

Recreation Director Gene Sorbellini stated that green dirt is needed on the Davis Park Babe Ruth baseball field.

All business pertinent having been discussed the Town Board adjourned at 8:10 pm on a Leifeld/La Monda motion.

Sylvia B. Rozzelle, Town Clerk

Town of Olive
County of Ulster
State of New York
Tuesday, March 8, 2011

Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Olive held Tuesday, March 08, 2011, 7:30 pm at the Town Meeting Hall in Shokan, NY.

Members Present: Berndt Leifeld, Supervisor
Henry Rank, Board Member
Bruce La Monda, Board Member
Peter Friedel, Board Member
Member Absent: Linda Burkhardt, Board Member
Recording Secretary: Sylvia B. Rozzelle, Town Clerk
Others Present: Bill Cook, Sole Assessor; Drew Boggess, Planning Board Chair; Tim Cox, Town Justice; and Ronald Wright, Town Justice

On a La Monda/Rank motion the Town Board approved the minutes of the February meeting as presented by the Town Clerk.

The following correspondence was read and filed:

#11-11

On a La Monda/Rank motion the Town Board unanimously approved the following members to the Olive Fire Department: Alexandria Weir and Robert Weir.

#12-11

Robert Tischler submitted his letter of resignation as member of the Olive Planning Board due to moving out of town. On a La Monda/Rank motion the Town Board requested a letter of thanks be sent to Mr. Tischler for his volunteer service to the town.

On a La Monda/Friedel motion the Town Board approved payment of the following audited bills: Highway Vouchers #41-#92, \$50,537.97; General Fund Vouchers #66-#108, \$95,959.16; and Special Wastewater Voucher #2, \$38,337.11.

Supervisor Leifeld noted the cash received for January as \$2,284,758.78 and interest received for January 2011 as \$831.81.

Under New Business: Supervisor Leifeld stated he has received calls regarding increasing Senior Citizen's tax exemption and if the board is in agreement then he and the Assessor will look into it. NY State says the highest you can go is \$37,500.00 to receive a 5% reduction.

Supervisor Leifeld noted that Highway Superintendent Fugel is absent tonight due to illness but has requested purchase of a 2.5 Ton Dump truck per NYS bid at a cost of \$57,620.01 less trade in allowance of \$10,000.00 making the total cost \$47,620.01. On a Leifeld/La Monda motion the Town Board unanimously approved purchase the truck in the amount of \$47,620.01 from Robert Green Truck Division.

Supervisor Leifeld noted there is a need for a new Planning Board member and a letter will be sent to the Republican and Conservative parties making them aware of these openings. He noted an ad has been placed in the paper for a Planning Board member and an ad will also run advertising for a Board of Assessment Review member due to the vacancy created by the resignation of Paul K. Maloney.

The following committee reports were filed:

POLICE Commissioner La Monda submitted report #14-11 showing 116 total monthly calls for February.

TOWN CLERK Rozzelle submitted February report #15-11 showing \$9,628.13 in clerk revenues and \$292,415.77 in taxes collected for the county. She noted that Troop 163 Scout Master Keith Davis has organized a walk from Shokan to Central Park via the New York City aqueduct commemorating the walk done by Sidney Clapp in 1912. The Boy Scouts were organized in the United States in 1910 and of the first thirteen Eagle Scouts in the US, five of them were from West Shokan—one of them being Sidney Clapp. She stated the City of New York will be sending along a representative with the troop and will be responsible for negotiating the trail around the tunnels. The dates for the walk are August 20th-29th. Supervisor Leifeld stated he spoke with Keith Davis to see how the town could help out and Keith said he would get back with him.

FIRE DEPARTMENT January 2011 report #16-11 noted a total of 65 responses for the month.

TRANSFER STATION liaison Board Member Friedel January 2011 report #17-11 noted total revenue of \$7,700.00 and total expense of \$6,357.10.

PARKS & RECREATION February report #18-11 notes Youth Basketball is coming to a close, Little League/T-Ball registrations are in full swing, and Onteora School will be using Davis Park until they can move back to the school facility.

Michael Courtney from Cornell Cooperative and the Ashokan Stream Management Program noted April 9th will be the 2nd annual conference at the Emerson in Shandaken. The conference this year is geared to public officials noting that the recent flooding has been of particular concern. Information on flood plain management, flood rate insurance maps, and the community rating system will be presented at the various workshops. They are looking for input where people would like to see improved accesses to the Ashokan Watershed. You can go online and make your suggestions www.ashokanstreams.org.

Town Justice Tim Cox said he and Justice Ronald Wright wanted to bring the Town Board up to date on the county consolidation report for highways, economic development, and courts. The

report ended up taking the courts in Ulster County and divided them into two categories—solvent or insolvent—as to whether or not your court was providing funds, not just for towns, but for the sheriff’s department and DA’s office. The report says the town must cover everyone’s expenses and also claimed that non lawyer judges are not making consistent decisions. He noted that the Town of Olive was not a participant in the study. The big issue is that no branch of government is held to a revenue standard. It attacks the courts independence and claims that the Town Board has more power over Town Courts than they do. The report also ignores that it is up to the voters to decide who is their town judge and who is most qualified. There is nothing that says judges should be lawyers. There is a panel discussion on March 23rd at New Paltz and he will be talking on his own behalf, but, is letting the Town Board know and wants the Town Board’s support. Justice Cox stated his job is not to manage money, but to handle the cases that come before him and it is not the court’s job to be raising money for people.

Supervisor Leifeld asked if there is anything the Town Board can do. Justice Cox stated there really isn’t anything to do at this point as he feels there will be more studies and more studies. He just wanted the Town Board to know he is attending and speaking at this meeting.

In response to a question about funding for the study, Justice Cox stated that Ulster County paid for the study with NYS Department of State funds. A professor at New Paltz was hired to prepare the report.

In response to questions from Drew Boggess if there was any plan to refute it and if other Ulster County Justices are in agreement to the errors, Justice Cox stated as justices they give up their first amendment rights, so, he will be speaking on his own. He noted there are other justices who are in agreement about the errors.

Supervisor Leifeld stated he received information from the Department of Health wanting to know if the Town wants to have tobacco-free parks and recreation areas. Board Member La Monda stated perhaps it could be open for discussion with the Recreation Committee offering recommendations. Supervisor Leifeld stated he felt that perhaps the smokers could be accommodated with specific areas. Board Member Friedel stated the Recreation Committee should be the ones to offer suggestions.

All business pertinent having been discussed the Town Board adjourned at 8:25 pm on a Leifeld/La Monda motion in memory of Edda Millie Delgado, Inge Kroenke, and Daniel Ryan.

Sylvia B. Rozzelle, Town Clerk