

**Regular meeting** of the Town Board of the Town of Chester was held **November 9, 2011** at 7:15 pm in the Town of Chester Municipal Center Chestertown, NY.

Roll Call: Fred Monroe, Mike Packer, Edna Wells, Karen DuRose and Steve Durkish. Mark Schachner - Attorney for Town.

Clerk read notice of 2012 Preliminary Budget hearing.

Supervisor Monroe opened the Public Hearing at 7:20 pm.

Supervisor Monroe reviewed the budget and budget notes. Supervisor Monroe stated that positions on county level are being reduced and that changes will probably be done in the running of the local meal sites. No changes in the Town of Chester 2012 budget were made and the budget was within the 2% cap.

Public hearing was closed at 7:35pm.

**RESOLUTION #137: AUTHORIZE ADOPTION OF BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012.**

Introduced by Mrs.Wells, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr.Packer:

WHEREAS, this Board has met at the time and place specified in the notice of Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget for 2012, and heard all persons desiring to be heard thereon,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Preliminary Budget, as amended and revised, and as hereinafter set forth, is hereby adopted, and that the several amounts stated in the column entitled Schedule A 1, Schedule DA 1, Schedule L, Schedule SF 1, and Schedule SW 1, Schedule SP 1, CDBG, and HW (well #1 - Cap.Project) be and they hereby are appropriated for objects and purposes specified and the salaries and wages stated in Schedule 5 of such budget shall be and hereby are fixed at the amounts shown therein effective January 1, 2012.

AYE 5 NO 0

**Bids for old Bobcat:**

One bid was received: James Bapp, Richardson St., Queensbury NY in the amount of \$3,302.

**RESOLUTION #138: ACCEPT BID FROM JAMES BAPP FOR 2000 BOBCAT.**

Introduced by Mrs.DuRose, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mrs.Wells to accept bid from James Bapp, Richardson St., Queensbury, NY in the amount of \$3,302 for the 2000 skid steer loader (Bobcat). Equipment is sold as is.

AYE 5 NO 0

**RESOLUTION #139: ACCEPT MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER MEETING.**

Introduced by Mrs.Wells, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr.Durkish to accept minutes of the October 11<sup>th</sup> Town Board meeting.

AYE 5 NO 0

**Privilege of the floor:**

Jim McDermott - thank you to highway department for cleaning up Pine Street and inquired on the progress of the demolition of the "old Martin Ford" building on Pine Street. Supervisor Monroe received report from engineer saying that the asbestos that is there isn't friable, which means that the building could be demolished. He went on

to say that money hasn't been budget for hauling "it away" and nothing for dealing with any fuel tank leaks (if any). Lincoln Logs has equipment in the building and if the town "drops" the building they would like to be able to remove their equipment. Further discussion on demolishing the building and expense involved in hauling it away. Formal request was made through the county to DEC in regards to any (soil) contamination.

Was suggested to have Waste Management drop containers at site for rubble.

Supervisor Monroe will work with Lincoln Logs in respect to them removing their equipment and that the town not be liable.

**RESOLUTION #140: DEMOLITION OF UNSAFE BUILDING ON PINE STREET AND OBTAIN QUOTES FOR HAULING AWAY RUBBLE.**

Introduced by Mrs.Wells, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr.Durkish to have Town of Chester demolish unsafe building (old Martin Ford) on Pine Street and obtain needed quotes for hauling rubble away. AYE 5 NO 0

**Planning board member and alternate vacancies - no replies.**

**RESOLUTION #141: RECOGNIZE HEROIC DEED OF JIM CONWAY.**

Introduced by Mrs.Wells, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mrs.DuRose recognizing the heroic deed of Jim Conway in rescuing a lady from her vehicle which had gone in to Faxon Pond. Town Board of the Town of Chester commends Mr.Conway for his quick actions. AYE 5 NO 0

Supervisor Monroe reported that he has had the "Carboy" house, on main street, door be padlock and window be boarded up.

**RESOLUTION #142: APPOINT PAUL LITTLE CHAIRMAN OF PLANNING BOARD.**

Introduced by Mrs.Wells, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr.Packer to appoint Paul Little as Chairman of the Town of Chester Planning Board, due to the resigning of Ken Raisner. AYE 5 NO 0

**NYSERDA energy audit** - Town had done many of the things they would have recommended to be done. Replacement of lights to be done and request Councilperson Packer to review.

**Ratify execution of solar power contract/lease and status of solar project** - At last meeting Supervisor was authorized to sign lease and contract with Solarnovar and Edge for the solar panels for places designated. Footings had to be poured before bad weather. Mr.Schachner, attorney for the town, reviewed the lease and some changes were made.

**RESOLUTION #143: RATIFY LEASE AGREEMENT WITH EDGE DESIGN AND CONSULTING INC AND SOLARNOVAR..**

Introduced by Mr.Packer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr.Durkish to ratify lease agreement with Edge Design and Consulting Inc and Solarnovar.

AYE 5 NO 0

Work is progressing, some footings have been poured, trenches have been dug, wire is in, and meters are in. Panels should be coming maybe Friday. Will work to "get off demand meters".  
Non jurisdictional letter has been received from APA (Nov.4, 2011).

**Sign variance application - re-consider size** - discussion at ZBA, members felt that may not be required, because the square footage requirement is only the part that is used for the actual sign and not the support structure. Many feel the sign part should be 50 sq.ft and not 40sq.ft. Zoning officer did not agree with ZBA. Town will request variance for 50sq ft and if the board says no than an interperatation that it is only the sign part of it at 40 sq ft and if it includes the support structure than a variance will be requested.

**RESOLUTION #144: AUTHORIZE CLERK TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR #2 FUEL OIL, DIESEL FUEL AND KEROSENE FOR TOWN BUILDINGS, SENIOR TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC HEARINGS.**

Introduced by Mrs.Wells, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr.Durkish authorizing clerk to advertise for the following bids and public hearings:

1. #2 fuel oil, diesel fuel and kerosene and provide emergency service for all town locations, listed in ad, other than the new Town Municipal Center, and prepare a separate bid for fuel oil for the Town of Chester Municipal Center, with a minimum deliver of 5000 gallons.
2. Weekly mini-bus transportation to Glens Falls for Senior Citizens during the fiscal year 2012. 15 passenger seating.
3. Public hearings:  
North Warren Chamber of Commerce, Inc. to act as advertising agent for the Town of Chester in the amount of \$14,000 (code A6410.4) Contract with North Warren Emergency Squad to furnish emergency ambulance service in the Town of Chester in the amount of \$60,000 (code A4540.4)Contract with North Creek Fire District to provide fire protection in the amount of \$30,000 per year; contract with Riverside Volunteer Fire Co. to provide fire protection in the amount of \$7,000 (SA3410.41) and Chestertown Fire Company to also provide protection in the Riverside Fire Protection District in the amount of \$5,000. (SA3410.42)

Bids will be opened at 7:30 pm on December 13, 2011 and public hearing on 2012 contracts will be held at 7:40 pm. AYE 5 NO 0

Discussion on including propane in bid in not available under state or county contract. Some one will find out if available.

**RESOLUTION #145: SET DATE FOR RE-ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING.**

Introduced by Mrs.DuRose, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mrs.Wells to set the date of January 3, 2012 (Tuesday) at 7:00 pm for the Re-organizational meeting. AYE 5 NO 0

**Quotes for handicapped library door openings** - only one quote was received to date, another quote is expected. TABLED. Will probably need to bid. Councilperson Durkish will work with Jason Monroe to review handicap doors. Supervisor Monroe will check with county engineers to see what is required by ADA.

**2012 health insurance options - MVP** - Supervisor Monroe explain the issue. Contract in the past would provide Empire Blue Cross plan. MVP no longer has that plan, the plan that they do offer is more money (8.25% more). Supervisor Monroe has negotiated with the CSEA Bargaining unit to see if they would consider a cheaper plan and if there is savings, those savings would be shared by creating a health care reimbursement account. This has been done successfully in the past. Supervisor Monroe said that "the feedback he is getting, is that the bargaining unit is willing to do that" but CDPHP is less money than MVP and there is "pretty substantial savings for the town and savings for employees through health care reimbursement account." But the medicare eligible retirees, under the Medicare Advantage Programs are cheaper than active employees plans - CDPHP plan will only insure actively working employees and the Medicare Advantage will only insure the medicare eligible and there are those in the middle who are retirees that are not medicare eligible yet (because they are not 65). CDPHP will not insure them under the normal program. They have another program which is an HMO and has a network which does not include everybody.

Tabled to executive session.

**Schroon Lake Park District** - Supervisor Monroe said that Mr.Koch spoke with him in regards to district property. Commissioners from district request for town to pass resolution so they can negotiate a sale of property. Property is located in the Town of Chester.

**RESOLUTION #146: AUTHORIZE ATTORNEY FOR THE TOWN TO DO LEGAL RESEARCH TO DETERMINE IF TOWN CONSENT IS REQUIRED.**

Introduced by Mrs.Wells, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr.Durkish authorize Mr.Schachner, attorney for the town, to do legal research to determine if town consent is required for the Schroon Lake Park District to negotiate sale of property within the town.

AYE 5            NO 0

Motion by Mrs.Wells, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr.Packer the Town Board went into Executive Session at 8:50 pm to do interviews for Animal Control Officer position. Motion by Mr.Monroe, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mrs.DuRose Town Board Resumed regular session at 9:35 pm. No action taken.

**RESOLUTION #147: AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH CSEA TO OFFER TO THE EMPLOYEES TO ACCEPT CDPHP PLAN AND CREATE A HEALTH CARE REIMBURSEMENT ACCOUNT TO SHARE 50% OF THE SAVINGS.**

Introduced by Mr.Monroe, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mrs.Wells authorize Supervisor Monroe to sign an agreement with CSEA to offer to the employees that

they accept the CDPHP plan and the town create a health care reimbursement account to share 50% of the savings.

AYE 5 NO 0

**RESOLUTION #148: HIRE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER.**

Introduced by Mr.Packer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mrs.Wells to hire June Maxam as Animal Control Officer, with a three month probation period and have attorney Mr.Schachner, draft an agreement. Pay as stated in budget.

AYE 5 NO 0

**RESOLUTION #149: AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF ABSTRACT AND APPROVE CLAIMS PAID PRIOR TO AUDIT.**

Introduced by Mrs.Wells, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr.Durkish authorizing payment of abstract and approve claims paid prior to audit.

General fund	\$69,915.00	(484-527)
Highway fund	\$39,045.29	(207-232)
Chtwn water	\$ 936.42	( 50- 57)
P'ville water	\$ 775.79	( 56- 60)
Library	\$ 1,827.96	( 48- 56)

AYE 5 NO 0

**RESOLUTION #150: ADVERTISE FOR PART TIME ZONING/PLANNING BOARD CLERK.**

Introduced by Mr.Monroe, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mrs.Wells to advertise for a part time clerk in the zoning office.

AYE 5 NO 0

Discussion on boat for Loon Lake. Will wait until spring to make any decision.

Motion by Mr.Monroe meeting was adjourned at 10:00pm.

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Town Clerk

