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From: "Lynne Eckardt" <midfarm@bestweb.net>
Date: Fri Nov 18, 2005 2:25 pm
Subject: SE Town Board Regular Meeting Recap 11/18/05

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Hi CRSE-

As has become my custom I've eliminated my comments from this post. If you'd like them simply e-mail me and I'll send them along-

Best,
Lynne

Hi All,

Last night I attended a Regular Meeting of the Town Board. It was a doozy. As fast and well scripted as always with a few twists thrown in- especially under New Business.

This recap is much, much, much too long so if you're pressed for time I'd head directly to Items 15 through New Business. If I had to pick a favorite I'd go with the 'Consultant' hired to tell us we need to move the Town Offices out of the village to Tilly Foster. Gosh, did I just ruin the surprise? Sorry- check it out.

I also adored the Budget Presentation. You know I can never seem to resist when town just may have skirted the law. I only regret that we didn't Article 78 this.

The Sheriff's patrol is another gem. Just the fact that Southeast didn't have a separate dedicated patrol car until it was reported on Brewster10509 and PlanPutnam is classic. In the latest spin we're told that this was due to 'staffing problems'.

As always the snippy, sarcastic comments are mine alone- who else would want them. They're based on over 3 years of continuous meeting attendance. Why I haven't hung myself is beyond me... And please- don't start sending me rope.

Regular Meeting:

1. Review of Minutes- October 27, 2005 Regular Meeting
November 10, 2005 Special Meeting

Deferred

2. Correspondence

Readings waived

3. Approval of Voucher List in the Amount of: \$683,993.75

Approved 5-0

4. Motion approving the attached Budget Transfers

Copy at Town Hall- Approved 5-0

5. Motion setting Meeting Dates: 5-0

December 1, 2005	7:30 Civic Center	Work Session
December 8, 2005	7:30 Civic Center	Work Session
December 22, 2005	7:30 Civic Center	Regular Meeting

6. Resolution- Release of Performance Bond- Picarella Storage

From \$47,000 to 0. Approved 5-0

7. Resolution- Special Permit- Fox Lane Boatworks

Approved 5-0

8. Motion- Adopting Negative Declaration- Rental Registration Local Law for the Purpose of SEQRA

Passed 5-0

9. Resolution- Rental Registration Local Law

Approved 5-0

Councilman Honeck said that although not a 'perfect world' this law would help curb illegal and overcrowded apartments.

10. Motion- Adoption of 2006 Town of Southeast Budget

Passed 5-0

Supervisor Dunford mentioned that the Board had 'added a few things' so there would be a 1% increase. A full time zoning officer was added.

11. Resolution- Wetland Ordinance Violation per Local Law 9/2003 78-3.B (1,2,4 & 8)

A lot near the Red Rooster was cleared, graded and seeded within the wetlands. A fine of \$250 was leveled.

12. Resolution- Landfill Closure Assistance Application

Approved 5-0

13. Resolution- Campus at Fields Corners- Sewer Works Corporation

Approved 5-0

14. Resolution- Campus at Fields Corner- Water Works Corporation

Approved 5-0

15. Resolution- Authorizing Supervisor to retain Professional Consulting Services for Analysis of Current and Future Needs for Municipal Office Space.

Supervisor Dunford mentioned how badly court facilities were needed he then turned the meeting over to Judge Borkowski.

Judge Borkowski spoke about the need for new Court space due to the 'explosive growth' in Southeast. The case load has doubled from 4000 to 8000. There's not enough parking and sometimes those in court to fight a parking ticket actually get a \$75 ticket from the village. Judge Vercellone reiterated stating that they had been in the same facility (Civic Center) since 1986.

Motion carried 5-0

16. Motion- Appointment of Zoning Board of Appeals Member

Paul Vink was appointed. Supervisor Dunford said that there had been four interviews for the position (it had been advertised) and the choice had been difficult. He continued that last time there was a Board vacancy only one person had applied.

5-0

17. Motion Authorizing Supervisor to Sign Amended Sheriff's Contract

Supervisor Dunford said that there were no major changes made. Councilwoman Mitts said that there would be no increase of funding- \$60,000. Passed 5-0.

New Business:

The Meadows:

Ricky Feuerman spoke about the County permitting of pipes crossing Deans Corner Road ('The Meadows') and how upsetting this was. Although realizing that this was a County decision Mr. Feuerman feels that no work should be allowed on the property until the Appellate Court decides on the two 'Meadows' cases now before them.

Supervisor Dunford said that the Board would take it under advisement and get back to Mr. Feuerman.

Wetlands:

John Lord asked about the fine levied on the wetlands destruction. Mr. Lord asked how large the area was. Answer: 1/2 acre. Mr. Lord questioned the amount of the fine as being too little to serve as a deterrent. The Board said that this was the maximum they could presently fine. Mr. Lord asked if the site would be remediated. Answer: Yes.

I congratulated Councilmen Honeck and Johnson on their reelection.

ZBA Appointment:

I mentioned that it wasn't true that there had been only one application for the last ZBA position open. Supervisor Dunford said that he had meant the last appointment on any town entity and it had been the Architectural Review Board that had only garnered one application.

Sheriff's Patrol:

I asked about the changes to the Sheriff's Contract. Town Attorney, Willis Stephens said that the only change had to do with governance of the Sheriff's Patrol. I said that although there were now two cars in zone 1 there was originally only one. Supervisor Dunford said that this was due to 'staffing problems'. I asked when this had been resolved and he thought November 7th. I said I thought it was the 8th when the extra car was added.

Budget:

I asked about the Budget being presented publicly by the Town Clerk. Supervisor Dunford said he had an opinion from Town Attorney Stephens and that I could pick it up in his office or he could read it. I said it was fine to paraphrase. The Supervisor read through a budget time-line. I said that I obviously hadn't been clear but I was simply asking if the budget presentation had been done in conformance with the law. I offered to read the law. Mr. Stephens said that he was familiar with the law. And added if I already knew the answer why had I asked the question. I said because the question had never been answered by the town.

It was agreed that the budget had not been presented in conformance with NYS town law. I asked that this be done correctly in the future.

Historic Sites:

I suggested that due to the recent barn demolition on Welfare Road and the County's granting of the road crossing for 'The Meadows' that all historic sites missing from the list be restored as soon as possible. The Board may consider it. I continued that we were specifically concerned about Drewscliff (on 'The Meadows' property) the Supervisor gave his word that the Town would not issue a Demolition Permit on Drewscliff.

He added that the Board had been disturbed by the demolition of the barns on Welfare Road and that they were going to try to enact a new law. This law would ensure that all buildings shown on final site plans have to remain and that any changes would have to go back before the Planning Board.

Consulting Job on Municipal Office Space:

I asked if this would be put out to bid.

Mr. Dunford replied that as it was under \$20,000 it didn't need to be and that services such as this never needed to be. The Supervisor is comfortable using the firm he has been working with.

That's it from here- as always please feel free to e-mail me with any questions or comments that you may have.

With Best Regards,
Lynne Eckardt



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