

MEREDITH TOWN BOARD MEETING
August 12, 2008

The regular meeting of the Meredith Town Board was held on August 12, 2008 at the Meredith Town Hall. The following were in attendance:

Supervisor: Keitha Capouya

Council Members: Ronald Bailey
Daniel Birnbaum
Paul Menke

Absent: Roger Hamilton (Councilman)
William Jester (Highway Superintendent)

Clerk: Betsy K. Clark

Townspeople: 6

The supervisor called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR: Bob Stone (did not show up)

REGULAR TOWN BUSINESS:

Then Highway Superintendent's report was read by the supervisor for the month of July. A motion to accept the report was made by Daniel Birnbaum. The motion was seconded by Paul Menke and passed.

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 30, 2008 Public Hearing and Special Town Board Meeting as amended was made by Daniel Birnbaum. The motion was seconded by Ron Bailey and approved. Paul Menke abstained because he was absent from that meeting.

A motion was made by Paul Menke to approve the Town Clerks report for June and July of 2008. The motion was seconded by Ron Bailey and approved.

A motion to approve the Supervisor's report for the month of June and July 2008 was made by Daniel Birnbaum. The motion was seconded by Paul Menke and approved.

The warrant for the general vouchers #154 - #168 totaling \$ 8,733.50 was reviewed. A motion for payment of the General vouchers was made by Paul Menke. The motion was seconded by Ron Bailey and approved.

The warrant for the highway vouchers # 144 - # 163, totaling \$ 107,663.80 was reviewed. A motion for payment of the highway vouchers was made by Daniel Birnbaum. The motion was seconded by Paul Menke and approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Keitha said she would ask Roger next month for a report on the town property in Meridale.

2. Keitha gave the Board a copy of the Notice of Violation that the Code Officer has sent to a property owner in Meridale.

3. Keitha presented the Board with a final draft of the revised Communication Tower and Facilities proposed law. She discussed with the Board questions that Roger Hamilton discussed with her. Keitha went over with the Board changes that had been made. There was a very lengthy discussion. The changes were some of the language, notice to news papers and radio and certified mail for the balloon test. Two definitions were put in of mountain top and ridge line. The height allotted was changed to 180 feet with no waivers.

Attorney Marc Goldberg made some comments. Keitha asked the Board what they thought. Daniel Birnbaum said he and Keitha had lengthy discussions over this law and we went back more to the original law. Ron Bailey said he accepts the Attorney for the Town's opinions. Paul Menke said it was okay and over time as technology changes so will this law. It is time to move forward with this.

RESOLUTION # 60 - 2008

A resolution by motion was made by Daniel Birnbaum to accept the proposed law as amended and to hold a public hearing for proposed local law "Telecommunication Tower and Facilities Law" for September 2, 2008 at Meredith Town Hall at 7:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Paul Menke.

K. Capouya - Aye
R. Bailey - Aye
D. Birnbaum - Aye
R. Hamilton - Absent
P. Menke - Aye

NEW BUISNESS:

1. Keitha announced the Planning Board had chosen a company for a third party review of the cell tower application that is now before the Planning Board. She said they chose the company they had worked with before and has a good reputation. She asked the Board for permission to finalize the contract with them. The following resolution was made.

RESOLUTION # 62 - 2008

A resolution by motion was made by Daniel Birnbaum to have the supervisor finalize and sign the contract with Saratoga Associates for review of the cell tower application. The motion was seconded by Ron Bailey and passed by the following vote.

K. Capouya - Aye
R. Bailey - Aye
D. Birnbaum - Aye
R. Hamilton - Absent
P. Menke – Aye

2. Keitha presented a resolution proposed by Senator James Seward regarding gas drilling. The Board discussed this resolution which will be attached to the end of these minutes. The following resolution was made:

RESOLUTION # 63 - 2008

A resolution by motion was made by Ron Bailey to sign the resolution proposed by Senator Seward regarding local input regarding natural gas drilling. The motion was seconded by Daniel Birnbaum and passed by the following vote:

K. Capouya - Aye
R. Bailey - Aye
D. Birnbaum - Aye
R. Hamilton - Absent
P. Menke - Nye

3. The Board had a discussion about requiring solicitors to register with the Town.

4. The Coalition of Watershed Towns sent a letter stating that their dues for the Towns will be raised to from \$500.00 to \$1,000.00 per year.

5. The Catskill Watershed Cooperation sent a new contract with the DEP to have the Town review. It will be put on the agenda for next month.

6. Keitha presented the Board with a sample law based on the Town of Berkshire Law to protect Town roads when a commercial project is in progress. She said the Town should consider a law like this and asked the Board to review the draft sample law and they will discuss this at another meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Keitha received a letter from the Department of State regarding efficiency grants.

2. A notice of foreclosure was posted in Town Hall for the Condon property by Delaware National Bank.

County reports by the Supervisor:

1. Keitha gave a report on the proposed Fox project and how the County Board of Supervisors voted.

2. Keitha reported that the Social Services Department changed income levels for fuel assistance for this winter. She said they are all concerned especially for our senior citizens.

A motion was made by Daniel Birnbaum to adjourn the regular Town Board meeting to executive session. The motion seconded by Ron Bailey. The meeting was adjourned to executive session for the purpose to discuss Real Property issue and to discuss an ongoing law suit at 9:43 p.m.

A motion was made to adjourn the executive session back to regular session at 10:30 p.m. by Daniel Birbaum and was seconded by Paul Menke.

An ongoing assessment case before the Town had been discussed and the following resolution was made:

RESOLUTION # 64 – 2008

A resolution by motion was made by Daniel Birbaum that the Supervisor authorizes the Attorney for the Town, Lenard Sienko, to negotiate a settlement on behalf of the Town in the DeLoy assessment case. The motion was seconded by Ron Bailey and passed by the following vote:

K. Capouya - Aye
R. Bailey - Aye
D. Birnbaum - Aye
R. Hamilton - Absent
P. Menke - Aye

A motion was made by Paul Menke to adjourn the Town Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Ron Bailey and the meeting was adjourned at 10:33.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy K. Clark
Town Clerk

