

TOWN BOARD
SEPTEMBER 23, 2009

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem was held on the above date at the Town Hall, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY. The meeting was called to order by the Supervisor at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: John H. Cunningham, Supervisor
Samuel Messina, Councilman
Kyle Kotary, Councilman
Joann V. Dawson, Councilman
Mark Hennessey, Councilman
Kathleen A. Newkirk, Town Clerk
James T. Potter, Esq., Town Attorney

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Supervisor Cunningham welcomed everyone to a regular meeting of the Bethlehem Town Board and asked them to join in the pledge of allegiance.

The Supervisor asked if there were any comments on agenda items. There were none.

The first item was a presentation by the Commissioner of Public Works regarding the temporary shutdown of a section of New Salem Water Treatment Plant due to maintenance of underground lines and repair of clarifiers Number 3 and 4. Commissioner Cansler exhibited pictures showing the conditions in need of repair and renovations that are needed. He explained the workings of the plant and noted the need to close down a portion of the plant for renovation.

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The next item was the presentation of the 2010 Town of Bethlehem budget to the Town Clerk. Supervisor Cunningham gave an executive summary of the proposed budget including expenditures to be spread over longer periods of time. He also noted the Federal Government has come up with some programs the Town will be able to take advantage of. Following, Comptroller Traylor gave an overview of the budget, figures and details. Comptroller Traylor noted the proposed budget is available on the website, as well as, other financial information about the Town. Copies of the proposed budget are available for review in the Town Clerk's office, the Bethlehem Library and the Ravena-Coeymans Library and Guilderland Library. Supervisor Cunningham noted there will be another overview of the budget at the public hearing to address all the issues.

Comments were made including thanks to the Department Heads and employees. He also questioned the reserves and how that leaves the Town with this proposed budget. Comptroller Traylor said in the budget binder there is a spread sheet and the expected balance as of December 31, 2009. She said it is at 19 percent in the General Fund and that is a good level. She noted about 15 percent is kept in the bank for cash flow. She said in the other funds she believes the Town is in the 10 to 20 percent range.

Mention was also made about funding options for capital projects. Planning for long term projects was also mentioned. Comptroller Traylor said the Town has been advised by Bond Counsel that the Town has very little debt but there is infrastructure that needs attention. She said the financial advisors have advised looking at funding the useful life items.

The following item was a request from Comptroller Traylor to set a public hearing on October 28, 2009 at 6 p.m. to solicit public comment on the 2010 Town of Bethlehem budget.

The motion was made by Mr. Messina and seconded by Mrs. Dawson to approve setting the public hearing for October 28, 2009 at 6 p.m. to solicit public comment on the 2010 Town of Bethlehem Proposed Budget. The motion was

passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Messina, Mr. Kotary, Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Hennessey.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

The next item was a request from Deputy Commissioner of Public Works, Erik Deyoe, to award a contract to Callanan Industries, Inc., for the Elsmere Avenue and Feura Bush Road sidewalk project for their total unit price bid amount of \$58,360 subject to NYSDOT concurrence and authorize the Supervisor to execute the contract on behalf of the Town. Supervisor Cunningham explained the Town Highway Department is doing a portion of the work and this contract is for the concrete work.

The motion was made by Mr. Kotary and seconded by Mr. Hennessey to approve the award of a contract to Callanan Industries, Inc., for the Elsmere Avenue and Feura Bush Road sidewalk project for their total unit price bid amount of \$58,360 subject to NYSDOT concurrence and authorize the Supervisor to execute the contract on behalf of the Town as requested by Deputy Commissioner, Erik Deyoe. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Messina, Mr. Kotary, Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Hennessey.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

The following item was a request from Erik Deyoe, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works, to accept maps and deeds for the conveyance of a drainage easement and sanitary sewer easement within Section 2B of the Dowerskill Village PRD No. 4, Phase II.

The motion was made by Mr. Kotary and seconded by Mrs. Dawson to approve the request from Erik Deyoe, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works, to accept maps and deeds for the conveyance of a drainage easement and sanitary sewer easement within Section 2B of the Dowerskill Village PRD No. 4, Phase II. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Messina, Mr. Kotary, Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Hennessey.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

The next item was a request from Deputy Commissioner of Public Works, Erik Deyoe, to accept maps and deeds for the conveyance of a drainage easement at 10 Northwood Court.

The motion was made by Mr. Hennessey and seconded by Mr. Kotary to approve the acceptance of maps and deeds for the conveyance of a drainage easement at 10 Northwood Court as requested by Erik Deyoe, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Messina, Mr. Kotary, Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Hennessey.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

The next item was a request from Jason Gallo, Assistant Administrator of Parks and Recreation Department to accept a donation from Bethlehem Opportunities Unlimited.

The motion was made by Mr. Messina and seconded by Mrs. Dawson to accept the donation of \$250 from Bethlehem Opportunities Unlimited as requested

by Assistant Administrator, Jason Gallo, Parks and Recreation Department. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Messina, Mr. Kotary, Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Hennessey.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

The following item was a request from Nan Lanahan, Administrator of Parks and Recreation Department of approval of seasonal personnel.

The motion was made by Mrs. Dawson and seconded by Mr. Kotary to approve the appointment of seasonal personnel at the titles and salaries listed on the Memorandum dated September 23, 2009 as requested by Administrator, Nan Lanahan, Administrator, Parks and Recreation Department. The motion was carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Messina, Mr. Kotary, Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Hennessey.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

Supervisor Cunningham asked if there was any new business from the Town Board. Councilman Kotary indicated there was a letter dated September 14, 2009 from NYS Department of Environmental Conservation congratulating the Town of Bethlehem on adopting the Climate Smart Community Pledge. He said he thought this was great recognition and wanted to share it with the community from the Governor and Commissioner Grannis.

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Supervisor Cunningham made the following announcements:

- Emergency Preparedness meeting was held the evening before and it was a good meeting and well attended. Anyone wishing may contact the Bethlehem Emergency Management Office for information on how to be prepared. Mention was made of the companies who helped fund the meeting - Sabic Innovative Plastics, Price Chopper, Hannaford stored, Walmart and Boy Scout 58.
- In the back corner of the auditorium there was information on emergency preparedness if anyone wished to take information home.
- Friday and Saturday, September 25 and 26, is an electronic recycling day at the Town Highway garage from 9 to 3 on Friday and Saturday from 8 to 12 noon.
- October 5 and 6, the Court office will be closed due to training of staff.
- October 12, 2009 Town offices will be closed in observance of Columbus Day.
- Last community clean-up day is October 17, 2009 and have some pancakes from Delmar Kiwanis Club is offering free breakfast for anybody who wants to participate in the Town clean-up day. Pancakes at 8 and clean-up at 9. The pancakes will be served at the Presbyterian Church across from the old Jay's Mobil, Delaware Avenue.
- Meeting on September 29, 2009 at 7 p.m. at the A.W. Becker school regarding Selkirk Sewer District extension. Interest has been expressed to have installation of a sewer system.
- Bethlehem Grange will start their Saturday dinners starting October 3rd. Dinners are cooked by the Job Corps and are very good.
- Saturday, October 10, 2009 beginning at 10 a.m. is the Jonathan Carey walk at the Town Park, 3rd annual.
- Saturday, September 26, 2009 at Five Rivers is the Annual Fall Festival.
- Mention was made of the first Senior Golf outing and thanks to Nan Lanahan, Karen Pellettier. Profits will go to the senior transportation and programs by Senior Projects, Inc.
- October 3, 2009 Youth Golf Tournament to be held at the Colonial Acres Golf Course, youth in grades 4 through 12, information on the Town's

website.

Supervisor Cunningham next asked for a moment of silence in remembrance for Town employee, Linda Blattner, who passed away suddenly. He thanked everyone.

Supervisor Cunningham asked if there was any public comment on non-agenda items. Officer Chris Hughes presented a letter written to clear-up some confusion for Town residents. He is a police officer for 13 years and has been trained and highly commended and well decorated officer. He read the letter for everyone's information. Town Attorney Potter offered clarification of a couple things mentioned by Officer Hughes. Officer Hughes reiterated a couple items.

The Supervisor asked for a motion to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter and legal matter.

The motion was made by Mr. Hennessey and seconded by Mr. Kotary to approve adjourning to Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter and legal matter. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Messina, Mr. Kotary, Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Hennessey.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

The motion was made by Mr. Kotary and seconded by Mrs. Dawson to adjourn the regular Town Board meeting at 7:15 p.m. The motion was carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Messina, Mr. Kotary, Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Hennessey.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

Town Clerk

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The motion was made by Mr. Messina and seconded by Mrs. Dawson to approve the settlement with Verizon of New York, Inc. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Messina, Mr. Kotary, Mrs. Dawson.

Noes: Mr. Hennessey.

Absent: None.