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From: "Lynne Eckardt" <midfarm@bestweb.net>
Date: Fri Oct 29, 2004 6:31 pm
Subject: SE Town Board Recap 10/29/04

Hi All,

Below please find my recap of the Town Board Regular meeting held last night. I am editing to what I feel might be of interest to CRSE readers. Of course, you can catch all the action on Channel 8- a sure fire antidote to insomnia. Although the meeting was mercifully short as most Regular Meetings are.

As always the comments that follow are strictly my own utterly biased and uncalled for observations. In theory, the official minutes will be available on November 11th.

REGULAR MEETING:

4. Motion setting Meeting Dates:

November 4th: 7:30 Civic Center
November 10th (Wednesday): 7:30 Lakeview Manor
November 18th 7:30 Civic Center

5. Motion Setting the Following Public Hearings:

November 4: 7:30 Civic Center Town of Southeast Budget
November 10: 7:30 Lakeview Manor Historic Sites

6. Motion- Authorizing Donation to Southeast Honor Roll Fund Drive

The Board voted 5-0 to donate \$5000 to the Honor Roll Project. It was also mentioned that Al Bergman of Supervisor Lifestyles was contributing an additional \$5000.

8. Resolution- "Right Turn Only" Sodom/ Old Milltown Road- Local Law.

The Board voted 5-0 in favor of this resolution.

10. Motion- Adoption of Rules and Regulations for the Town of Southeast Open Space Committee:

This will be a 7 member Board with one year terms. There will be a scoring system for land acquisition. All open space will be inventoried. Passed by the Board by a vote of 5-0.

11. Motion- Appointment of Open Space Committee:

Thirteen people were interviewed and the following resident appointed to the Board:

Mildred Nugent Cherie Ingraham
Don Burrows David Bruen- Chair
Carrie Cunningham Ann Fanizzi
Angelo Matras

13. Motion Authorizing Highway Superintendent to Purchase new Plow Truck Per Bid

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Passed by a vote of 5-0.

COMMENTS:

6. Honor Roll:

It was great to see the Board donate \$5000 to this worthy project. It will begin a badly needed aesthetic revitalization of the downtown area. Hopefully it will be yet another good reason for the Town Offices to remain in the village. Hey, and the strikingly designed Honor Roll would make a nice 'pocket park' for a newly constructed Town Hall.

8. Right Turn Only Sodom Road/Old Milltown Road:

As I've said before even 'Cats' had to close so I'm hoping against hope that we won't see this goody back on the agenda in my lifetime. Oh yeah... but then if they widen Route 22 does this rear its ugly little head yet again?

10. Adoption of Rules and Regulations for the Town of Southeast Open Space Committee:

While the Town Board takes great pride in announcing that all items on the agenda have been discussed in public- well, not so on this piece of legislation. And it might have been nice and instructive for residents to have had some input on this. Fresh ideas and all that.

11. Open Space Appointments:

In the spirit of true bitterness, here's where I have to disclose that I did submit a resume and letter of intent to be considered for this Board. Not only did I not make the new Committee but tragically finished in under the 50th percentile. 13 interviewed with seven making the cut. I suppose it serves me right for all my caustic, callous, jaded and sarcastic remarks over the last several years. Hey, maybe sarcasm immediately disqualified an applicant- there was after all a new 'ratings' system. I had hoped I was qualified to hold this position- well, hope springs eternal.

Seriously, I'm thrilled Cherie Ingraham made this Board. She's well qualified and is one of the nicest people I know. Mazel Tov. And to the rest of the chosen few (maybe not so chosen since only a lucky 13 applied) Congratulations. I know all of us in CRSE look forward to great things from all of you.

One quick afterthought. When I interviewed for this Board I was told that this Committee would not be 'Political' but check this out. There will be a Town Board Liaison. It will be either Dick Honeck or Paul Johnson and completely coincidentally guess who's up for re-election next year. Excellent, you still with me, because I'm making a prediction. Mr. Honeck will rise to this exalted position. You see Mr. Johnson already has the Tonetta Lake Advisory Board under his 'Liaison Belt'. So if this doesn't convince you of their love of Southeast's environment- well, then you're just not paying attention.

Several questions were asked. I asked if there had been any other meetings on the budget aside from one held on October 21st. There were no other meetings held (with a quorum).

It was asked if New Business could be discussed at the end of each Work Session as is done in other towns. The Board said that they'd consider it.

Also asked was if the Board would specify by case name when adjourning to Executive Session. Town Attorney, and Assemblyman Stephens said that the town could so specify when litigation was pending against the town. Supervisor Dunford said that, on occasion, they might consider letting members of the public sit in. This is an excellent suggestion that would shed more light on how local government works. Kudos to the Supervisor if this ever comes to pass.

Finally, Brewster's illustrious Mayor, and king of the non sequitor, Cesar seemed to speak about how Route 22 should be widened and that rather than 'Save Open Space' we should 'Save the People'. Huh? I say 'seemed' because I honestly have no idea what he was railing on about. Yeah, better to follow the now hackneyed adage and note to self: never, ever get in between the Mayor and a camera. Now there's a treacherous position.

That's it from here. Have a wonderful weekend and please don't hesitate to e-mail should you have any questions.

With Best Regards,
Lynne Eckardt

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