

Southeast Town Board Work Session Recap 3/6/08

Good Morning All,

Last night's Town Board Work Session had all the usual games being played, though points do go to Dick Honneck for suggesting a new song to be sung at the beginning of the meeting. All Town Board Members were present as was the Town Clerk and Town Counsel.

In the last two months I have been amazed at the behavior of all members of the Town Board at the meetings. After last night's meeting I did some research and discovered why we have such discord on our new Town Board.

We now have a Pisces, Gemini, Leo and Two Capricorns on the board. It's the Year of the Rat and ...well you get my drift. I did read up on Leos and their bad traits include being pompous, patronizing, bossy, interfering, dogmatic and intolerant, which actually might describe the whole board. Well now that I have made five new friends, let me get on with the recap and Mr. Rights please rip up the application I sent you for the vacancy on the Open Space Committee.

As usual the opinions expressed here are just that, 'my opinions' and if I have made any mistakes please email me the corrections.

1. Sheriff's Contract-Sheriff Don Smith-Peter Convery and another member of the Sheriff's Department attended the meeting.

Currently the Town has a contract with the Sheriff's Department, which is due to expire in March. The current contract gives the town coverage

from 8PM-4AM. Mr. Yee asked about the Sheriff's Department doing traffic control on Route 22. Mr. Convery said one

Deputy at one traffic light would not be beneficial; the town would need five Deputies at the five lights located on Route

22. NYDOT had been contacted and had told the Sheriff's Department that the lights are synchronized on Route 22. Mr. Yee

then mentioned that the Sheriff's department could do speed enforcement on Route 22 and someone replied that isn't an issue on that road.

2. Cemetery-Carol Bailey-Carol Bailey and Bob Palmer discussed a cemetery off of Brewster Hill Road which dates back to 1777.

There are four Revolutionary War Veterans buried there. The total number of burials there are 35 and the most recent burial was in

1925. Ms. Bailey would like the cemetery restored and maintained but there is no clear right of way to gain access to the grounds.

3. Production of Minutes-Discussion included statements such as "I won't interrupt you, please don't interrupt me"; "...Witch Hunt";

"I do what most Town Clerks do", etc.

4. Agenda Schedule-It was noted that the agenda available at the meeting last night was not the one posted on the town website

5. **Website/Virtual Town Hall**-Discussion included Mr. Yee wanting an Intention Driven Website. He mentioned that Virtual Town Hall could update the town's site for \$3,000. Mr. Johnson mentioned something about the Town's website being hijacked
6. **Putnam County Press**-Supervisor Rights expressed concern about a "doctored" photo in the Press. Don Hall replied, "What I put in my newspaper is my business and I don't have to explain anything. When are you going to pay me my checks". The Supervisor said he would speak with Mr. Hall after the meeting.
7. **Base Proportions**-Bill Ford discussed three ratios etc., and that the Town Clerk needs to sign it and send to the state. This item will be on the March 13 Agenda.
8. **Brewster/Southeast Proposed IMA-Code Enforcement**-Deferred to March 13
9. **Code Enforcement Enabling Legislation**-Deferred to March 13
10. **Old Town Hall-Status Update**-Agreement with the Village was signed this week to hook up old Town Hall and the Block building in the Gold Lot to the Waste water treatment plant
11. **Contractor's Law**-no discussion
12. **RFP-Bond Counsel**-Three Bond Counsel Firms have contacted the town; One Firm is the existing firm, another firm is the largest bonding firm in the country and the last firm is the third largest bonding firm in the country. Interviews are to be set up.
13. **Video Coverage**-Paul Rotchford, who currently records the town's Regular Town Board Meetings, is enhancing his fees for this year. It was noted that recent town board meetings have become quite long. The town board will get proposals for this service.
14. **ATM Status**-Two additional phone lines are needed for the proposed ATM Machine. It was noted that the Court also needs more phone lines. A discussion ensued as to which company (Verizon or Broadview) is responsible for bringing the phone lines into new Town Hall from the telephone pole. It was noted that Verizon will not let anyone other than a Verizon employee touch their telephone poles.

Extra Agenda Items not on the Agenda: Town of Southeast and Village of Brewster Cleanup Day will be on April 26, 8am-1pm. For More Information email mikefila@yahoo.com or call 279-2141

Springhouse Estates Wells-As I couldn't hear the beginning of this discussion, I am not going to report anything. If you want information on this topic please contact the town.

Town Vehicles-With the exception of the Highway Department, the Supervisor has suggested a Utilization Log being kept by Town Employees who use Town Cars

All Town Board Members agreed with this suggestion.

New Business: Jack Gress asked the town about creating Water Districts for parts of Allview Avenue and Hillside Terrace that are not

located within the Village, but do get their water from the Village

Peter Bell asked follow up questions concerning last Saturday's Seniors Meeting and improvements to be done at Lakeview Manor.

The Seniors would like parking lot improvements made and to have the inside of the building, including the kitchen 'cleaned up'. Someone

mentioned that the building is not utilized by the Seniors that much.

Supervisor Rights requested an Executive Session for the Special Prosecutor; after a short discussion no Executive Session was held and the Work Session was adjourned at 10:05pm

Comments: Carol Bailey had been before the old town board more than once. I hope someone finally helps her solve the Right of Way issue and that the cemetery gets restored.

Agenda Schedule-Been there, done that. Yes, we seem to be having an Agenda Wars going on

and if that simple issue can't be ironed out, how do we expect to take care of the real problems.

Website/Virtual Town Hall-See Above Comments on Agenda Schedule

Putnam County Press-One of my favorites of the evening, now some Republicans know what it feels like to be a Democrat on the eastern side of Putnam County.

ATM Status-See Above Comments on Agenda Schedule

That's it from my computer.

If you have any comments or questions as always, feel free to contact me.

Cathy