

TOWN OF ELBRIDGE
TOWN BOARD MEETING
May 6, 2009

REGULAR MEETING: The Town Board of the Town of Elbridge met in regular session on May 6th 2009 at 7:00 PM in the JE Community Center, Route 31, Jordan, New York.

Supervisor Bush called the meeting to order at 7 PM and Jordan Boy Scout Troop 57 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Supervisor Ken Bush, Councilor George Betts, Councilor Bruce Ralston, Councilor Rita Dygert, and Councilor Vern Richardson.

OTHERS PRESENT: Dirk Oudemool, Attorney; Dennis Pelmeur, Highway Superintendent; Ami Olson, The Eagle Observer; Mark Grasmeyer, Senior Program Coordinator; Jack Horner, Historian; Joe Moorman, State Office of Real Property Services; Debra Stapleton, Town Clerk; and approximately 70 residents.

ADOPT MINUTES: On a motion of Councilor Betts, seconded by Councilor Ralston to dispense with the reading of the minutes of April 15, 2009 and adopt minutes as written.
UC

MOTION TO PAY BILLS: Councilor Richardson, seconded by Councilor Betts made a motion that General Bills Abstract #4, Vouchers # 221-269 in the amount of \$ 82,274.64 were ordered paid and Highway Bills, Abstract #4, Vouchers # 45H-60H in the amount of \$ 34,469.15 were also ordered paid for a total disbursement of \$116,743.79.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1) A letter from Stephen Matro, President of CWA Local 1123, looking for support from municipalities for keeping jobs local with the Verizon Corporation and its new fiber optic network.
- 2) A letter from Robert Weible, NYS Historian, thanking John Horner for his 2008 Historian report and complimenting him on his work.
- 3) An invitation from the Village of Elbridge to participate in the Memorial Day Parade on Monday 25th, 2009.

GUEST:

- 1) Maureen Doyle
- 2) Joe Moorman from the State Office of Real Property Services.
- 3) Pat Merritt of Route 31. (Mr. Merritt exited the meeting before his turn to speak)

Maureen Doyle, as first guest, read several pages of a prepared letter regarding the Townwide reassessment, and gave several examples of properties, and how they vary. She believes the timing of this re-val also has an unfair disadvantage to taxpayers because real estate prices were inflated during the time properties were assessed. The Supervisor asked for a copy of her written concerns, and she'll e-mail it. Councilor Betts asked if all her examples were properties she felt were under assessed, and she confirmed this, and said she would also include, in her email, a list of other examples she feels are over- assessed. She thanked the Board for their time.

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Joe Moorman from NY State RPS spoke to the Board and audience next, and explained the re-val process. The State oversees the Assessor and makes sure they're reviewing sales, and reviewing values of all properties. Mr. Moorman explained how the hearings work and the steps to grieve assessments. There were many questions from audience members and there was much discussion.

REPORTS:

Assessor: Report is on file, and Penny included dates for upcoming availability of appointments for sitting with the roll.

Highway Superintendent: Report is on file.

Code Enforcement Officer: Councilor Dygert read Mr. Herrmann's report.

Dog Control Officer: Report on file.

Historian: Jack mentioned the conference he attended recently in Albany, and copied many pages found of 1865 Civil War Veterans from the Town of Elbridge.

Senior Program Director: JET (J-E Transportation) will be what we call the 2009 wheelchair equipped, 12 passenger mini- bus. We'll be in the parade (May 25th), and also at Taste of Elbridge (June 24th).

Outreach Worker: Leo indicated in his report the luncheon for National Older Americans Month will be on May 19th, with entertainment by Loren Barrigar. Councilor Dygert ordered a banner for the new bus for the parade (to thank Senator DeFrancisco).

Recreation Director: Report on file. Great opening day at Seymour Lofft Park-parade and many games-good crowd, and beautiful weather.

Planning Board Chairman: Nothing at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

On a motion of Supervisor Bush, seconded by Councilor Richardson the following resolution was

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Betts Ralston Dygert Richardson Bush
0 NAYS

Resolution 39-09

Resolved: The Elbridge Town Board expresses its opposition to closing the Butler Correctional Facility in light of all the community service performed in the Town of Elbridge.

On a motion of Councilor Dygert, seconded by Councilor Betts the following resolution was

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Betts Ralston Dygert Richardson Bush
0 NAYS

Resolution 40-09

Resolved: that the Town of Elbridge Town Board fully supports the application being made in the Town's behalf by the Department of Aging and Youth with the Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council for grant funding under the New Freedom Funding Program to help cover the costs of a paid driver/scheduler for the Town's newly

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established transportation service known as the Jordan-Elbridge Transport or “JET” for purposes of this application.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilor Betts: an ad hoc committee has been formed to best serve the community re: fire service. There are 10 members, with representation from the 2 Village Boards, both Fire Departments, and the Town Board.

Councilor Ralston: Trash day is Saturday, May 9th.

Councilor Richardson: will be meeting with Time Warner in the next couple of weeks to discuss high-speed internet service for rural areas and submitting grants for Federal Stimulus money.

Councilor Dygert: Newly formed Zoning committee, which was formed, to review and advise on zoning matters held it's first meeting on May 4th.

Supervisor Bush: quotes for fiber run between town buildings are in.

MONTHLY REPORTS ON FILE: Supervisor, Town Clerk, Dog Control Officer, Recreation Director, Highway Superintendent, Senior Program Coordinator, Zoning Officer and Outreach Worker.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, on a motion of Ralston seconded by Councilor Richardson the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM. UC

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Stapleton, Town Clerk