

PUBLIC HEARING  
TOWN BOARD  
February 12, 2009

At the public hearing of the Town Board of the Town of Copake the following were present: Deputy Supervisor LaPorta, Councilwoman Gabaccia, Councilman Sacks, Councilman Tompkins, and Councilman Kiernan. Supervisor Crowley was excused.

Deputy Supervisor LaPorta opened the public hearing at 7:15 with 20 people present.

The purpose of the hearing is to review Local Law #1 for the year 2009.

Deputy Supervisor LaPorta read Local Law #1.

A LOCAL LAW CREATING THE POSTION OF FULL-TIME COURT CLERK AND DEPUTY COURT CLERK.

Diana Wilson asked how many hours and what is the pay for Deputy Court Clerk position?

Deputy LaPorta said the Deputy Court Clerk is paid \$13.80 an hour. Full time clerk receives benefits, working 30 hours a week. Only fulltime clerk will receive benefits. The Deputy Clerk fills in when necessary for full time clerk.

John Belafonte asked what is the cost for benefits.

Deputy LaPorta replied around \$461.69 month, \$5,540.28 yearly.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gabaccia seconded by Councilman Sacks the hearing be closed at 7:23 p.m. Motion carried.

Steve Winkley, Geologist with the New York State Rural Water Association non profit organization headquarter in the town of Claverack which helps communities with understanding their ground water resources. He's worked with Harvey Weber and Environmental Committee. Mr. Winkley gave report on the ground water resources in Copake. Copies of the report CD's and plates that go with report will be in the Town Clerk's Office.

A question and answer period followed.

Deputy Supervisor LaPorta opened the regular meeting with 39 people present.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gabaccia seconded by Councilmen Tompkins to approve the minutes of January 12, 2009 and accept them as written. Motion carried.

The following correspondence was read:

1. Don Delamater – Letter of resignation from the Parks Commission.
2. Lou Kibler – Letter of resignation from Board of Ethics

3. Charter Communication – Changing of rates in Basic/Expanded Services effective March 2009.
4. Charter Communication – Notification of bi-annual system testing required by the Federal Communications Commission during the first two weeks of February.
5. North East Community Center - Notice of meeting on February 25, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. to develop a plan or strategy for when they meet with Dutchess County Department of Planning and development in regards to elimination of the route 22 corridor LOOP service.
6. Karen Hallenbeck – Letter of concerns with the Park Commission.
7. Copake Lake Conservation Society – Schedule for Treatment of lake for 2009.
8. COARC – Annual Polar Plunge will be held on Upper Rhoda Pond Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 p.m.
9. Economic Advisory Board – Requesting appointment of Leslie Wood Chair and Karen Hallenbeck secretary.
10. Marcia and Frank Peteroy – Teleconferencing for Copake.
11. Assemblyman Molinaro – Thank you for resolution supporting the Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council and Hudson River Valley Greenway Heritage Conservancy.
12. Assemblyman Molinaro – Home Rule Request for local legislation.

Councilwoman Gabaccia read the following correspondence:

1. John Keeler - Request for repair of the Town Clock and rededication.  
Councilwoman Gabaccia said she would take on the clock situation.
2. Army Corp of Engineers – Letter addressed to Mr. Cassino, Inspection of Copake Valley Farms found fill placed in the waters without authorization from their office. Ordered to cease and dismiss any further work in water of the United States. Copy sent to US Attorney.

Councilwoman Gabaccia thanked Assemblyman Molinaro and Senator Saland for their hard work to keep us in front of various agencies with Mr. Cassino.

Councilman Sacks thanked Diane Valden for her years of work informing the public.

### **Public Forum:**

John Keeler:

1. Columbia County Highway Department removed trailer on Route 22 did the tax payers pay for this?

Councilman Tompkins replied Hillsdale rents that land and the question should be asked of them

2. Sign in meeting room says no food or drink allowed; in the paper the Library had tea here.

3. Suppose to be closed on Friday why a meeting scheduled for Friday, and library use was on Saturday afternoon.

Deputy LaPorta asked what the feeling of the board is on drinks in the room.

Councilwoman Gabaccia said what ever we decide it should be consistence, waiting for NYSERD report.

Councilman Sachs said we need to think this out and come up with a consistence policy. Deputy LaPorta said the board should discuss the closing of building and eating in meeting and come up with answer.

Morris Ordover suggested notices from boards and committee be sent to Copake Politics web-site.

Harvey Weber – Will the cooper sulfate for Copake Lake be advertised?

Deputy LaPorta they post it around the lake, this is notice that they will be doing it and you have 21 days to object to treatment. Notification will be provided by posting of shore line.

Mrs. Dodson said she's not happy that a conversation with your neighbor can be picked up on recorder.

Councilman Sacks said the recording system was set up for court system with mikes in front of the room.

Deputy LaPorta said it was not met to offend anyone.

### **Old Business:**

Councilman Sacks – Cable, Spoke with NYS Public Service Commission, very helpful, and Charter Cable has the lowest megahertz in the country. With there help I've extended contract time six months. Asked .public service to do test of services to encourage them to bring the megahrust up to more reasonable stander. If need to extend another six months we can. A rumor, Public service Commission asked Time Warren to look into this area,

Councilwoman Gabaccia – Audit, spoke to Melanie Crawford, she has last piece of information will have report next meeting. Asked board to Review list of contractors as we need to contact three.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gabaccia seconded by Councilman Sacks to advertise for positions on the CRC, Park and Ethics Board. Motion carried.

Deputy LaPorta read answers to Mr. Keelers request from last meeting. (See attached).

Mr. Keeler asked how much in weight is going out at the town garage with metal, is it monitored.

Deputy LaPorta, the town should have a record of it. Will ask Larry.

Councilman Sacks presented Charles Dodson with Certificate of distinguish service award for his services on the Economic Advisory Board and Town of Copake.

A motion was made by Councilman Sacks seconded by Councilwoman Gabaccia to appoint Sean Carbine computer consultant for the town. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gabaccia seconded by Councilman Tompkins to appoint Leslie Wood Chairman of the EAB, Karen Hallenbeck secretary. Motion carried.

The following resolution was offered by Councilwoman Gabaccia seconded by Councilman Tompkins.

LOCAL LAW NO, 1 OF 2009

Section 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT: The Town Board of the Town of Copake has determined that it would be in the best interests of the Town and of the Town Court to create the position of a Court Clerk and a Deputy Court Clerk.

Section 2. CREATION OF FULL TIME COURT CLERK POSITION: The Town Board of the Town of Copake hereby creates the position of one Court Clerk pursuant to Section 41 of the New York Civil Service Law. Said position shall be a full time position.

Section 3. CREATION OF DEPUTY COURT CLERK POSITION: The Town Board of the Town of Copake hereby creates the position of one Deputy Court Clerk pursuant to Section 41 of the New York Civil Service Law. Said position shall be part-time position. The Deputy Court Clerk is authorized by this law to act for and in place of the Court Clerk.

Section 4. EFFECTIVE DATE: This Local Law shall become effectively immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Dated February 12, 2009	Supervisor Crowley	absent
Resolution #	Councilwoman Gabaccia	Yes
	Councilman Sacks	Yes
	Councilman Tompkins	Yes
	Councilman Kiernan	Yes

Councilman Tompkins read resolution to create checking account for Copake Park Funds.

The following resolution was offered by Councilman Tompkins seconded by Councilwoman Gabaccia.

Create new checking account for Copake Park Funds

Money from concessions, tractor pulls, and specific donations will be deposited into this account.

The Town Board will authorize the transfer of funds that are in Trust and Agency that belong to the Park Reserve to this new account.

Copake Town Supervisor and Copake Town Deputy Supervisor will be the only town officials to write checks from this account.

Dated February 12, 2009	Supervisor Crowley	absent
Resolution #	Councilwoman Gabaccia	Yes
	Councilman Sacks	Yes
	Councilman Tompkins	Yes
	Councilman Kiernan	Yes

**Committee Reports:**

Park'n Recs: Krista Goodacre, approve request from Little League to have sponsored advertising signs on Little League fence at park.

Councilman Sacks said it's a great idea, make sure there no prohibition of advertising in the code.

Deputy LaPorta suggested check color on signs so they don't affect the batter hitting the ball and losing it in the color on sign.

Marcia Becker encouraged the board to think about this as its ads in our park.

Deputy LaPorta said there was serious question as to commercializing the park at the park meeting.

Town Clerk Hotaling will ask town lawyer to check the legalities of commercial signs at the park.

Task Force: Joe LaPorta, met twice about 70% there, should have recommendation to town board before deadline. Would like to pass information to attorney for review.

ZEO: Ed Ferratto, Talked to DEC on pond in Copake Falls, as long as another property owner doesn't own up to the pond it's an individual pond and their allowed to do the filling with wood chips.

Coons sign is down. Meeting with lawyers on Cassino very busy doing the best I can with the time the town allows.

Comprehensive Plan: Councilman Sacks, discussing survey for town will receive in mail and on website.

**Councilperson reports:**

Councilwoman Gabaccia – Supervisor Crowley asked her to attend, as representative of town board the court reappearance with Mr. Cassino on the 25th and 26th of February.

Councilman Tompkins – Discussed Emergency Management Plan with Fire Chief he will be available after February 17th to work on it.

Councilman Sacks – Attends Taghkanic Planning Board, a gentleman Allen Wilsck have taken civic lesson from Sal Cassino, where Sal feels he doesn't need a permit to build a bridge Mr. Wilsck feels he doesn't need a permit to build a 1.3 mile race track in Taghkanic. Found it fascinating that several people don't follow the rules, and what towns need to do to protect themselves.

A motion was made by Councilman Sacks seconded by Councilwoman Gabaccia the bills from general abstract#2 and highway abstract #2 be paid. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gabaccia seconded by Councilman Tompkins the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,