

April 18th, 2011
Regular Meeting
Petersburgh Town Board

The regular meeting of the Petersburgh Town Board was held on April 18th, 2011 at 7:00PM at the Petersburgh Town Hall, 65 Main Street, Petersburgh, New York.

Present: Deputy Supervisor David Green
Councilman William Seel
Councilman Richard Snyder
Councilwoman Amy Manchester
Planning Board Chairman David Miller
Town Clerk Callie Crisp
Dog Control Officer Lynne Torello-Burns
Building Inspector Doug Hull
Assessor Craig Surprise
Town Attorney Kevin Engel

Absent: Supervisor Peter Schaaphok
Highway Superintendent Raymond Harrison

Guests: Sharon Hodges, Joseph Dunlop

Press: Alex Brooks, The Eastwick Press

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Deputy Supervisor Green called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

A moment of silence was held to honor the memories of Donald Hewitt, Richard vonSchilligen, and Fred Humphrey.

Resolution #20
Audit of Bills

On motion of Councilman Seel, the following resolution was adopted. Be it resolved that the bills as listed on abstract # 4/11 be paid in the following amounts:

General Fund # 84-104	\$20,635.63
Light District # SL1- SL2	\$ 1,504.92
Highway Fund #79-100	\$ 7,594.99
Water District # 18-21	\$ 695.73
Library Fund # 22-29	\$ 3,691.40

Councilwoman Manchester seconded such motion, and roll call showed the following results:

Deputy Supervisor David Green	Aye
Councilman Richard Snyder	Aye
Councilman William Seel	Aye
Councilwoman Manchester	Aye

Deputy Supervisor Green declared the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

Resolution #21
Approval of Minutes

On motion of Councilwoman Manchester, the following resolution was adopted. Be it resolved that the minutes from the Regular Town Board Meeting March 21st, 2011 be accepted as presented. Councilman Seel seconded such motion, and roll call showed the following results:

Deputy Supervisor David Green	Aye
Councilman Richard Snyder	Aye
Councilman William Seel	Aye
Councilwoman Manchester	Aye

Deputy Supervisor Green declared the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

REPORTS

- Building Inspector Doug Hull: was present to address the Board regarding agricultural building permit exemptions. Mr. Hull has not been issuing permits for sheds/barns built for agricultural uses, as stated in Part 1221 2.2. (b) of the New York State Fire Prevention and Building Code. Assessor Craig Surprise has informed Mr. Hull that this should not be done. According to Mr. Surprise, an exemption should only be given if the entire property is agriculturally exempt. Mr. Surprise stated that a barn built for one horse should not be considered an agricultural structure. Mr. Surprise then suggested that in these cases an application should be filed and permit issued, but not to charge for these permits. Mr. Hull insisted that law does not require this. The Board agreed that a definition for "agricultural" structures is needed, and the matter was tabled.
- Assessor Craig Surprise: informed the Board that the State rules on re-evaluations have changed, making the process much more involved. New regulations mandate a visit to every property, and include obtaining new measurements and pictures of all parcels. A four-year commitment is now also required for this process. The last Re-val in Petersburg was in 2003, however this data was only good through 2007. Mr. Surprise stated that the estimated cost had been \$20,000 - \$30,000, however the new State rules double this estimate. The State reimburses \$5/parcel; with appx. 1034 parcels in Town this would not be nearly enough funds. Mr. Surprise is working on creating a more feasible plan for the Re-val process. In addition, it was reported that the Tax Assessment Roll Book will now have to be posted on the Town's website. Mr. Surprise is looking into adding a link to the County's website, where this information will be posted.
- Planning Board Chairman David Miller: stated that the Planning Board has hired a Civil Engineer, Clark Wilkinson. The engineer will be working on Town road and highway specs, among other things. Mr. Miller invited the Board to meet the engineer at the Planning Board's meeting on Monday, April 24th, 2011 at 7:00 PM. This meeting will address the damage to roads caused by commercial vehicles.

- Dog Control Officer: presented monthly reports for February and March.
- Supervisor: Deputy Supervisor David Green presented the monthly Supervisor's report to the Board on behalf of Supervisor Schaaphok, who is recovering from surgery. The report showed receipts \$76,348.19, disbursements \$110,541.72, leaving a balance on hand as of April 18th, 2011 of \$570,149.63. This report is on file in the Town Clerk's office. Deputy Supervisor Green also stated that Supervisor Schaaphok wanted the Board to know that he has been working on the reply to Margaret Weinland; but due to health issues and computer problems, the letter has not yet been sent.

OLD BUSINESS

- Damage to Water Tower: Councilman Seel will be obtaining a ladder from the Fire Department, so that the hole in the side of the Water Tower can be reached and plugged to deter contaminants.

NEW BUSINESS

- Dog Control Law: although DCO Torello-Burns has been issuing dog-related tickets, the tickets are being dismissed from the Petersburg Town Court due to absence of a prosecutor. Attorney Engel spoke with the DA's office, who suggested authorizing Ms. Torello-Burns to prosecute the tickets. The DA is willing to have an assistant handle the initial proceedings on the DCO's behalf, if she is unable to attend. The Board agreed to authorize Ms. Torello-Burns as a prosecutor. As for the changes to the law, the proposed revisions are as follows:
 - A line was added to Section 6.01. that reads, "The penalty for failure to license said dog within 30 days of notification of violation of this section shall be \$50.00."
 - A line was added to Section 6.02. that reads, "The penalty for failure to obtain said kennel license within 30 days of notification of violation of this section shall be \$50.00."
 - Section 11.01. was changed to: "Any person convicted of a violation of this local law shall be liable to a **minimum** civil penalty **of \$50.00. Such penalty shall** not exceeding ~~\$250.00~~ for a first violation, not exceeding ~~\$500.00~~ **\$250.00** for a second violation, and not exceeding \$500.00 for each subsequent violation."

Resolution #22

Approval of Revisions to Dog Control Law

On motion of Councilwoman Manchester, the following resolution was adopted. Be it resolved that the proposed revisions to the Town of Petersburg's Dog Control Law be approved as presented. Councilman Snyder seconded such motion, and roll call showed the following results:

Deputy Supervisor David Green

Aye

Councilman Richard Snyder	Aye
Councilman William Seel	Aye
Councilwoman Manchester	Aye

Deputy Supervisor Green declared the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

Resolution #23
Public Hearing on Revisions to Dog Control Law

On motion of Councilman Snyder, the following resolution was adopted. Be it resolved that the Petersburg Town Board will meet and hold a Public Hearing for the purpose of hearing those present for or against the approved revisions made to Local Law # 2 of 2010 entitled, 'The Dog Control Law of the Town of Petersburg' on May 16th, 2011 at 6:45 PM at the Petersburg Town Hall, prior to the Regular Town Board Meeting. Councilman Seel seconded such motion, and roll call showed the following results:

Deputy Supervisor David Green	Aye
Councilman Richard Snyder	Aye
Councilman William Seel	Aye
Councilwoman Manchester	Aye

Deputy Supervisor Green declared the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

- Board of Assessment Review reappointment:

Resolution #24
Reappointment of David Miller to Board of Assessment Review

On motion of Councilman Seel, the following resolution was adopted. Be it resolved that David Miller be reappointed to the Board of Assessment Review for a five-year term ending September 30th, 2015. Councilman Snyder seconded such motion, and roll call showed the following results:

Deputy Supervisor David Green	Aye
Councilman Richard Snyder	Aye
Councilman William Seel	Aye
Councilwoman Manchester	Aye

Deputy Supervisor Green declared the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

- 2011 Lawn Care Agreement:

Resolution # 25
2011 Lawn Care Agreement

On motion of Councilman Seel, the following resolution was adopted. Be it resolved that Edward Jones be hired for the Lawn Care of the Town Complex

and cemeteries at the same rate as last year. Councilman Snyder seconded such motion, and roll call showed the following results:

Deputy Supervisor David Green	Aye
Councilman Richard Snyder	Aye
Councilman William Seel	Aye
Councilwoman Manchester	Aye

Deputy Supervisor Green declared the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

PUBLIC ADDRESS

- Joseph Dunlop: was present to inquire about the broken hydrant located near the old Jones' garage, which has not yet been repaired. Mr. Dunlop also asked if the Town Hall has a working meter yet, and if it would be assessed the \$250.00 non-working meter fine.
- William Seel: Had a couple questions relating to the Highway Department. Mr. Seel was wondering what the plans are for the old trucks that have now been replaced, and whether or not the Town's Gradall is in working condition. Mr. Seel also asked about the procedure for abandoning Town roads, and addressed Planning Board Chairman David Miller about driveway specifications for the Fire District.

On motion of Councilwoman Manchester, seconded by Councilman Snyder, Deputy Supervisor Green adjourned the meeting at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Callie Crisp, Town Clerk