

Town of Winfield
June 10, 2015

The regular meeting of the Winfield Town Board was called to order at 7 pm. by Supervisor Charles Osborn. Members present were Councilmen Howard Marsh, Michael Peo, Councilwoman Sandra Smith. Highway Superintendent Gigliotti was in attendance. Guests present were Bill Kwasniewsk and Gene Doremus from the West Winfield Star, Keith Watkins (ZBA), Ray Donley (Codes & Zoning) and George Hazzard.

General Fund Claims #99 - #115 and Highway Fund Claims #55 - #60 were listed on Abstract of Voucher Sheets. A motion was made by Councilman Peo and seconded by Councilwoman Smith to accept these Abstracts as presented. The Supervisor's and Town Clerk's reports for May were audited by members present. A motion was made by Councilman Marsh and seconded by Councilman Peo to accept these reports as audited.

The minutes from the regular Board meeting held May 13, 2015 were read by each member. Due to an error by the Clerk pointed out by Councilwoman Smith and Councilman Marsh, Councilwoman Smith was presented as being present at the May 13, 2015 and was absent. Therefore the Resolutions 2015-04 and 2015-05 votes must be changed to read: Ayes - 3 Marsh, Peo Royce Nays - 0 Absent - 1. Councilman Marsh also stated that he would like to add that the tree cutters in payment of removing some of the Town trees were allowed to park their vehicles at no cost. Councilwoman Smith noted that in the codes and zoning report that the statement about Mr. Taylor should read: The DWELLING has been posted and Mr. Taylor has been asked to vacate the DWELLING. Both instances the word dwelling replaces the word property. A motion was made by Councilman Marsh and seconded by Councilman Peo to accept these minutes as amended.

Supervisor's Report:

Supervisor Osborn reported that the line items in the budget for Workmen's Compensation is at a point that needs to be watched. It is too late for this year, but before budget for 2016 work he will take a closer look at it and possibly discuss with Gates - Cole another option.

Clerk's Report:

1. A letter from the DOT has been received and forwarded to the engineer for the Precisionmatics project. They are asking for a traffic analysis report. The DOT is issuing a temporary work permit so they may start.
2. The IDA hearing for Precisionmatics was held on May 28, 2015. Councilman Marsh attended and reported by playing a recording of the meeting. The PILOT program was discussed by those present. Under the program no sales tax will be paid by Precisionmatics and certain percentages will be paid in property taxes to each entity involved.

Highway Superintendent's Report:

1. The pines part of the park has been seeded.
2. The Superintendent would like to purchase a utility trailer to carry the mowers to the park and cemeteries. The Board had no objection and the Superintendent was advised to purchase such.
3. The new mower for the park runs great and does a good job.
4. Councilman Marsh asked about the scrap metal in the back of the Highway Garage and why it is not put away. The Superintendent stated that he will be taking it all so that the Town will receive the money for the scrap.
5. The roof of the Highway Garage is leaking again and there are shingles that are off. He was advised to have someone look at the roof.
6. Supervisor Osborn stated that the power company removed the tree in the park because it was split. This was mentioned in the West Winfield Star letter to the editor.
7. He has placed an ad in the Star stating that the the wood chips are available to any Town resident free of charge.

Codes/Zoning Report:

1. He is working on 10 active permits at the time.
2. Tennessee Gas has a huge project which he has visited. There is an on site engineer for this.
3. He has a new form that he feels will be beneficial and will share with the Planning Board to get their opinion.
4. He has met with the planning board to discuss the Pustay property concerning the DOT letter and the

County's agreement.

5. There has been a request for a single wide mobile home for farm help. After discussing this with his regional adviser, even though the Town does not allow single wide mobile homes, under the NYS Farm Act, they are allowed and we cannot override that.

6. He questioned Attorney Quinn about the Barrett property again and Attorney Quinn stated that since the Taylor property is in litigation at this moment, that he will address the Barrett property as soon as the Taylor property is settled. George Hazzard questioned why the Barrett property has not been addressed more diligently. It was explained that the Taylor property took precedence because someone was living in the dwelling that was a hazard to the person and animals involved. Mr. Hazzard also questioned the no trespassing on the property and Mr. Donley explained that the sign was for the mobile home as it has caved in and is a dangerous situation.

7. At his training this Spring, the question was raised whether a County has the discretion to not take over a property for non payment of taxes. This arose because a Township would like to clean up a property and put the bill for cleanup on the taxes (which the Town of Winfield has approved to do). It was explained that a lot of these properties may get cleaned up, the bill put on the taxes. Then the property owner does not pay the taxes, but the Counties have to pay the Towns. Because of this, the Counties are opting not to take over the properties because if they have taken over the properties and have to put the properties up for auction because of non payment of taxes and at auction they are not receiving enough to cover the taxes and the clean up. At that point, the Counties may bill the Towns for the difference.

Old Business:

1. Councilman Royce is still working on drawings for a playground. There has also been a request for another ball field to be placed in that area.

2. Councilman Marsh reported on the solar suggestion. Marsh supplied a solar article for all to read and comment on. He stated that pay back would be approximately 6 to 7 years. Codes/Zoning Officer Donley reported that he has received a phone call from an individual for a solar project and also has checked into one for his property. His comment was that wind and cold be a detriment. Councilwoman Smith had talked to an individual that has one and raves about it. Keith Watkins commented that there are grants and tax breaks for residents available but the cost may be prohibitive. Basically, the solar project will be tabled until such time that explicit information for the Town is available. Supervisor Osborn stated that he is looking into combining three electric meters in the park as each one costs the Town \$18.33 per month. He will try to get a price from Cedar Lake Electric to do this work. Supervisor Osborn also stated that he would like to address the roof before the solar project.

3. Supervisor Osborn has again talked to Attorney Quinn about the CSEA foil and Attorney Quinn stated that because the Highway Department has no titles for their jobs they will probably not respond. As of today, no one has heard back from CSEA.

4. Councilman Marsh again addressed the dog enumeration. The Clerk will advertise for a dog enumerator and find out the cost of the 2 part form.

5. Councilwoman Smith asked Highway Superintendent about a permit for the dog park committee to close Route 20 for a very short time to film a 30 second advertisement for the dog park competition. Mr. Donley advised that the committee talk to the State Police as it is a state highway. He gave the name of the contact person to her.

6. Councilwoman Smith also asked if the Town ever had more than one Town Justice. The answer was supplied by Councilman Marsh that yes at one point in time the Village had a Justice also.

7. Ray Donley reported that for grievance day one resident attended.

8. Keith Watkins made the suggestion that possibly the surrounding towns would be interested in consolidating the courts and offices into one building such as the Leonardsville School Building.

9. Councilman Marsh addressed the cemetery project. The Clerk will put the legal notice in the paper and then the next step of 3 estimates will be taken.

The next meeting of the Winfield Town Board will be July 15, 2015 at 7 pm. to be held at the Town Office in the Highway Garage.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Councilman Marsh moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Smith. Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debrah B. Jones, Clerk