

Clifton Park Town Board Meeting Minutes

March 3, 2003

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Clifton Park was held in the Town Office Building at 7:00 p.m., Supervisor Barrett presiding.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Present: Councilman Paolucci
Councilman Speckhard
Councilman Roth
Councilwoman Walowit
Supervisor Barrett
Town Clerk O'Donnell

Also Present: Ass't Town Attorney Peller
Michael Shahen, Town Administrator
Barbara McHugh, Director of Community Development

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Supervisor Barrett noted today is the anniversary of the founding of the Town of Clifton Park.

Supervisor Barrett said the \$2.1 million surplus includes tax cuts.

Supervisor Barrett congratulated the Shenendehowa Hockey team on winning the Section II title.

PUBLIC HEARING, 7:10 PM REGARDING AGENCY PLAN FOR 2003 FOR THE SECTION 8 RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Town Clerk read the Notice of Public Hearing as published in The Daily Gazette on January 17, 2003. .

Joseph Mastrianni of Joseph E. Mastrianni, Inc., summarized the proposed plan explaining this program is completely federally funded and subsidizes rents for low income elderly, disabled and other low income families. This also covers the Towns of Halfmoon and Malta and the Village of Round Lake. Approximately \$275,000 is available to subsidize rents. Mr. Mastrianni reported there is a waiting list of 47 people. He noted with the funding, 59 families can be helped and at this point 52 families are being helped. He said about 55 percent of the people assisted are elderly or disabled. He said if the waiting list continues to grow he may ask the town to apply for more funding.

Mr. Mastrianni said rental assistance can now be used to pay a mortgage instead of a landlord if people qualify for a private mortgage. In order to do this a Family Self-Sufficiency Program in the Town of Clifton Park may be started.

The public hearing was opened for comments from the audience at 7:17 p.m.

Everyone was given an opportunity to speak in favor of or against the proposed local law and no one wished to be heard. Supervisor Barrett declared the public hearing closed at 7:18 pm.

PROCLAMATIONS IN HONOR OF THE TOWN'S 175TH ANNIVERSARY

County Supervisor Anita Daly read a letter from Congressman John E. Sweeney, attached. On behalf of Congressman Sweeney, a United States flag was presented by retired Navy Commander Paul Martineau of Clifton Park to the Town Clerk. This flag is to fly over the Clifton Park Town Hall in recognition of the Town's 175th celebration.

The Town Clerk read a letter from United States Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton in honor of the Town's 175th Anniversary, attached.

Supervisor Barrett read a Proclamation from Senator Joseph L. Bruno commemorating the 175th Anniversary, attached.

Supervisor Barrett congratulated Ed Dussault on having a 1921 Model T. Ford that he restored displayed in the Postal History Museum, part of the Smithsonian Institution.

REPORT TO THE BOARD

John Scherer, Town Historian, noted the area was known as Clifton Park since 1708 when Queen Anne of England granted a large land patent named after a town in England. The patent map of 1765, done on sheepskin, hangs in the Town Clerk's office. The Vischer Ferry area was known at the Canastigione patent. The 1820s was a boom period for the area and with the great increase in population, the town was split and was named "Clifton". The name was changed back to Clifton Park on March in 1829. Mr. Scherer reported receiving the donation of a large wall map of New York State dated 1829 from town resident, Jim Baisley. It is the first map to show the name "Cliftonpark". Another donation received was a letter from a beekeeper in Grooms Corners dated 1888. The Grooms Tavern was the post office at this time and the envelope is postmarked "Grooms Corners".

Mr. Scherer gave his annual report for 2002, attached.

Councilman Speckhard said the 175th celebration has been a fascinating experience, noting this is a town that has changed dramatically and also a town that hasn't changed at all. He read a portion of the Legislation establishing the Town of "Clifton". Councilman Speckhard directed attention to the flag of 1818, on loan from the Elks, depicting 20

stars. This would be the flag flying over the State Capitol on March 3, 1828 when the Town was created. The flag was established by Congress on April 14, 1818 with a resolution that on and after July 4, 1818, the number of stripes should be 13 and that the blue field should carry one star for each of the 20 states in the Union and that a new star should be added for each state thereafter admitted. The Legislation also said the town would meet to elect its Supervisor and Councilman on the "first Tuesday of April next" which was April 1, 1828. Councilman Speckhard announced the Town Board will meet at Grooms Tavern on April 1st for a commemorative meeting. Due to the size of Grooms Tavern, the meeting will not be open to the general public but will be videotaped and shown on Time Warner Cable. Councilman Speckhard noted that Clifton Park is the youngest town in Saratoga County.

PUBLIC PRIVILEGE ON RESOLUTIONS

No one wished to be heard.

Resolution No. 46 of 2003, a resolution authorizing the purchase of a Utility Billing and Management Software Package and Computer for the Rexford Water District No. 2.

Introduced by Councilman Speckhard, who moved its adoption, second by Councilman Paolucci.

WHEREAS, the Rexford Water District No. 2 Study Committee has recommended to the Town Board, as Commissioners of the District, that a new Utility Billing and Management Software Package and Computer be purchased for use by the Rexford Water District, and

WHEREAS, quotes were received for the purchase of a Utility Billing and Management Software Package, and

WHEREAS, the Rexford Study Committee recommends that the quote of Continental Computer, Jonesboro, Arkansas, in the amount of \$2,624.00 for the purchase of a new Utility Billing and Management Software Package be accepted; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board, acting as Commissioners of the District, hereby authorizes the Rexford Water District No. 2 to purchase a Utility Billing and Management Software Package from Continental Computer in the amount of \$2,624.00, and to purchase a Computer from State Contract, combined purchase not to exceed \$5,000.00 to be paid from District funds in FX-8340-200 (Equipment).

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Paolucci, Councilman Speckhard, Councilman Roth, Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 47 of 2003, a resolution authorizing the Assistant Town Attorney, Louis Renzi, to attend a Land Use Seminar.

Introduced by Councilman Roth, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Paolucci.

WHEREAS, Assistant Town Attorney, Louis Renzi, has requested that he be authorized to attend a two day seminar to be held at Albany Law School on March 13-14, 2003, at a cost not to exceed \$250.00, and

WHEREAS, his attendance at the seminar would provide a benefit to the Town; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Assistant Town Attorney, Louis Renzi, is hereby authorized to attend a two day Land Use Seminar at Albany Law School on March 13-14, 2003 at a cost not to exceed \$250.00 to be budgeted from A-8010-1(Zoning-Travel & Conferences).

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Paolucci, Councilman Speckhard, Councilman Roth, Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 48 of 2003, a resolution authorizing Change Order No. 3 for the Moe Road Project.

Introduced by Councilman Speckhard, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Paolucci.

WHEREAS, the Moe Road Project contract was approved by New York State at a total cost of \$3,612,862.00, and

WHEREAS, additional work to the project by the contractor August Bohl Contracting Co. Inc. at an additional cost of \$96, 290.08, and

WHEREAS, the cost to date for the project is \$3,384,253.86 with a remaining balance of money available for the project of \$228,608.16, and

WHEREAS, the Project is to be reimbursed from Federal and State funds at 95%, local match 5%, with a final cost to the Town of Clifton Park of \$4,814.50; now, therefore, be

it

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby granted to the Comptroller to execute Change Order No. 3 for additional work to the Moe Road Project in the amount of \$96,290.08, with \$4,814.50 of the amount to be paid by the Town of Clifton Park from DA-5110-24 (Highway-Repair/Maintenance).

Town Administrator Shahan reported some of the change order has been caused by delays in the project due to lateness of utilities projects being done and various requests of residents. He said there is a small punch list that will be attended to in the spring, noting that approximately two percent of the job is left to be done.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Paolucci, Councilman Speckhard, Councilman Roth, Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

PUBLIC PRIVILEGE

Ed Dussault, Grooms Road, said he and his wife are honored to serve on the Grooms Tavern Preservation Committee.

Norman Goldman, London Square, reiterated the necessity of an audit of the ice arena.

Bob Gauvreau, Oakwood Blvd., spoke on public privilege

A discussion ensued regarding public privilege, the five minute "rule" and the statement on the agenda. Councilman Paolucci reported no legislation has been enacted regarding public privilege. He feels the statement on the agenda needs to be altered. Councilman Speckhard said there is too much concern with time rather than what public privilege is about. He feels limits on time need to come from the speakers. Supervisor Barrett stated public privilege will continue at the end of every Town Board meeting.

Barbara Hartman said the musical program presented by the churches and synagogue in town was fabulous.

Jim Baisley, Barkwood Lane, stated, regarding public privilege, the 5 minute rule should never come up and everyone's opinion should be respected. He said the arena is doing a good job.

Supervisor Barrett said, regarding public privilege, he would like to see some uniformity and use less discretion.

MOTION by Councilman Paolucci, seconded by Councilman Speckhard, to adjourn the meeting to the next regular meeting or any other meeting necessary for the conduct of Town business.

Motion carried at 8:30 p.m.

Patricia O'Donnell
Town Clerk