

MINUTES OF THE HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 14, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Miller at approximately 7:00 P.M. with the opening statement that the meeting had been duly advertised and met all the requirements of the Sunshine Law. Also present were: Deputy Mayor Cicerale, Councilwoman Hamilton, Councilman Verrilli, Councilman Kula, Manager Marianne Smith, Clerk Jane Bakalarczyk and Township Attorney Fred Semrau.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Swearing In of New Police Officers

Mayor Miller administered the Oath of Office to Patrolman Eric T. Stickle and Patrolman William J. Varcadipane.

B. Status Report – Community Committee EMS

Rod Schmidt, Chairman of the Community EMS Committee stated that there have been a total of four meetings to date and that they were basically fact finding meetings. He stated that the Committee met with Wallkill Valley First Aid Squad and Hamburg First Aid Squad about possible regionalization. He stated that Hamburg was not interested, but Wallkill Valley was open to the idea. He stated that the Committee also met with St. Clare's where St. Clare's presented their regional coverage plan. They expressed interest in working with the township. He stated that Sparta Ambulance Service will not be providing service to the township after Jan 1. He stated that there have been numerous discussions about the potential volunteer base, and the volunteer recruitment campaign is under way. He stated that a flyer will be mailed to all of the residents.

C. Capital Planning Project – Fire House Upgrade

William Hickerson, Ed Zinck and Ray Marion of the Hardyston Township Fire Department made a presentation to the Council of the plans to upgrade the firehouse on Colson Terrace.

D. Zoning Change Recommendations

1. Abandoned/Foreclosed Properties
2. Expansion of Non-Conforming Structures within Unsubdivided Lake Communities

Township Planner Carrine Kaufer and Zoning Officer Jeff Stabile presented the proposed ordinances to the Council. They stated that the proposed abandoned/foreclosed property ordinance would require the registration of vacant properties and would impose fines and penalties for non-compliance. They stated that this ordinance would make it easier for the township to address issues of safety, sanitary condition, debris and other maintenance issues. Township Planner stated that the proposed ordinance amendment for unsubdivided lake communities would allow existing single family residences to construct additions that add in height beyond the 500 square foot maximum previously permitted. Both ordinances were placed on the regular meeting agenda to follow for Council consideration.

E. Tax Sale Results

Township Manager stated that the Tax Sale was held today and the Township wound up with 8 properties out of 24. She stated that the township will move into foreclosure proceedings in six months. She stated that she will have the Township Engineer provide a report on the properties and the information will be supplied to the Tax Assessor so that he can determine values.

F. Indian Fields Bond Update

Township Attorney stated that he is working along with the Hardyston Township Municipal Utilities Authority attorney and the engineers to address the outstanding public improvements that were not completed by the developer. Deputy Mayor Cicerale recused himself from the discussion.

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HELD ON OCTOBER 14, 2015**

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Councilman Cicerale asked if the township's computer technician could look into screen panels for future presentations to make it easier for everyone to view the presentations.

PUBLIC COMMENT (in accordance with P.L. 2002, c.80): A motion was made and seconded to open the meeting to the public. All in favor. Motion carried. No public comment. A motion was made and seconded to close the meeting to the public. All in favor. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: At approximately 8:45 p.m., a motion was made by Hamilton to adjourn seconded by Kula. All in favor. Motion carried.

Jane Bakalarczyk, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk