

Special meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Chester was held on **June 24, 2013**, at 7:00 pm in the Town Municipal Center, Chestertown, NY.

Roll Call: Edna Wells, Mike Packer, Karen DuRose, and Frederick H. Monroe. Absent was Steve Durkish.

Purpose of the Special meeting was to: approve payment of invoice for boat wash station; establish staffing and procedures for operation of the new boat wash; and any other business as may come before the Town Board.

Biomass heating. Rick Handley was in attendance to discuss the requests that he has sent out for information for reputable manufacturers that would make a small biomass pellet boiler. He has been successful in finding a number of them, and is confident that he can get some competitive bids. He also started looking for potential grants and has put in a pre-eligibility determination application with the US Department of Agriculture, which is both a grant and a loan program. They will entertain small grants, but due to not a lot of funding, often offer very low interest loans. Application was requested at \$25,000.

Mr. Handley reviewed the current annual heating costs for fuel for the Town Hall which amounted to about \$45,000 for fuel and estimated \$700 for operation and maintenance. The town needs to replace an existing boiler which has been condemned, or the \$20,000 for that expense could go toward a pellet boiler. With no USDA assistance, it would cost the town \$173,000, but with a \$25,000 grant, it would reduce the expense to about \$155,000. Annual savings were discussed with fuel vs. pellets over a 15 year period, revealing total cost for heating with fuel at \$855,320, (that showing a projected increase in the cost of fuel at 3%), and for biomass a cost for 15 years of \$658,058.

The Board feels that this project needs to be put out to bid in order to get some firm numbers for cost. Mr. Handley said that most companies offer a complete package price that includes design, permitting, installation, commissioning, etc. Most bidders would want to visit the site first. The package would include the biomass boiler, the silo storage unit for the pellets, the auger driven conveyance system, the control system to operate the unit, and all motors required, etc. Time involved on our end would involve about a ½ hour per week. Everything would be thermostatically controlled.

RESOLUTION #99: AUTHORIZE TO BID FOR DESIGNED/BUILD PROJECT FOR BIOMASS HEATING SYSTEM AND SET DATE FOR BID OPENING.

Introduced by Mrs. Wells, seconded by Mr. Packer, authorize to bid for a designed/build project for biomass heating system, with bids to be opened on August 13th at 7:00 pm.

AYE 4 NO 0

Boat wash station. The boat wash station has been delivered, and Mr. Monroe and some of the highway men observed a demonstration of it's operation. It apparently is quite a complicated procedure, and the concern is over having just the stewards on site to man it. Boat engines have to be running in neutral with mufflers on them, water will be 175 degrees, which if not handled properly could seriously burn someone, and one of the nozzles could drill a hole right through a hand. This equipment needs someone familiar with boats to run it, as it is a very sophisticated operation.

This year will be a trial for the town in order to run this operation efficiently. Loon Lake is an important asset to the Town, and has an assessed value in the Park District of \$244,862,962. Discussion on what the program to man the operation is going to cost. Ed Greismer and Mr. Monroe discussed having the launch and stewards available from 6:00 am until 6:00 pm daily. That amounts to 84 man hours per week, which equals about 756 hours for the nine weeks of summer. Splitting the cost between the Park District and the Town amounts to about \$0.02 per thousand of assessed valuation to the taxpayers. They also agreed that they needed to hire some adults to be there with the stewards.

Before continuing, a resolution was proposed for payment of the boat wash station.

RESOLUTION #100: AUTHORIZE PAYMENT FOR BOAT WASH STATION AND ADDITIONAL NOZZLE.

Introduced by Mrs. DuRose, seconded by Mrs. Wells, authorize payment for boat wash station in the amount of \$19,497.50 and an additional \$75 for safer nozzle.

AYE 4 NO 0

A pod was also purchased for storage of the boat wash station, which will have the doors opened on both ends while in operation. It will be locked at all other times. The only external part of the machine is a pad that the boats will sit on. There are also 4-100 gallon tanks, 2 are external tanks that are used for washing, and 2 are inner tanks that are used to reclaim the water.

Protocol for operation of boat inspection and washing procedures was discussed.

The goal is not to intimidate anyone, but to be outgoing, courteous and professional at all times. Boaters will be greeted and told of the concern over the Eurasian Milfoil already in the lake, and about other species that we are trying to avoid. Each boater will be given a rack card about aquatic invasive species. They will be asked what waters the boat was last in, and a list of infested water bodies will be checked. If the boat has been stored all winter outdoors, it will be safe to launch. If not, boaters will be offered preventative

measures.

Safety concern. Bob Clench raised the issue of crosswalk safety in the vicinity of the beach. On a particular occasion, 3 large tour buses were parked at the beach, and traffic and pedestrians could not see around them. Pedestrian traffic is frequent from Kingsley Trailer Court, and with log trucks and other large vehicles traveling Route 8, there are no warning signs of a recreational area. Speed signs only cover a short distance across that area, and with no advance warning, unfamiliar travelers could be putting themselves and others in jeopardy.

In order to make drivers aware, request has to be made from DOT to establish a cross walk by the beach, and also by Morrison's, plus request increase in the area that is to be governed by 30 mph speed. At this time it only covers 1/10th of a mile. Signage is also needed to warn vehicles to go slow, congested recreation area ahead. Mr. Clench also requested banners be put up across the road by both Morrison's Motel, and by Mr. Clench's Conway's Lake Manor Motel, being labeled Loon Lake Park District Recreation Area. A 15' x 3' banner would cost about \$400.

RESOLUTION #101: REQUEST NYS DOT ESTABLISH A CROSS WALK ACROSS ROUTE 8, ERECT SIGNAGE, ERECT BANNERS, AND INCREASE THE AREA OF 30 MPH ZONE.

Introduced by Mr. Packer, seconded by Mrs. Wells, request DOT establish a cross walk across Route 8, request signage "Slow, Recreation area, or, congested area", and extend the 30 mph speed limit from the corner of White Schoolhouse Road to past Conway's Lake Manor Motel, and authorize erection of banners for the summer.

AYE 4 NO 0

Boat launch. Discussion ensued on authorizing 2 or 3 adults to man the boat wash stations, questions about closing the launch when it is not being manned, charging to launch, and finding out body of water that boats were last on. Also talked about keeping a record of the times of day that boats are launching.

In order to protect the Lake, it is decided that hours of launch will be posted, and the launch will be closed when it is not manned. The town will be looking into a tag system for the boats that will identify the waters that they are cleared to launch in, and they will require all boats be washed unless it has been verified that they were wintered in outside storage, or they are tagged as having been washed, or they are clean, drained, and dry.

RESOLUTION #102: CLOSE BOAT LAUNCH WHEN NOT MANNED, SET HOURS FROM 6:00 AM TO 6:00 PM, REQUIRE EACH BOAT BE WASHED UNLESS WINTERED IN STORAGE OR HAS BEEN TAGGED, AND NOT CHARGE FOR BOAT WASHING.

Introduced by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mrs. DuRose, close the launch when it is not being manned, set hours of launch from 6:00 am

to 6:00 pm with an adult in attendance, require boat washing unless winterization has been verified or boat is tagged, and town will not charge for boat washing.

AYE 4 NO 0

Authorize hiring of adults for boat wash station. Mr. Monroe asked the board to authorize that he and Ed Greismer hire up to 2 adults to run the boat wash stations, and be available to support the lake stewards.

RESOLUTION #103: AUTHORIZE HIRING OF 2 ADULTS FOR BOAT WASH STATION, AND AUTHORIZE APPROPRIATE SIGNAGE.

Introduced by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mrs. DuRose, authorize Supervisor and Ed Greismer hire up to two adults to man the boat wash stations, and authorize appropriate signage.

AYE 4 NO 0

Youth program.

Youth Director Mindy Conway wants to hire Sarah Phillips and Morgan Yarosh for the summer youth program.

RESOLUTION #104: APPROVE HIRING OF SARAH PHILLIPS AND MORGAN YAROSH FOR SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM.

Introduced by Mrs. Wells, seconded by Mrs. DuRose, approve hiring of Sarah Phillips and Morgan Yarosh for summer youth program at the Tin Tepee.

AYE 4 NO 0

Speed signs. There is a request for speed signs on Bird Pond Road which does not have any speed signs at all.

RESOLUTION #105: AUTHORIZE REQUESTING SPEED LIMIT SIGNS FOR BIRD POND ROAD.

Introduced by Mrs. Wells, seconded by Mr. Packer, authorize request for speed limit signs for Bird Pond Road for between 40-45 mph.

AYE 4 NO 0

On a motion by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mr. Packer, meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Town Clerk