

REGULAR MEETING
February 17, 2015

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Busti was held on February 17, 2015 at 6:45 p.m., at the Town of Busti Highway Building, 3646 Lawton Road, Jamestown, New York with the following members present:

Supervisor Jesse M. Robbins
Councilman Richard B. Thor
Councilman Brett A. Muccheck
Councilman Todd M. Hanson - absent
Councilman Kenneth J. Lawton - absent

Supervisor Robbins called the meeting to order with the salute to the flag and a moment of silence was observed.

Present at the meeting were: Highway Superintendent Melvin J. Peterson, Lakewood Busti Police Chief John Bentley, Deputy Town Clerk Susan Huffman, Attorney Joel Seachrist, Post Journal Reporter Mallory Diefenbach, Busti Fire Department Chief Mike Volpe, Diana Peterson, Randy Fill, Kaie Smith, Cheryl Johnson, Tim Young, Dennis Scotty, Jason Hansen, Autumn Mazzone, Rick McMahon, Paul DeFrisco, David Bargar, Tom Priestor, Lou Drago, and Dayne Priester.

Town Clerk Nygren reported the Town Clerk's collected to date \$5,662,005.08 in 2015 County Town taxes with a balance of \$1,282,005.79 in outstanding taxes. Tint Press is working on the town's new website and sending updates to the Town Clerk for approval. The deadline for the Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund grant has not been set. Town Clerk Nygren will meet with Supervisor Robbins and Councilman Hanson to make a final determination of where a records room should be located.

Chief Bentley reported 1370 incidents year to date. The two new officers are participating in field training.

Highway Superintendent Melvin Peterson reported that the new truck is almost ready to be on the road, the only thing that needs done is the wiring harness that is in Buffalo. The department was called out again to plow over the weekend. Councilman Muccheck asked about the salt supply, Superintendent Peterson stated that the town has received 550 tons of salt, and needs to purchase 840 tons; the bid was for 1200 tons.

Busti Fire Department Chief Michael Volpe reported 68 incidents year to date. The department assisted Lakewood Fire Department on Monday with the fire on Gleason Road, the weather made it very difficult for the firefighters, the temperature was 38° below zero, no injuries were reported. The fire department budget is in place.

Cheryl Johnson and Kaie Smith presented a list of the proposed Community Center Committee members along with the committee's mission statement. The members are: Cheryl Johnson, Paul DeFrisco, Leslie Genareo, Nichole Muccheck, Kaie Smith, Georgiann Sutherin, and Caryl VanderMolen. The committee mission statement is "to assist the Busti Town Board in considering the placement, size, utilization and programming of the new Community Center and Recreation Program. Councilman Thor noted that the new committee will be acting as an advisory committee not as a Recreation Commission, which was appointed in years past (over 15 years ago). Attorney Joel Seachrist noted that the board is not authorized to formally appoint an advisory committee for recreation, however, the committee can be self organized and bring their recommendations to the board for review. Supervisor Robbins noted that this committee is strictly for advisement only and there will be no compensation for serving on the committee. Kaie Smith noted that the committee will be meeting on a regular basis and that they will develop a survey for area residents to complete, indicating their interest and vision of a new community center. The surveys will be available at the local libraries, area businesses, the town website, and the Recreation Center Facebook page. Councilman Thor noted that Southwestern Central School Superintendent Maureen Donahue suggested that the committee try to add some students as members, the Kiwanis members that were present, at this meeting, stated that they would contact the Key Club and see if there was any interest.

Tom and Dayne Priestor stated that there was interest in beginning a new non-interscholastic wrestling program at the cost of \$10 per participant. The program would be short term, involve about 12-15 participants and fill the time for wrestlers who have just finished the school season and will begin spring sports. Dayne Priestor noted that he would provide the liability insurance for the program. Councilman Thor noted that the town is currently reviewing the liability of the town for such programs and the town's liability insurance provider has recommended that such programs be limited for the time being. They have asked the town to review waivers, permission forms, and facility use forms for boiler plate documents to have participants sign. The town attorney has just been given these forms for review. Councilman Thor stated that he would be willing to sit down with Dayne Priestor and the school superintendent to discuss the proposed program. In the meantime, Mr. Priestor should seek liability insurance that would cover the program.

Supervisor Robbins moved the following motion which was duly seconded by Councilman Thor:

RESOLVED, that Supervisor Robbins be authorized and directed to pay the presented General Fund, Highway Fund, and the Joint Recreation Fund for Abstract No. 4 from warrant #69 to and including warrant #113 in the amount of \$363,575.68.

Upon roll call vote, all aye.

Supervisor Robbins moved to accept the town board minutes of February 2, 2015.

All aye.

Councilman Muecheck reported that the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee meeting scheduled for February 3rd was canceled. He will contact Don McCord to schedule the next meeting.

Councilman Thor reported that the town received a quote from Shelter Point for the employee short term disability insurance, which is currently through Guardian Life Insurance Company of America.

Councilman Richard Thor moved the following motion which was duly seconded by Councilman Muecheck:

RESOLVED, that the Town of Busti cancel the current New York Statutory Disability Benefit Insurance policy with Guardian Life Insurance Company of America and accept the quote submitted from Shelter Point for the New York State mandated statutory disability benefit level of \$170, with an annual premium of \$658.80 which is an approximate 25% savings to the town. An added benefit with the Shelter Point policy is an In-Hospital Rider, at no additional cost, that will increase the statutory level of \$170 to \$340 while an employee is hospital confined.

Upon roll call vote, all aye.

Councilman Thor reported that the town's liability insurance carrier, NYMIR, has suggested that the town develop guidelines for policies and procedures for the new community center and future programs that are supported by the town.

Supervisor Robbins moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Respectively Submitted by:

Darlene H. Nygren, Town Clerk