

TOWN BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING
April 8, 2010

PRESENT:

Supervisor Crowley
Councilwoman Gabaccia
Councilman Sacks
Councilman Tompkins
Councilman Kiernan
Highway Superintendent Gregory

Public Hearing:

Supervisor Crowley opened the hearing at 7:15 P.M. with 21 people present. The purpose of the hearing is to hear comments concerning Charter Communication's Franchise Renewal Agreement.

John Belfonte, is Charter still in bankruptcy and do we receive money every month.

Supervisor Crowley, we receive \$25,946 yearly.

Councilman Sacks, contacted other cable companies but they're not interested, population too small.

Supervisor Crowley closed the public hearing at 7:20 P.M.

Regular Meeting:

Action Items:

Councilwoman Gabaccia – Letter to Comptroller on audit.

Councilman Tompkins – Talk to Lawyer about Motor Vehicle Storage permits and Craryville store.

Councilman Sacks – talk with ZEO on Motor Vehicle Storage permits.

Supervisor Crowley opened the regular meeting at 7:30 P.M. with 30 people present.

Supervisor Crowley apologized to Councilwoman Gabaccia and Councilman Sacks for poor choice of words on his thoughts referring to the housing project in the Columbia Paper.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gabaccia seconded by Councilman Kiernan to accept the minutes of March 13, 2010, with the following correction. Page 6, *Have the Ethics Board given year end reports? Add yes they did.*

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gabaccia seconded by Councilman Sacks to accept the minutes of March 24, 2010, and accept them as written. Motion carried.

Accountant Torchia reviewed the year end report with the board and answered questions.

John Keeler, how much revenue did we raise on the special tax, how much did we spend and how much did we net.

Accountant Torchia, we raised the \$100,000 from the tax anticipation, paid back in January with interest of \$349 which was in the normal tax levy.

Supervisor Crowley, we came up about \$80,000 short, we borrowed \$100,000 to be on the safe side.

Accountant Torchia, the fund balance in the general fund is about \$30,000.

Supervisor Crowley, so we only used about \$70,000.

Accountant Torchia, you can look at it that way, the \$100,000 was needed from a cash flow perspective. The \$30,000 is in surplus for unexpended balances. Its not anywhere near what it should be.

Correspondence:

1. Columbia County Youth Bureau – Municipality approved to receive funding in the amount of \$1,187 for YDDP for the Recreation Program.
2. Office of State Comptroller – In reference to town audit, audits are usually performed on risk basis, without further information unable to determine whether any audit risk issue exists.

Councilwoman Gabaccia will draft letter to Comptroller for audit.

3. Copake Town Court – requesting appointments of fulltime clerk and part time clerk.
4. COARC – thank you for support of the second annual Polar Plunge.
5. Ancram Youth Commission – scholastic book fair, April 11,2010.
6. Stacy Smith, Copake Park – permission to purchase equipment for their programs.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gabaccia seconded by Councilman Kiernan to authorize the Park Commission to spend \$2,600 for equipment at the park. Motion carried.

7. Dominick Sinisi, Dancer's Marina – applying for liquor license renewal.
8. Joan Spencer – thank you for the support for Jeffery's Journey given at the Saturday's meeting.
9. Assemblyman Molinaro – copy of letter sent to Governor Paterson in reference to closing of our State Parks.

Public Forum

George Filipovits, Mr. Crowley glad to hear you apologized. You should apologize to everyone in Copake; the housing project was not political.

Supervisor Crowley, I take full responsibility, I phrased it wrong.

Harvey Weber, member of Friends of Copake, would like to than everyone for their work with the housing project.

John Keeler, Stimulus money for converging service with other towns.

Supervisor Crowley, spoke to Ancram and Kinderhook, Livingston will be approached, all Supervisors sit down.

Coons property where is that.

Supervisor Crowley, ZEO was to look into that.

Craryville Store, Supervisor Crowley, ZEO working on that.

When will bids go out for busing summer program?

Jeff Nayer, thank Diana Wilson she worked very hard on the housing project, I don't think they would have land up for sale if not for her.

Budget, we have to work to stay within our budget and build up capital fund.

Letter from court for deputy, one full time, one part-time; where are you going with that. You gave them \$22,000 and if you give them more money then you're setting an example that others can do the same.

Supervisor Crowley, they were budgeted \$22,000 as far as I am concerned, they need to live within their budget.

Councilwoman Gabaccia, the Judges are communicating. We said we would sit tight till June, it's not a budgetary issue.

John Belfonte, is there medical involved with fulltime clerk? If so, you're talking about \$40,000 for just the Court Clerks.

New Business

Jean Mettler, Comprehensive Planning Chairman, ask the Town Board for support in submitting an application to New York State Department of Agricultural and Markets to get \$25,000 to assist in our plan. In our survey we learned a majority of the people in the town asked to preserve and protect agricultural. Draft and resolution was passed on to board members. We need you to commit \$1,666.65.

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

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN SUPERVISOR TO FILE AN APPLICATION UNDER THE NEW YORK STATE MUNICIPAL FARMLAND PROTECTION PROGRAM FOR \$25,000 IN STATE ASSISTANCE TO COMPLETE A FARMLAND PROTECTION PLAN FOR THE TOWN OF COPAKE.

WHEREAS, Article 25-AAA of the Agriculture and Markets law authorizes the Commissioner to maintain a State agricultural and farmland protection program to provide financial and technical assistance, within funds available, to assist counties and municipalities in developing agricultural and farmland protection plans and to assist both in the implementation of such plans: and

WHEREAS, the purpose of these programs is to fund local initiatives that are intended to maintain the economic viability of the State's agricultural industry and its supporting land base and to protect the environmental and landscaping preservation values associated with agricultural: and

WHEREAS, under said legislation, eligible applicants are required to provide a resolution in support of such a request for funding and authorize an official representative to file the application and to provide the Department of Agriculture and Markets with all necessary information: and

WHEREAS, the Town of Copake is concerned about the future of farming in ake and the success of farmers residing, owning and operating agricultural land in the Town of Copake and wishes to plan for the protection of farms and farmland:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor be and hereby is authorized to execute a final application on behalf of the Town of Copake with the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets pursuant to all program requirements; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town recognizes its responsibility to provide at least 25% matching funds including 20% cash for an amount to be \$1,666.65; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Supervisor is hereby authorized and designated as the representative and to act as such in connection with the application and to provide additional information as may be required including all understandings and assurances contained in the application; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Supervisor is hereby authorized and directed to execute any contract and/or agreement with the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets in connection with the Application and he or his designee is further authorized to request and expend funds pursuant to said contract and/or agreement; and be it further

RESOLVED, to the extend all or any actions hereby authorized have been executed and/or performed by the Supervisor all are hereby ratified and confirmed; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Dated at Copake, New York
April 8, 2010
Resolution # 9

Supervisor Crowley	Yes
Councilman Tompkins	Yes
Councilman Kiernan	Yes
Councilwoman Gabaccia	Yes
Councilman Sacks	Yes

A motion was made by Councilman Sacks seconded by Councilman Kiernan to authorize Highway Superintendent Gregory to purchase a fire extinguisher for the meeting room in the town hall. Motion carried.

Old Business

Supervisor Crowley, still waiting to hear where the cell tower will go.

Councilwoman Gabaccia had return date with Mr. Cascino, decision in about six weeks.

Councilman Tompkins, building in Craryville needs to be looked into as it is in bad shape. Will call Lawyer about the building and Motor Vehicle Permits. Councilman Sacks will talk to Zoning Enforcement Officer about the motor vehicle permits.

Councilwoman Gabaccia, need to set public hearing to explain to public what they have come up with for building at the park.

Public hearing is set for Thursday April 22, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. at the Park building.

Joan Spencer, met with park commission last night, they will be doing a fund raiser for suicide prevention program. Hope to do at Cove bowling. Letter writing campaign for Jeffrey's Journey. Councilwoman Gabaccia, thanked Diane Valden for time spent on the news coverage.

Action Items

Supervisor Crowley, Suzette Booy from Real Property would like to come down with State Representative on June 12th to talk about Sole Assessor and reval. Councilwoman Gabaccia, contacted soda distributors for park, turned over to the Park Commission . Councilman Sacks, misplaced the receipt for the time clocks.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gabaccia seconded by Councilman Sacks to appoint Margaret Hosier full time Court Clerk and Janet Glover Deputy Court Clerk. Motion carried.

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

RESOLVED, that we the members of the Town Board of the Town of Copake do hereby adopt the cable Television Franchise Renewal agreement between the Town of Copake and Charter Communications Entertainment I, LLC. (see attached).

Dated at Copake, New York	Supervisor Crowley	Yes
April 8, 2010	Councilman Tompkins	Yes
Resolution #9	Councilman Kiernan	Yes
	Councilman Gabaccia	Yes
	Councilman Sacks	Yes

Committee Report

John Keeler, waiting for prices on addition.

Department Heads

Highway Superintendent Gregory – Employee Handbook needs to be voted on.

Councilman Sacks, could we do it next month as I haven't had time to read it.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gabaccia seconded by Councilman Sacks to accept the EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TEAM Standard Operational Guide. Motion carried.

Supervisor Crowley, as far as posting the guide on the web we have private numbers that are not for view.

Councilman Sacks, we could work on something that we could put on the web.

Jeff Nayer, Police looking into having a day where the people can dispose of pharmaceutical products.

Barbara Filipovits, Assessor office is busy.

Having trouble with building permits. Looking into software.

Councilman Sacks, we need to think about a reval.

George Filipovits, is it possible instead of having a Deputy Building Inspector we have a clerk that can use the computer and bring the office up to 21st century.

The town received one (1) bid for proposal for auditing the town books for the years 200, 2008 and 2009.

NH Klein & Company - \$25,000.000

A motion was made by Councilman Kiernan seconded by Councilman Tompkins the bills from general abstract # 4 and highway abstract #4 be paid. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Sacks seconded by Councilman Kiernan the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

