

TOWN OF ELBRIDGE
TOWN BOARD MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 16, 2009

REGULAR MEETING: The Town Board of the Town of Elbridge met in regular session on September 16, 2009 at 7:00 PM in the Town Municipal Building, Route 31, Jordan, New York.

Supervisor Bush called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney Dirk Oudemool, Bill Skardinski, Larry Fitts, Assessor; Dennis Pelmeur, Highway Superintendent; Dan Conroy, Doug Blumer, Gabe Rosetti, Tom McGuire, Brenda Kayn, Town Auditor; Penny Ceratt, Assessing Clerk; and Debra Stapleton, Town Clerk. Ami Olson, Eagle Observer entered at 7:15 PM.

ADOPT MINUTES: On a motion of Councilor Dygert, seconded by Councilor Richardson to dispense with the reading of the minutes of September 2, 2009 and adopt minutes as amended. UC.

COMMUNICATIONS:

FROM:

- 1) OCCRA re: recycling TV's and computers
- 2) From Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency, re: a Public Hearing held at the Town of Elbridge Municipal Building on Sept. 24 for the Allred & Associates, Inc. project at 2:00 PM.
- 3) A letter from the NY Department of State re: the 2010 census and their comprehensive effort to count every individual resident in the US.

GUESTS:

- 1) Brenda Kayn, Auditor, from BMK Services

Brenda Kayn reported on the 2008 audit for the Town, and it went well. There was discussion on several points, including Justice and Recreation, and she was impressed with the office staff, and people helping one another.

- 2) Mr. Larry Fitts

As the Town Assessor for the past 15 years, Larry discussed many issues and concerns he has with the Town entering into a CAP agreement with the Town of Camillus, and with their Assessor. There was much discussion and he questioned what is best for the residents in the town, joining in with a much larger town and doing an annual reassessment.

- 3) Mr. William Skardinski

Mr. Skardinski is concerned over the amount of truck traffic through the Village of Jordan from the thruway project. Their base is on Carmer Road, and there have been an overwhelming number of trucks, at all hours of the day driving through town. Discussion ensued regarding what restrictions, if any, could be imposed and the length of this project.

- 4) Hank Doerr, Mayor of Elbridge

Mayor Doerr wanted to speak with the board regarding the LT2 water project on Kingston Road and assistance in the grant funding procedure.

TOWN OF ELBRIDGE
TOWN BOARD MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 16, 2009

OLD BUSINESS:

1) Towpath East

There was discussion with Highway Superintendent Pelmear, Tom McGuire, and Attorney Oudemool and the possibility of a smaller truck plowing this winter, the width of the road, and a turnaround.

2) Cobblestone Ridge sign

Attorney Oudemool spoke with Tracy Wittenburg re: the sign and the possibility of a homeowners association, and the board will hold off on further discussion until the next meeting on October 7th.

NEW BUSINESS:

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

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Betts Ralston Dygert Richardson Bush
0 NAYS

Resolution 70-09

Resolved: the Town of Elbridge resolves to contact Onondaga County Department of Parks and Recreation and the County Executive's office to inquire as to the possibility of the town plowing 1100 feet of Towpath East.

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

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Betts Ralston Richardson Dygert Bush
0 NAYS

Resolved 71-09

Resolved:

WHEREAS: on September 10, 2009 it pleased the Almighty God to remove from this community James D. Gorham and

WHEREAS: James D. Gorham served the Town of Elbridge faithfully as Supervisor from 1/1/54-12/31/59 and

WHEREAS: he has left a commendable record of loyal service as well, as a citizen and

WHEREAS: in his death, this township has lost a valuable citizen and past servant of government, and believing that a fitting tribute should be paid to the memory of a revered friendship and association, now therefore be it

RESOLVED: that this Board express its sorrow by a rising tribute and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the bereaved family of the late James D. Gorham and a copy be spread upon the permanent record of this Board.

Resolved: the Elbridge Town Board resolves to approve the Municipal Cooperative Agreement between the Town of Elbridge and the Town of Camillus to create a Coordinated Assessment Program pursuant to Section 579 of the Real Estate Property Tax Law effective October 1st, 2009 and authorize the Supervisor to sign.

TOWN OF ELBRIDGE
TOWN BOARD MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 16, 2009

Supervisor Bush withdrew this resolution, until the next meeting, because of accusations of impropriety. The supervisor will place an ad in the paper to make the residents aware. There was much discussion from the Town Assessor, Larry Fitts, and audience members, and the town board regarding this resolution. The supervisor said no public hearing is required, for this personnel issue, and there is generally no public discussion when talking about department heads.

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

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Betts Ralston Dygert Richardson Bush
0 NAYS

Resolution 12-09

Resolved: a resolution to call for a NYS Constitutional Convention. See attached.

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

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Betts Ralston Dygert Richardson Bush
0 NAYS

Resolution 13-09

Resolved: Contingent upon receipt of grant funding the Village of Elbridge, the Village of Jordan, and the Town of Elbridge plan to consolidate water services to enable the Village of Elbridge to distribute water to all residents on public water within the Village of Elbridge, the Village of Jordan and the Town of Elbridge.

To facilitate the consolidation, a drinking water treatment facility will be built along Kingston Road in the Town of Elbridge to comply with the Environmental Protection Agency “ Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule”. The proposed consolidated facility will be operated and maintained solely by the Village of Elbridge. Furthermore, to facilitate complete consolidation of water services, the Village of Elbridge will perform all meter reading, maintenance and billing for all residents on public water within the Village of Elbridge, the Village of Jordan, and the Town of Elbridge. The Town of Elbridge will cease receiving water from the Town of Skaneateles if and when funding is awarded and instead will receive it from the Village of Elbridge via an existing line because it will be more cost effective to do so.

The Town intends to enter into an Intermunicipal Agreement with the Village of Elbridge and the Village of Jordan outlining the terms and conditions of the proposed consolidation of water services.

The Town of Elbridge authorizes the Supervisor to enter into a grant application as co-applicant with the Villages of Elbridge and Jordan in an amount not to exceed \$600,000.00, the details of which shall be adopted at the next regular meeting of the Town and included in a formal resolution.

TOWN OF ELBRIDGE
TOWN BOARD MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 16, 2009

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

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Betts Ralston Dygert Richardson Bush
0 NAYS

Resolution 74-09

Resolved: authorize the Supervisor to send a letter with a resolution stating that the agreement must first be committed to by the respective Villages. The Town, in fact, has no water department.

The Town portion of \$200,000.00 is not sufficient to construct a transmission line.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilor Betts:

Councilor Ralston: nothing new- still looking at masons, and numbers for the parking lot.

Councilor Richardson: Elaine will pick up a few more hours in the justice office. Soccer season started.

Councilor Dygert: discussion on insurance and Medicare. Next JET meeting on September 23rd, and will further explore policies.

Supervisor Bush: appreciates board's efforts with the budget and getting the figures together- expect the tentative next week. Pleased with the auditor's good review- the staff should be commended-she speaks highly of the staff in this town.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Larry Fitts, Town Assessor: Larry spoke at length about the annual reassessment process and the town's plan to enter into a CAP with the Town of Camillus and their assessor. After being an assessor for 38 years, and having been the assessor in the Town of Elbridge for 15 years, he feels there's an advantage with his experience. The cost of an annual reval (approximately \$9,000-\$11,000 per year) was also discussed and the availability of his expertise with the Assessing office.

Doug Blumer: doesn't feel that replacing Larry Fitts, as an appointed assessor, falls under a "personnel" issue, and would've asked to be on the agenda to speak earlier had he known this issue was on the table.

Mr. Gabe Rosetti: has a problem with elected officials neglecting residents' safety by waiting four months before questioning why so many trucks are allowed to pass through.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, on a motion of Councilor Ralston seconded by Councilor Dygert the meeting was adjourned at 9:39 PM. UC

Respectfully submitted,

Debra H. Stapleton, Town Clerk