

**Town of Morristown
Regular Monthly Meeting
October 09, 2012**

Present: Gary Turner, David VanArnam, David Stout (7:12 PM), Howard Warren, Frank Putman

Also present: Michael Bogart, Kay Davis, Joe Lightfoot, Kevin Crosby, and Cheryl Shatraw

Supervisor Putman opened a public hearing at 7 PM to take public comment for or against the Tax Cap Law. There was no public comment. Supervisor Putman closed the hearing at 7:03 PM.

Supervisor Putman opened the regular meeting at 7:03 PM.

Approval of Minutes: A Motion was made by Councilman Warren, and seconded by Councilman VanArnam to approve the minutes of September 11, 2012 as presented.

Vote: G. Turner-Aye. D. VanArnam-Aye, H. Warren-Aye, F. Putman-Aye

Correspondence - none.

Public Comment Period- Kay Davis submitted her resignation effective November 30, 2012. She asked for permission to receive a cash payout for her unused sick time, and also asked to use her vacation and personal leave to be paid for the month of November. This will make her last work date November 2, 2012. Supervisor Putman thanked Ms. Davis for all her extra work involving the wind law, zoning and planning, and the recent lawsuit. A motion was made by Councilman Warren, seconded by Councilman Turner, to accept Ms. Davis' resignation, and approve the use of her vacation and personal time, and authorize the payout to her of unused sick time.

Vote: G. Turner-Aye. D. VanArnam-Aye, D. Stout – Abstain, H. Warren-Aye, F. Putman-Aye

A discussion was held on how the vacant position would be handled. Possibilities discussed were hiring from the civil service list full time. Making the position part-time, and having the State of New York Codes Division administer building codes in the town. No decision was made but Supervisor Putman asked Councilman Stout to head the process of filling the position.

Joe Lightfoot addressed the Board and spoke about the County proposal to withhold 30 percent of the towns portion of the sale tax. He stated he didn't think that the County would do so this year. He also discussed cost cutting strategies and a possible double digit tax rate increase at the County level.

Old Business

1. River Road East Sewer Project – The Board received an update from Tim Burley, via email, outlining the current final work being done by the contractor and restoration crews. A letter was received from Aaron Gilmour requesting to be removed from the district. The Board discussed the request and agreed that Mr. Gilmour will remain as part of the district. The Board directed the clerk to write Mr. Gilmour and inform him of their decision.

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2. Fuel Oil Bid- 1 bid was received from Morristown Fuel and Supply. The bid was opened and read by Supervisor Putman. The bid was for 22 cents off the daily cash price. A motion was made by Councilman Stout, seconded by Councilman Turner, to accept the bid as presented from Morristown Fuel and Supply.

Vote: G. Turner-Aye. D. VanArnam-Abstain, D. Stout - Aye, H. Warren-Aye, F. Putman-Aye

3. Cemetery Contract-The Board discussed the cemetery contract which expires the end of 2012, and the rules and regulations including raising the cost of cemetery plots. The clerk was directed to gather prices from some cemeteries nearby. Sherry Shatraw asked the Board if there was an itemized list with costs available for regular and winter burials. She was told the Board wasn't aware of one. The Board agreed that one should be available and even be put on the website. A motion was made by Councilman VanArnam, and seconded by Councilman Warren, to put the cemetery contract out to bid. Bids specs would be created by the Board and sent to the clerk. Bids would be opened at the November meeting.

Vote: G. Turner-Aye. D. VanArnam-Aye, D. Stout - Aye, H. Warren-Aye, F. Putman-Aye

4. 2013 Budget- The Board set a work session for October 16th at 6:30 PM.

5. Tax Cap Law – Supervisor Putman asked the Board if there was any discussion on the proposed local law. There was none. A motion was made by Councilman VanArnam, and seconded by Supervisor Putman to adopt Local Law # 6 of 2012- A Local Law to Exceed the Cap on the Local Tax Levy.

Vote: G. Turner-Aye. D. VanArnam-Aye, D. Stout - Aye, H. Warren-Aye, F. Putman-Aye

6. Town Kennel- The Board was updated on the process to secure a contract for the Town with Town and Country Veterinary.

7. Other- No other old business.

New Business

1. Supervisor Putman brought forward 3 resolutions that were requested by the Towns of Brasher and Russell concerning a 1percent sales tax increase and the County's proposed withholding of a portion of the sales tax from towns. There was no support from the Board and the resolutions were not considered.

2. Other- No other new business.

Department Reports

Code Enforcement-A written report was handed out to the Board. The Code Officer also briefed the Board on a blighted property in Terrace Park and the options and steps available to deal with it.

Highways – A written report was handed out. The Superintendent also briefed the Board on the Towns assistance with the Brier Hill Fire Departments construction project. Councilman Stout thanked the Board for the Towns assistance with the project. Superintendent Bogart also told the Board that the Brier Hill cemetery fence had been repaired and that the tree on Sand Street would be taken down soon. He is waiting on the guide rail install on River Road East.

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Sewer Department- Kevin Crosby stated that there was only 1 call for the month. Will be having the flow meter at the vacuum plant repaired soon.

A motion was made by Councilman VanArnam, and seconded by Supervisor Putman to enter into executive session to discuss matters relating to contract negotiations under provisions of the Taylor Law.

Vote: G. Turner-Aye, D. VanArnam-Aye, D. Stout - Aye, H. Warren-Aye, F. Putman-Aye
The Board entered into executive session at 8:40 PM.

The Board left executive session at 9:20 PM. Supervisor Putman stated that there was no action taken while in executive session.

The Board briefly discussed setting up a second budget work meeting. The Board set the next budget work meeting for Tuesday, October 16th at 6:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned upon motion at 9:25 PM.

Meeting minutes are respectfully submitted by David Murray, Town Clerk.