 – 20150945 totaling \$402,766.77.

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

d. Acceptance of Resignation – Assessor Clerk:

Motion was offered by Councilman Hunter, seconded by Councilwoman Prestia, to accept the resignation of Karen Raiti from the position of full-time Assessor’s Clerk effective April 29, 2015. Mrs. Raiti has held this position since April 23, 2012.

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

Supervisor Caruso noted that Mrs. Raiti has done a fine job while employed. Councilwoman Prestia thanked her for the time she worked for the Town.

e. Advertise for Vacancies – Library Board:

Motion was offered by Councilman Arone, seconded by Councilman Hunter, to authorize the Town Clerk to advertise for letters of interest for individuals to volunteer to serve on the Library Board. Letters of interest will be accepted until 4PM on May 15, 2015.

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

**III. Old Business:**

a. Schedule Public Hearing – Amendment to Beautification Commission Law:

This item was tabled to a future meeting.

**IV. New Business:**

a. Recognition of Name Change – CV Pool to John P Burke Memorial Pool:

Supervisor Caruso acknowledged that the Parks and Recreation Commission has official renamed the Central Valley Pool to now be known as the John P. Burke Memorial Pool.

**V. Department Reports:**

a. Supervisor’s Report – March 2015

Motion was offered by Councilman Arone, seconded by Councilwoman Prestia, to approve the March 2015 Supervisor’s Report with receipts totaling \$111,391.88 and disbursements totaling \$1,451,846.57.

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

b. Town Clerk’s Report – March 2015

c. Parks/Recreation Minutes – None Received

d. Animal/Goose Control Report – March 2015

e. Police/Communications Report – March 2015

f. Beautification Commission Minutes – April 9, 2015

- g. Library Minutes – None Received
- h. Budget vs. Actual – March 2015

**VI. Board Member Comments/Announcements:**

Councilwoman Prestia stated she attended the Community Connection and Business Expo this past weekend and it was absolutely wonderful. She thanked all the employees that were there to meet the community and all the organizations that participated.

Supervisor Caruso stated he received a letter from Boy Scout Troop 4 regarding an individual that will be obtaining his Eagle Scout badge in late May. A proclamation will be on the agenda for the next meeting. He also received an email from Girl Scout Troop 389 stating that they will be working on their bronze award and their project is making bean bag toss games for the Parks Department. They would like to come before the Board to explain their project. He also received a letter from the Cornwall Police Department complementing our Police Department, in particular Officers Burbage, Danielson, Farrell and Rudden, Detective Bauer and Lieutenant Abbott, for their assistance during an incident that occurred in Cornwall on April 1, 2015. Correspondence has also been received from Engineer Fusco stating that he has been able to reduce the project cost for the work on the Cornell Library by \$10,000. He then announced that the annual Memorial Day Parade is scheduled for May 24 and will begin at 1PM.

**VII. Public Comment:**

Clerk Potvin announced that a free rabies clinic has been planned for May 17 at the Highway Garage, 9AM – Noon. The John P Burke Memorial Committee has scheduled the unveiling of the memorial that is planned for former Supervisor John Burke. The event will take place at the John Burke Memorial Pool on June 13 (raindate June 14) at 11AM.

Superintendent Weyant announced that the semi-annual Electronics Pick-Up event has been scheduled for May 2, 8AM – 1PM, at the Highway Garage.

**VIII. Adjournment:**

With no further business to discuss or comments received, a motion was offered by Councilman Arone, seconded by Councilman Hunter, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55PM.

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

Desiree Potvin, Town Clerk

*After adjournment the Board entered into a closed session with Attorney McKay and Clerk Potvin. No minutes of the closed session were recorded.*