

Town of Olive
County of Ulster
State of New York
Tuesday, August 9, 2011

Minutes of the monthly Town Board meeting of the Town of Olive held Tuesday, August 9, 2011, at the Town Meeting Hall in Shokan, NY.

Members Present: Berndt Leifeld, Supervisor
 Henry Rank, Board Member
 Linda Burkhardt, Board Member
 Bruce La Monda, Board Member
 Peter Friedel, Board Member

Recording Secretary: Sylvia Rozzelle, Town Clerk

Others Present: Jim Fugel, Highway Superintendent; Bill Cook, Assessor; Drew Boggess, Planning Board Chairman; Richard Wolff, ZBA Member; Tim Cox, Town Justice

On a La Monda/Burkhardt motion the Town Board approved the minutes of the July meetings as submitted by the Town Clerk.

The following correspondence was read and filed:

#51-11

Walter G. Frey, Jr., Chairman of the Ulster County Health and Human Services Committee, responded to the Town of Olive resolution and request to keep Golden Hill Health Care Center a government owned facility. Mr. Frey stated the town letter and resolution has been made available to legislators and when a decision is rendered by the Ulster County Legislature they will be taking into account all aspects of this matter.

#52-11

The American Legion Ulster County Department of New York acquired a patch of land in St. Remy to become the Ulster County Veterans Mini Park.

On a Rank/La Monda motion the Town Board approved payment of the following audited bills for the month of July: Highway Voucher #217-#249, \$102,133.27; General Fund Voucher #323-#372, \$25,052.66; Special Wastewater Vouchers #5, \$26,053.09, #6, \$25,633.12, and #7, \$29,169.65. Supervisor Leifeld stated the Town Board audits the wastewater treatment plant vouchers, but, the money comes from New York City.

Supervisor Leifeld stated the cash received for June 2011 as \$130,779.30 and interest received for June 2011 as \$1,457.27.

On a Leifeld/Burkhardt motion the Town Board approved the following budget modifications to the Highway Fund:

Transfer \$75,635.00 from Reserve "A" Machinery to 5130.2 Machinery (Equip.)

On a Leifeld/La Monda motion the Town Board approved the following budget modifications to the General Fund:

Transfer \$759.00 from 1990.4 Contingency to 1910.4 Unallocated Insurance

Transfer \$1,629.00 from Res. "B" Transfer Station to 8160.4 Refuse & Garbage (Cont.)

Joanne Tetta Stropoli read statement #53-11 on behalf of her son Primo. She stated that Primo has been working with Gene Sorbellini, Berndt Leifeld, and the Franklin Bronze Plaque company on a Town of Olive Softball League Hall of Fame plaque. The plaque is to be placed at Grant Avery Park softball field on a large stone that will lay in a cement footer near the field. Over ten local businesses and families have donated to help pay for the cost of this project and they will receive recognition for their donations at the base of the plaque.

Supervisor Leifeld stated the Relay for Life event at Shokan Park collected \$20,000.00 for the cause. After walking around a couple of times he realized there is no flag pole at Shokan Park and feels there should be one there. He stated that Stucki in Boiceville gave us a good price on the flag pole and two flags that were recently installed in West Shokan. He stated he would like to see a flag and pole installed at Grant Avery Park. On a Leifeld/ Burkhardt motion the Town Board gave their support for the plaque being erected at Shokan Park. On a La Monda/Friedel motion the Town Board empowered Supervisor Leifeld to purchase a flag pole and flag for Shokan Park. It was noted by Cindy Johansen that the law has changed and US flags no longer have to be illuminated at night.

Olive Fire Company #3 has requested highway help and equipment in the renovation of their parking lot. The Fire Department will pay for the blacktop. General consensus of the Town Board was for the Town to provide use of town equipment and personnel to spread it.

The following committee reports were submitted:

PARKS & REC liaison Board Member Burkhardt stated it is the last week of the summer recreation program. She noted the program was well attended and quite successful. Men and women's softball is still underway.

POLICE Commissioner La Monda submitted July report #54-11 noting 128 calls for the month.

HIGHWAY liaison Board Member Rank stated the Highway Department has been working on the installation of the culvert pipe on Bradken Road off of Traver Hollow. It was noted this project has taken most of their time this summer and the department is just now starting on their work from June.

TRANSFER STATION liaison Board Member Friedel submitted June report #55-11 noting total revenues for the month as \$6,445.00 with a total expense of \$6,992.78. He stated the contract for e-waste was signed last month and they are training the personnel at the Transfer Station. Supervisor Leifeld stated that e-waste is electronic equipment and extended thanks to Bruce Proper for coming up with the company.

TOWN CLERK Rozzelle noted there will be a Rabies Clinic on September 3rd from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Ulster County SPCA. She submitted Town Clerk July report #56-11 showing \$20,230.78 in revenues.

Supervisor Leifeld stated he sees a lot of faces from last night's meeting and thanked them all for coming back and encouraged them to continue to attend meetings as the Town Board welcomes their input. He stated he has already received emails regarding the draft comprehensive plan noting they will continue receiving comments until the 26th. After that the town will do another workshop meeting. He stated they will send out a postcard for the next master plan meeting. He stated he made one big mistake last night. He checked with the CWC

and they have already spent \$47,000.00 and change on the master plan and that does not include last night. He stated continued funding will have to be worked out.

Drew Boggess, Planning Board Chairman, stated there were a few things that didn't come up at last night's meeting. Regarding the October 2nd Charette and public hearing, he stated there was not any information on the early morning session only the public hearing minutes. He stated at the morning session the first thing that they asked was what people wanted in Olive and there was silence. He stated the participants all split into groups and a person was selected to take notes and report on what was discussed. He stated that all Robert Selkowitz, Helene Grant, and he were doing at the public hearing was reporting to the Town Board what that group of people from the morning had to say. He stated he felt it degrading to say those people that attended that morning charette did not have input. Another thing that didn't come out at last night's hearing is that this plan is a living document and it is not carved in stone. The Town Board is required to review it every five years. The whole idea is what do you want the town to look like in 20 years and how do you get there. Mr. Boggess stated that one thing he didn't hear last night was anything new that needed to be added to the plan. He encouraged them to send any vision they might want to the Town Board. He stated it is easy for a town to take \$200,000.00 and years to get there and the town doesn't have that kind of money. Mr. Rudikoff made it clear from the very beginning that \$50,000.00 would be the bare minimum required and that is if everything went well. He stated that, hopefully, the next time we get the revised draft it will be close to what people want.

Berndt Leifeld stated that when you figure these costs the fifty grand goes to the consultant firm. He stated that Drew Boggess is at town meetings and we should be proud to have him on our Planning Board. He thanked Mr. Boggess for his work for the town. Supervisor Leifeld stated he is encouraged by having people in attendance tonight and encourages them to come back. He stated that this is a living document and he really was angry to have rumors regarding a tax on chimneys. Glenda McGee responded by saying that she might have been responsible for that rumor. She stated she told someone that in some of these types of documents it could say there is a \$200.00 tax on chimneys.

Drew Boggess stated the plan was intended to reflect how the town is operated today. It was not intended to make any major changes to the town. The intent of the plan was to keep it that way. Matthew Rudikoff's idea was to have a broad outline plan that is not restrictive, make it vague, and not specific.

Pat Conway stated she was not able to attend the meeting last month but wanted to thank the Town Board for supporting the Golden Hill facility to be a county owned and operated facility.

Board Member La Monda stated he wanted to thank Drew Boggess as Planning Board Chairman for his information and for his attending many classes regarding his Planning Board position.

Town Clerk Rozzelle stated that NYS requires Planning Board members to complete 4 hours of certified training annually. She stated that Drew Boggess does 20-25 hours of training annually. She stated how fortunate we are to have a Planning Board Chairman that dots every "i" and crosses every "t" which has kept us out of lawsuits.

Glenda McGee stated that a lot of the information in the plan is demographics, but, some of it she is still concerned about. She asked why we can't just go from here without a planner.

Mitch Langbert stated he doesn't see any advantage to hiring planners and his opinion as a having earned a Phd from Columbia University he feels that a group of citizens could handle the plan without a consultant.

Supervisor Leifeld stated that any workshops we have we can do on our own, but, if we can get more grant money it would be beneficial. He stated if we can put our political persuasions at the door we could sit down and work on this.

Glenda McGee stated that our whole economy is in flux and things aren't looking so good. She stated during our last major collapse we kept things organic. The solutions were organic and both of her grandmothers survived by taking in boarders and they didn't abandon the local workers. She stated she does not want to see affordable housing mentioned in the plan.

Supervisor Leifeld stated in about two weeks he will be putting the tentative budget together. He noted it's going to be hard to stay within a 2% cap when health insurance is going up 19% and workers' comp 14%.

Charlie Blumstein stated he thought the town had healthy capital reserves. Supervisor Leifeld stated the Capital Reserves are set up for specific purposes and the money has to be spent in the way in which they were set up. He stated that years back if you had extra money then the board would put it away into reserve accounts at the end of the year. There has been no extra money to do this with.

Anne Haas stated that one of the reasons for doing the master plan is for grants. Supervisor Leifeld stated that you don't just go out there and get grant funds as the competition is fierce. He stated he's not interested in going out and studying butterflies, but, perhaps roof replacements or building repairs.

Town Clerk Rozzelle questioned the post card as it can be expensive to mail out with cost of ordering property owners labels plus bulk rate permit costs and postage.

It was stated by those in the attendance that they would stay abreast of meetings. Steven Cadette stated that what happened prior to this won't happen again.

All business pertinent having been discussed the Town Board adjourned at 8:30 pm on a Leifeld/La Monda motion in memory of Ellen E. Waterous and Silvia Stanganelli.

Sylvia B. Rozzelle, Town Clerk