

Town Board Work Session

October 18, 2010

6:00 p.m.

Present: Sup. S. Reiter; Council Members A. Bax, M. Marra, E. Palmer & R. Winkley; Deputy Sup. G. Catlin; Town Attorneys Dowd & Gabriele; Bldg. Insp. T. Masters; Adm./Op. T. Lockhart; Budget Officer M. Johnson, Police Chief C. Salada; Eng. R. Smith; Highway Supt. D. Janese; Rec. Director M. Dashineau & Town Clerk C. Brandon. 2 press reps & 5 residents.

The Supervisor opened the meeting at 6:05 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance & a moment of silent reflection.

ABSTRACT:

Marra MOVED to approve the Regular Abstract of Claims numbered #3039 to #3432 and recommend payment in the amount of \$538,169.05, plus a Post Audit of \$487,100.83. Seconded by Palmer and carried 5-0.

Marra: Councilman Winkley and I attended the Sanborn Business & Professional meeting last week and 2 issues were brought up about Buffalo Street. One is to change Buffalo Street from a dotted line to a double yellow line as well as the possibility of having a crosswalk at Elm/Buffalo Streets. With the streetscape going on, it would make more of a walkable community.

Marra MOVED to send a letter to the NYS DOT to look into the feasibility and the safety of these two issues. Seconded by Bax and carried 5-0.

Halloween Hours:

Reiter: We have a memo to designate 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. as the hours on Oct. 31st.

Marra MOVED that the Halloween hours in the Town of Lewiston be set from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on October 31st. Seconded by Winkley and carried 5-0.

Public Hearing/2011 Budget:

Palmer MOVED to set a Public Hearing on the 2011 Budget at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 4, 2010. Seconded by Marra and carried 5-0.

Meeting Set/Adoption of 2011 Budget:

Marra MOVED to set the 2011 Budget Adoption for Friday, November 19, 2010 at 2 p.m. Seconded by Bax and carried 5-0.

Sanborn Historical Soc. Waiver/Bldg. Permit:

Reiter: The Society is ready to begin the construction of public restrooms/addition at the museum grounds. We have been asked to waive the building permit fee.

Winkley MOVED to Waive the Building Permit Fee for the Sanborn Historical Society construction at the Farm Museum. Seconded by Bax and carried 5-0.

RFP's to Demolish House/Costs Assessed to Homeowner:

Reiter: Mr. Masters would like to put this on the agenda for the RTBM on October 25, 2010.

Sanborn Fire Co. Roster Addition:

Winkley MOVED for approval to add the name of William Alley of 5831 Buffalo Street to their company roster. Seconded by Bax and carried 5-0.

Upper Mt. Fire Co. Roster Addition:

Winkley MOVED for approval to add the name of Joseph Borowski of 5463 Elm Drive to their company roster. Seconded by Marra and carried 5-0.

Palmer: I received from Barbara Cich a memo: Each year the Town Board selects a "base plan" for non-union employee health coverage. For a number of years the base

plan chosen was Independent Health Flex Fit Select because its cost is consistently lower than other plans and because the majority of non-union employees belong to this plan. Because new plan costs are not released until late November or early December, the Board cannot vote on this issue until very late in the year. Open enrollment for any plan ends on December 31st of each year and because the uncertainty of a base plan, enrollment forms are printed late and employees must make important decisions in a very short period of time. In order to remedy this situation, I respectfully request that the Town Board allow the Finance Director and plan administrator review the plan cost information with the broker as soon as it becomes available and decide which plan should be the base plan, upon the approval of the Supervisor. Should unusual changes occur such as market differences in coverage and/or typical rate increases, the choice of base plan would then be decided by the Town Board.

So, basically they are asking to go ahead with the review of the different plans and select the one that is most beneficial to the Town and the Town employees as long as it is reasonably close to what we have now. We need to authorize Mr. Johnson, Ms. Cich, the plan administrator and the Supervisor to review & select.

Palmer MOVED to authorize, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Cich, the Plan Administrator & the Supervisor to review and select a base plan for the non-union employees. Seconded by Marra and carried 5-0.

Palmer: We were planning to do some appointments tonight upon referral from Chief Salada. We will put this off until next week. The chief has asked that we request from Niagara County Civil Service an additional part time police officer position. This will have no detrimental financial affect on the Town. It simply gives the Police Chief a further option to fill his schedule with the already budgeted hours.

Palmer MOVED to create an additional part time patrol position and request from Niagara County Civil Service that the Town is allowed to fill that. Seconded by Marra and carried 5-0.

BAX:

I have the WNY Stormwater Coalition Agreement.

Dowd stated that he had reviewed it and it is the same for all of the Towns and the coalition.

Bax MOVED to authorize the Supervisor to sign the document as presented. Carried by Winkley and carried 5-0.

Reiter noted that Niagara County Sheriff J. Voutour will be here at 7 p.m. to discuss his department.

Winkley MOVED to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing tower fees, litigation and contract negotiations for Web design. Seconded by Marra and carried 5-0.

Time: 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted & Transcribed by:

Carol J. Brandon
Town Clerk