

March 11, 2014 – Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Gardiner Town Board was held this date at 7 PM at the Gardiner Town Hall. Present were Supervisor Zatz and Councilmen Dukler, Hinson, Reynolds and Wiegand. There were approximately 8 audience members.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

March 16 – Pancake Breakfast Gardiner Fire Dept.

March 17 – AARP monthly meeting St. Charles Church Hall. Will be offering a driver's education class.

March 24 – spay/neuter clinic for cats only at the Natural Pet Center

April 19 – Earth Day Events and Town wide Cleanup

### **HEALTH CARE OPTIONS**

Board members reviewed at length the MVP and Health Republic options versus the CDPHP options. They narrowed it down to one CDPHP plan. This plan has comparable options to our current plan and a CDPHP plan that has lower deductibles and co-pays. Supervisor Zatz believes these are the 2 best options to be considered. Councilman Hinson however believes not all options were presented. It is a difficult decision in light of the cost increases. He would like to see other agents present their opinion of viable plans. Councilman Wiegand suggested all non-union employees pay the co-pay out of their pocket. However union contract employees would not have to pay the co-pay according to the labor union contract. Other Board members disagreed. After much discussion a motion was made by Councilman Wiegand, seconded by Councilman Dukler and carried, to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign a contract with CDPHP for Plan 1500 RX8 with the Town picking up all co-pays after the deductible has been met. Councilman Hinson voted nay. Councilman Dukler suggested starting research earlier so the information can be analyzed more thoroughly.

### **EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK/MANUAL**

Michael Richards, Human Resources consultant for the Town will be meeting with Supervisor Zatz to discuss changes of the current employee handbook.

### **RESOLUTION SPEED REDUCTION – ROUTE 299**

**Resolution No. 77**-Route 299 speed limit reduction - Offered by Councilman Dukler Resolved, pursuant to Section 1622.1 of the Vehicle and Traffic Law of New York State, the Town Board of the Town of Gardiner, in recognition of the needs for safety of the highway cited in light of the traffic currently using said Gardiner portion of the highway, hereby request that a lower maximum speed of 40 miles per hour be established on Route 299, a State highway, maintained by the County of Ulster.

Seconded by Councilman Hinson and carried.

### **E-911 UPGRADE**

The Gardiner Fire Department has asked the Town Board to write a letter of support to the Ulster County Fire Advisory Board to upgrade the communication system for 911. The system has not been upgraded in approximately 30 years and is in urgent need of replacement. A motion was made by Councilman Reynolds, seconded by Councilman Hinson and carried, authorizing the Supervisor to sign and send a letter of support.

### **NYS UNIFIED SOLAR PERMIT**

**Resolution No. 78** - Resolution to Adopt NYS Unified Solar Permit -Offered by Supervisor Zatz **Whereas**, the Town of Gardiner is committing to the goal of encouraging renewable energy; and

**Whereas**, the Town of Gardiner is a partner community in NYSolar Smart Program working to reduce the soft costs of solar installation and enable solar market growth; and

**Whereas**, the New York State Unified Solar Permit is a standardized permit for use by all NY municipalities that simplifies and streamlines the permitting of small scale photovoltaic systems and increases consistency and transparency in permitting.

**Now, Therefore Be It Resolved**, by the Town of Gardiner, Ulster County New York, that the Town Board hereby adopts the NYS Unified Solar Permit for use by the Building Department as part of the permitting process for small-scale Photovoltaic Systems.

Seconded by Councilman Dukler and carried.

#### **MOHONK PRESERVE CONTRIBUTION**

Councilman Wiegand presented a draft letter to the Town Board requesting an increase in the monetary contribution made to the Town by Mohonk Preserve. Board members agreed that it was a diplomatic way to ask for an increase. A motion was made by Councilman Dukler, seconded by Councilman Wiegand and carried, authorizing the Supervisor to send this request.

#### **SUPERVISOR MONTHLY REPORT**

The February monthly report from the Supervisor was accepted as presented on motion of Councilman Dukler, seconded by Councilman Wiegand and carried.

#### **CLAIMS – DECEMBER 2013**

Additional claims for the month of December 2013 were approved for payment on motion of Councilman Reynolds, seconded by Councilman Dukler and carried. They are listed on Abstract # 12D as follows: General Fund voucher #637-639 in the amount of \$16,377.78.

#### **CLAIMS – FEBRUARY 2014**

Claims for the month of February were approved for payment on motion of Councilman Wiegand, seconded by Councilman Dukler and carried. They are listed on Abstract #2 as follows: General Fund voucher # 51-87 \$21,036.87; Highway Fund voucher #30-68 \$60,619.76; Sewer Fund voucher #1-3 \$2,343.84.

#### **BUDGET TRANSFERS & SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS**

**Resolution No. 79** – Transfer within Highway Fund – Offered by Councilman Wiegand Resolved, pursuant to Section 112, Town Law, the 2014 Annual Budget, Highway Fund, is hereby amended to provide for the transfer of \$.01 from Acct No. 00.04.5110.109 PS p/t LaMark to Acct No. 00.04.5110.106 PS MEO Brian Stiscia.

Seconded by Councilman Dukler and carried.

**Resolution No. 80** – Transfer within Highway Fund – Offered by Councilman Wiegand Resolved, pursuant to Section 112, Town Law, the 2014 Annual Budget, Highway Fund, is hereby amended to provide for the transfer of \$2029.99 from Acct No. 00.04.5110.109 PS p/t Bartasch LaMark to Acct No. 00.04.5110.119 p/t Lischinsky.

Seconded by Councilman Dukler and carried.

**Resolution No. 81** – Transfers within General Fund – Offered by Councilman Wiegand Resolved, pursuant to Section 112, Town Law, the 2014 Annual Budget, General Fund, is hereby amended to provide for the transfer of \$246.51 from Acct No. 00.01.1355.421 CE Assessor Office Supplies to Acct No. 00.01.1355.401 Assessors Misc, \$100.00 from Acct No. 00.06.7110.413 CE

Repairs to Acct No. 00.06.7110.441 CE Rail Trail and \$26.65 from Acct No. 00.07.8020.421 Planning Board Office Supplies to Acct No. 00.07.8020.401 Planning Board Misc.  
Seconded by Councilman Dukler and carried.

**ROUTE 44/55 BRIDGE**

Supervisor Zatz met with a representative of the NYS DOT regarding the “R” permit for the bridge on Route 44/55 near Millbrook Farm. Currently trucks with “R” permits are not allowed to cross this bridge. Supervisor Zatz would like this restriction lifted by way of repairing the bridge. This would be a large project. The representative said it is possible but not probable for this year.

**QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORTING**

Councilman Hinson requested that the Board receive a quarterly report of the General & Highway Fund. Councilman Wiegand would also like to see an annual comparison of the 2013 budget vs actual expenses. Supervisor Zatz reminded them that each month this is available from the bookkeeper in the expenditure report, the revenue report and the trial balances.

**COMMERCIAL PAPER SHREDDER**

On April 19 a commercial paper shredding truck will be at the Town Hall from 9 AM to 1 PM for Town residents to bring any documents that they have to be shredded. This is sponsored by NYS Solar Farm.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR**

Councilman Hinson asked if a coordinator for emergency management had been found yet. Supervisor Zatz stated that Jim Miller was a possible candidate. He also asked what the final number was on the sidewalk project. Supervisor Zatz did not have that information readily available with him.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

Jack Habersberger- asked what the current cost and deductibles of the employee health plan and the proposed cost and deductibles for 2014 plan are.

He suggested that the Mohonk Preserve pay increases according to Town tax payers increases.

Councilman Wiegand – suggested requiring employees to sign up for ObamaCare.

Rich Koenig – asked if a “Welcome to Gardiner” sign could be placed on Route 299.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Councilman Wiegand, seconded by Councilman Dukler and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle L. Mosher  
Town Clerk