

JULY 18, 2019 Workshop Minutes

Attending: Mayor Blundell and all Board Members; Asst Clerk Drewes was to cover but had a non-work emergency that indicated she would be late. Mayor Blundell took notes.

Since no Clerk was available we went into Exec Session with a potential job candidate interview at 7:05 pm.

EXEC SESSION – MATTER PERTAINING TO THE EMPLOYMENT OF A PARTICULAR INDIVIDUAL(S)

Asst. Clerk did not show up so at 7:30 pm we ended Exec Session and went to regular session. (Asst Clerk never showed up).

NYS COMPTROLLER AUDIT - RESPONSE DISCUSSION – The board has copies of the confidential draft report from the Comptroller audit and copies of the first response from us. Consensus is that our operation is functioning well and within our construct of cross-staff review and procurement with regard to professional services. We updated our procurement policy in early 2019. Mayor is to meet the auditor again for an “Exit Interview” and we will use the draft response in the interview.

STAFFING/HIRING SEQUENCE – ADMIN STAFFING – With the two week notice of departure provided to us by Asst. Clerk Drewes we are one day away from being under staffed. Her last day will be the 19th of July. Mayor had interviewed several candidates and presented another one at Executive session. It is the Mayor’s opinion that we need to provide 5 day coverage in the Clerk’s office but also cross-train in Planning/Zoning and Police so we have back-up options and skill sets within the organization. He pointed out that full-time hires must come off civil service lists and he is reluctant to appoint inexperienced folks to appointed positions without a test of their merit. Two additional candidates were offered with one having to need until next week for her availability decision. No consensus was reached on

DANSKAMMER – SCENIC HUDSON – STANCE – Scenic Hudson is asking municipal leaders to sign on to a letter to ask Gov. Cuomo to resist any re-opening of Danskammer, a power plant along the Hudson at Newburgh, NY area, with natural gas as a fuel source. Mayor Blundell wanted full board review but stated he does not think fossil fuel would be allowed by Cuomo but feels we should sign on to resist any re-opening of a plant using fossil fuels so nearby and detrimental to climate

change efforts. The Board concurred and by motion agreed to add the names to the opposition letter being sent by Scenic Hudson.

LOGISTICS – SPECTRUM PHONE ISSUES/NEW WEBSITE/FACILITIES - Mayor Blundell discussed frustration and problems with phone and IT related matters. We use Spectrum and Frontier for different components of our communications and then internally use Hudson Valley Telephone for internal switching. We recently needed to convert the police rollover number for a request from NYSP. It caused all kinds of havoc and three parties took forever to stabilize it. In the interim we lost caller id for outgoing calls, lost ability to call out for a bit. Then, with the new website some domain changes affected our email. All this is very confusing and no one seems to have in-house knowledge for immediate fixes. We are converting IT to CMI – tech and the Mayor is asking for board assistance in analyzing a good system.

WATER PHASE 2B – SET UP FOR SEQR AND BOND RESOLUTION – We are still extremely busy with the Sewer Project but new grants are being issued in NYS WIIA under emerging pollutants protection. Mayor Blundell pointed out that we were part of a random sampling across NYS for PFOA and PFOS. Recently the state reduced the acceptable minimum limits to 10 parts per trillion. We are below that at 2.7 and 5.4 but he'd like to take steps to see if we can carbon filter our wells to reduce it. We do not generate on source for the contaminate; it is endemic in the environment but he's like to be pro-active. We'd need to set up a bond resolution and get ready to file in WIIA. He's consulting with engineers and bond counsel. To comply with notice requirements we'd need a special meeting for bond work timelines. Motion – Set Special Meeting for August 28, 2019 at Village Hall, at 7pm for Bond Public Hearing and Resolution. All were in favor.

Meeting concluded at 9 pm by motion.

Minutes by

Ed Blundell

