

Newstead Town Board Meeting- January 8, 2007

A Regular Meeting was called to order by the Newstead Town Board on Monday, January 8, 2007 at 8:00PM at the Newstead Town Hall.

Present: David Cummings- Supervisor
Tom George- Councilman
Harold Finger- Councilman
Mark Decker- Councilman
Justin Rooney- Councilman
Mike Bassanello- Highway Supt.
Andrew Casolini- Town Engineer
Rebecca Baker- Assessor
John Good- Code Enforcement Officer
Nathan Neill- Town Attorney
Dawn D. Izydorczak- Town Clerk
Kathleen Lang- Deputy Clerk

Roll Call was taken with all board members present.

Ken Kasperek led the pledge to the flag.

Minutes from the previous regular board meeting held on December 27, 2006 were presented for approval. A motion was made by Councilman Decker, seconded by Councilman Finger to accept as presented. Carried Unanimously

Minutes from the organizational meeting held on January 4, 2007 were presented for approval. A motion was made by Councilman Finger, seconded by Councilman Decker to accept as presented. Carried Unanimously

Communications – The Town Clerk presented the following:

The December 2006 Operations Report was received from Amherst Central Alarm office reporting 43 calls for Akron Fire Co. and 39 calls for Newstead Fire Co.

The Association of Towns sent a notice regarding the upcoming Annual Meeting in New York City with an agenda of what will be covered at the meeting.

The Quarterly Report for October – December 2006 was received from BFI showing 1,729+/- residential units collected for with 545.92+/- tons of solid waste and 95.12 tons co-mingled recyclables collected.

A notice from New York Planning Federation in association with Wendel Duchscherer announcing a presentation by Edward McMahon on how to shape your towns development goals to be held Tuesday, February 6, 2007 at 7:00pm at the Clarence High School Auditorium.

A letter from the NYS DEC announcing the Town was not selected as a recipient for funding this year under the Urban Forestry Tree Planting grant. (The Supervisor stated that there were 131 applications and only 32 grants were awarded this year.)

A motion was made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilman Rooney to receive and file correspondence as presented. Carried Unanimously

Work Session: The Supervisor reported that no work session was held last week due to the holiday. They did meet briefly after the organizational meeting to discuss finalization of the town fee schedule and the issue of grant writers.

Privilege of the Floor – Doug Ceisner, 100 East Avenue, thanked the board for putting the meeting notice in the Buffalo News. He still is questioning when the wetlands were created on his Main Road property, as he did at a previous board meeting. The Highway Superintendent responded he has received copies of maps and paperwork from DEC biologists dated 12/31/84 that were used to determine the property had wetlands and delineated where those wetlands were located on the property. There has also been delineation work done on the property in December 1998. Original

records on this include aerial photographs from 2/30/1978 and field work that was done sometime prior to 1981 according to DEC records.

Mr. Ceisner questioned the Assessment meeting scheduled for January 23, 2007 at 8:00AM. He wants to know why it is scheduled so early in the morning. The Assessor responded that the time was set for the convenience of business owner's that would be attending. The meeting is primarily being offered for commercial and industrial properties.

Mr. Ceisner questioned how long is a "grandfather" law? The Town Attorney addressed this question and stated it depends largely on the specific law that is being addressed. It varies.

Mr. Ceisner questioned the costs of cable TV broadcast of town board meetings. The Supervisor stated the cost would be approximately \$4,000-\$6,000 annually to Town of Newstead. It depends on the number of meetings and several other factors.

Mr. Ceisner questioned the public notices for hearings being published not only in the Akron Bugle, but also in the Pennysaver so more people would have a chance to see the ads.

Approval of Bills -Councilman Decker reported that the Abstract from Batch #571 & 572 from the December 27, 2006 meeting has been reviewed with the previously UN-audited vouchers and everything was found in order. He presented Abstract Batch #576, #577 & #578. Vouchers on this abstract numbered 1339-1373 for 2006 and 1 -15 for 2007, totaling \$1,465,216.77 and were presented for payment approval by Councilman Decker, seconded by Councilman Finger to approve payment.

Abstract Batch #576, #577 & #578:

General Fund (A) -\$557,919.26, Fund (B) \$740.62, Highway (DA) -\$0, Highway: Outside Village (DB) \$5,243.37, Capital Projects: CAP-WD#10 (HI)- \$772,075.37, Reserve- Roof Repair (HR01)- \$0, (HL) October Storm- \$0, Drainage (SD)- \$0, Fire Protection (SF) \$3,923.52, Refuse (SR) \$0, Sewer Fund (SS) \$3,287.35, Sewer District #2 (SS02)- \$0, and Water Districts (SW1) \$40.20, (SW2) \$88.44, (SW3) \$112.56, (SW4) \$112.56, (SW5) \$118,562.04, (SW6) \$305.52, (SW7) \$426.12, (SW7A) \$48.24, (SW8) \$32.16, (SW9) \$88.44, (SW10) \$2,211.00, Trust & Agency(TA)- \$0 Total:1,465,216.77 Carried Unanimously

COMMITTEE AND DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Highway – Nothing at this time

Assessor – The Assessor is continuing roadwork in the town. The village was completed before the holidays in December. The Assessor has offered a meeting with commercial/industrial owners on January 23rd at 8:00am and 17 people have responded they will be attending so far. There will be substantial increases in assessments for commercial property in the re-valuation project.

Rebecca thanked the Highway Superintendent for the crews painting the filing cabinets in the Assessor and Building Department.

She, as Network Administrator, has updated the town website with local business links, town applications and forms, and a link to the Erie County Finance Dept. which offers assessment and property information.

Councilman George stated she should check out the Cattaraugus County website for ideas.

Building Office –the following building report was presented by the Building Administrator Christine Falkowski:

No report presented

John Good stated that fire inspections and operating permits will begin soon.

Town Clerk- Dawn has finally found a good contact person at the Buffalo News and the Town Board meeting schedule for the entire year has been forwarded to the News. Meeting notices should appear in the "Around Town" section of the news every other week throughout this year.

Attorney for the Town –Nothing at this time

COUNCILPERSONS

George-Nothing at this time

Finger- Nothing at this time

Decker- Nothing at this time

Rooney- There was a Recreation Board meeting this evening and he has asked the board to change their meeting nights so that the Town Board members can attend. Their minutes will be sent out from tonight's meeting.

SUPERVISOR- There was a FEMA meeting today with the Highway Superintendent, Kathy Strobele, and the disaster coordinators attending. They are negotiating for stream clean out with FEMA, SEMO and some other organizations. The payment of expenses for the October storm clean out of Murder creek has been approved by FEMA.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Water District #10- Phase 1A & Phase 1B – nothing new

Phase 2- The mainline services are being installed and it will take another 2 weeks to complete all service installations. They will then go onto directional lines at the creeks.

Route 5 Re-Zoning- There will be work session time devoted to this next week.

Shared Public Works Facility Committee- There will be a direct report in 2 weeks.

NYS Toll Barrier- Waiting for response

G.I.S- Phase 1 implementation is well over 50% completed. The Village is in the process of gathering data to be converted into their new computer systems. Phase 2 grant applications are in draft form and a meeting will be held the 3rd week of January to finalize them before mailing out.

NEW BUSINESS:

Highway Funds Approval:

A motion was made by Councilman Rooney, seconded by Councilman George authorizing the expenditure of \$170,000.00 in highway funds for re-paving projects on Martin and Siehl Roads. (Resolution Attached) Cummings-Aye, George-Aye, Finger-Aye, Decker-Aye, Rooney-Aye
Carried Unanimously

2007 Fee Schedule Adoption:

A motion was made by Councilman Finger, seconded by Councilman George approving the adoption of the amended fee schedule for 2007 as presented, retroactive to January 1, 2007. Cummings-Aye, George-Aye, Finger-Aye, Decker-Aye, Rooney-Aye
Carried Unanimously

Grant Writer Approval:

A motion was made by Councilman Decker, seconded by Councilman Rooney approving the hiring of Grant Services of New York as grant writer for the Town of Newstead for a 6 month period for a sum not to exceed \$6,000.00. Cummings-Aye, George-Aye, Finger-Nay, Decker-Aye, Rooney-Aye
Carried

Question Period- Nikki Geddes, a student at Akron Central School, residing at 12510 Lesswing Road, questioned what GIS stands for? Councilman George and Town Engineer Casolini addressed her question. She also questioned what roads are being worked on and what the wetland issues were. Councilman George stated that for those questions she deserved an "A".

There being no further business to come before the board a motion was made by Councilman Finger, seconded by Councilman Rooney to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 PM.
Carried Unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,
Dawn D. Izydorczak, Town Clerk