

REGULAR MEETING, TOWN OF LIVONIA

March 6, 2014

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Livonia, County of Livingston and the State of New York was held at Livonia Town Hall, 35 Commercial Street, Livonia on March 6, 2014.

PRESENT: Eric Gott, Supervisor
Andy English, Councilmember
Matt Gascon, Councilmember
Frank Seelos, Councilmember
Colleen West Hay, Clerk
Jim Campbell, Attorney, Town of Livonia

ABSENT: Angela Grouse, Councilmember

OTHERS PRESENT: Several Residents.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Gott at 7:00 PM.
Gene Bolster led the pledge.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. Jim Stefano addressed the board to express his concerns over the traffic on Pennemite Road. He feels that the speed limit should be lowered. People drive too fast and it is unsafe. Supervisor Gott responded that he took Mr. Stefano's concern to the traffic Safety Board the last time Mr. Stefano raised a concern. A study was done and the state did not feel that a lowering of the speed limit was warranted at that time. Supervisor Gott reported that there is a meeting of the Traffic Safety Board next Wednesday, and he will bring it up to the board again. He will keep Mr. Stefano informed as to what they decide.

RESOLUTION 34-2014

ACCEPT MEETING MINUTES FROM 2/20/14

On motion of Councilmember Gascon seconded by Councilmember English the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes - 4 (Gott, English, Gascon, Seelos)
Nays - 0

Resolved to accept the meeting minutes from February 20, 2014.

RESOLUTION 35-2014

TOWN BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

Supervisor Gott stated that the board usually has one meeting in April, June, July and August. He proposed that the regular meetings be canceled in each of these months this year, and that the single meeting be held on the second Thursday. Attorney Campbell reminded everyone that that schedule conflicts with his commitment to be at the Town of Avon board meetings. Supervisor Gott did not think that it would be a problem for Mr. Campbell to miss our meetings on those nights.

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On motion of Councilmember Seelos seconded by Councilmember Gascon the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes - 4 (Gott, English, Gascon, Seelos)
 Nays – 0

Resolved to cancel the regularly scheduled meetings for April, June, July and August 2014. Further resolved to schedule meetings on the second Thursday in each of those months at 7 PM. The April meeting will be held at the Town Hall, the June meeting will be held at Vitale Park, the July meeting will be held at Hemlock Lake Park, and the August meeting will be held at Vitale Park.

MOWING 2014 SEASON

Supervisor Gott explained that the board has the option to renew last year's contract for mowing services with Extreme Lawn Care, or they can choose to bid it out again. After brief discussion, it was decided that Supervisor Gott would get pricing from Extreme Lawn Care to mow for the 2014 season and bring that back to the board for further discussion.

RESOLUTION 36-2014

CHANGE PAYMENT METHOD FOR PLANNING BOARD AND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Supervisor Gott reported that Kevin Masterson had proposed that the town board pay the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals a set amount each year, rather than paying them by the hour and for their mileage. Currently, it takes a lot of time to track the hours and mileage for each board member. Mr. Masterson proposed \$450 a year per member for each board. With the cost of gas, Supervisor Gott thinks that \$500 a year per member would be fairer. He also proposed setting the salary for the Planning Board Chair at \$2,000 and for the Zoning Board of Appeal Chair at \$1,500.

On motion of Councilmember English seconded by Councilmember Seelos the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes - 4 (Gott, English, Gascon, Seelos)
 Nays – 0

Resolved to pay the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals members a yearly salary of \$500 per year instead of paying them by the hour and for mileage. Further resolved that the Planning Board Chair's salary shall be \$2,000 per year and the Zoning Board of Appeals Chair's salary shall be \$1,500 per year. And further resolved that these salary changes will be retroactive to January 1, 2014.

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RESOLUTION 37-2014

SET DATE FOR BULK CLEAN-UP

Supervisor Gott mentioned that Lee Shanks called regarding the bulk clean-up. They have a commitment to Avon for the second Saturday in July every year. Supervisor Gott suggested that we schedule the bulk clean-up for the third Saturday in July (July 19). Councilmember Gascon replied that people have commented that they would like to have the bulk clean-up earlier, so that it is closer to the beginning of summer. The board agreed on June 21st.

On motion of Councilmember Gascon seconded by Councilmember English the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes - 4 (Gott, English, Gascon, Seelos)
Nays - 0

Resolved that the bulk clean-up will be held on Saturday, June 21st from 7-10 AM at the Town Highway building. Further resolved that Shanks will again provide the refuse services and that the costs and rules will be the same as last year. (First ticket free, second and third available for \$10 each. No fence wire, shingles, batteries, tires or liquids. Items with refrigerant will be an extra \$15 paid directly to Shanks that day.)

DISCUSSION REGARDING COMMITTEE TO APPOINT AMBULANCE COMMISSIONER

Supervisor Gott reminded everyone that at the last meeting, the board appointed a committee to fill the vacancy for Ambulance Commissioner. He called Mark Whitford to inform him of the committee, and Mr. Whitford replied that he advertised the vacancy already.

Supervisor Gott answered that Town Law states that it is a Town Board appointment and that responsibility cannot be delegated to someone else. Mr. Whitford disagreed and continues to disagree, even after Supervisor Gott showed him the section of Town Law.

Supervisor Gott asked the Town Board if they wanted to continue with a three person committee including Mr. Whitford. Discussion followed.

The board decided to ask Kevin Dougherty if he would like to serve on the committee along with the two board members. This would be in place of Mr. Whitford. If Mr. Dougherty is not able to serve, then the committee will consist of the two board members.

Supervisor Gott will ask Mr. Dougherty. Councilmember Seelos will place an ad.

DECALS UPDATE

Clerk Hay updated the Board on the hunting and fishing software. She did call Hurricane Technologies and Bill Gamper came and finished setting up the new software on the laptop. Clerk Hay then had a customer who wished to purchase a fishing license, but the license would not print. She was able to replace a hunting license for another customer, however. She has a call in to the DEC to try to find out why the fishing license would not print.

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PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Chip Holt Center and Ambulance District

A resident asked how close the Chip Holt Center and the Ambulance District are to being self-supporting. Supervisor Gott replied that the Chip Holt Center was never intended to be fully self-sufficient. The current cost to the town is \$3,000 a year.

He added that the Ambulance District currently receives about \$50,000 in tax dollars. He believes that number can go down, but how long that will take, he doesn't know. He believes that they provide a great service. He added that they were never intended to be fully self-supporting.

South Livonia Water District

Supervisor Gott announced that the Town paid off the South Livonia Water District two years early. He added that we will be making a proposal to pay off the Cadyville Road Extension District early as well.

RESOLUTION 38-2014

**MOVE FORWARD WITH GRANT APPLICATION FOR FEASIBILITY STUDY
REGARDING A FIRE DISTRICT MERGER**

Councilmember Seelos reported that there is funding available through the state to conduct a feasibility study regarding the merger of the fire districts.

The maximum award is \$50,000. It is a matching grant, and if the study results are not implemented then 50% of the grant money would have to be returned. If the results of the study ARE implemented, then the payback amount is 10%.

The Districts met and discussed this and agreed to move forward with the study. The Town of Livonia would be the lead agent.

Councilmember Seelos asked if the Town of Livonia would consider being a 25% partner with the Fire Districts. The cost of the study is estimated to be \$40,000. The worst case scenario is that the Town would be responsible for \$5,000 of the \$20,000 total cost if the results were not implemented. If the results were implemented, then the cost to the Town would be \$1,000 of the \$4,000 total cost.

Councilmember Seelos will write the grant for the feasibility study.

On motion of Councilmember English seconded by Councilmember Gascon the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes - 4 (Gott, English, Gascon, Seelos)
 Nays – 0

Resolved to move forward with the grant application for a feasibility study regarding merging the Fire Districts in Livonia.

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Councilmember Seelos also stated that if the feasibility study grant is approved, then we can apply for an implementation grant. The implementation grant would be much more complicated and the county grant writer would put that together.

RESOLUTION 39-2014

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

On motion of Councilmember Seelos seconded by Councilmember Gascon the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes - 4 (Gott, English, Gascon, Seelos)
Nays – 0

Resolved to pay claims 1042-1085 in the amount of \$69,629.08 from the Abstract dated 3/6/2014.

With no further business, on a motion of Councilmember English seconded by Councilmember Gascon the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen West Hay, Town Clerk