

**TOWN OF CHATHAM
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
April 17, 2008 ~ 7:00 PM**

Board Present:

Supervisor Jesse DeGroot
Councilman Bob Balcom
Councilman Don Hegeman
Councilwoman Jean Rohde

Others Present:

Dan Horst, Assessor
Shari Franks, Recreation Director
Earle Kelsey, Comptroller

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor DeGroot called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE TO FLAG: Councilman Hegeman led the pledge to the flag.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Ann Cooper, re: Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial.
2. Riders Mills Historical Association, re: Comprehensive Plan hamlet zoning.
3. Assemblyman Tim Gordon, re: funding for Crellin Park
4. Jim McKay, re: Street Lighting
5. James VanDeusen, re: Col. Cty. Fire Depts.' Response to Custom Overhead Doors
6. Roland Vosburgh, re: Environmental Management Council Membership

PUBLIC COMMENT

Randi Walker requested an update on the Draft Comprehensive Plan.

Jim Temple used a visual aid to show the Board what a 20% slope is. He argued that the Draft Comprehensive Plan's proposition for no development "steep slopes" of 20% should be changed. He would be in favor of 20° slopes instead of 20% slopes, but thought that no development on 20% slopes is a crime.

REPORTS

1. Highway (on file)
2. Code Enforcement/Zoning Enforcement (on file)
3. Justice Court (on file)
4. Supervisor (County Business): **Supervisor DeGroot** stated that the County Board of Supervisors has been discussing the possible purchase of a building in Mellenville for Social Services and perhaps may host a campus for county departments. Also, this step may bring about the availability of various modes of transportation.
5. Recreation Department: **Shari Franks** gave her report to the Board. A copy is on file.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Route 295 zoning. Ted Miner showed his appreciation to the community for all their help with the fire at his business. He stated that he wants to put Custom Overhead Doors down near the Chatham Bowl, but currently cannot without a variance from the ZBA since it is in the Hamlet-1 zoning district. The Board discussed this and stated that they saw nothing wrong in changing the area to industrial zoning instead of remaining in a hamlet district. The Board agreed to hold a Public Hearing at next month's meeting of May 15, 2008, at 7:00 PM after the Town Attorney drafts a Local Law.
2. Recreation director appointment.

RESOLUTION #61-08 to appoint Recreation Director for the Town of Chatham.

Offered by Supervisor DeGroot, moved adoption to appoint Shari Franks as the Recreation Director for the Town of Chatham through the end of 2008 at a salary of \$38,813.00.

Councilwoman Rohde seconded the motion.

Vote: Supervisor DeGroot, aye; Councilman Balcom, aye; Councilman Hegeman, aye; and Councilwoman Rohde, aye.

The resolution was adopted.

3. Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial. The Board discussed this event and provided information should anyone wish to be involved.
4. County Environmental Management Council. Due to Randi Walker's term expiration from this council effective May 12, the Town Board decided to accept her suggestion to appoint Deirdre Henderson to the committee.

RESOLUTION #62-08 to appoint Deirdre Henderson to the County Environmental Management Council.

Offered by Councilman Hegeman, moved adoption to appoint Deirdre Henderson to the County Environmental Management Council.

Councilman Balcom seconded the motion.

Vote: Supervisor DeGroot, aye; Councilman Balcom, aye; Councilman Hegeman, aye; and Councilwoman Rohde, aye.

The resolution was adopted.

In addition, Randi Walker gave her report to the Board regarding the committee's discussion of water, burning, energy, waste, transportation, lighting, and other environmental issues.

5. Right to Farm. Councilman Balcom provided a packet of information and the Board agreed to study it in time for discussion at the next Board meeting.
6. Village/Town parking lot (adjacent to 59-61 Main Street). Joe Iuviene of the Architectural Bureau presented a plan for the jointly owned Village and Town parking lot adjacent to and concurrent with plans for the building at 59-61 Main Street (previously owned by The Dollar General). He stated that he will also present the plan to the Village Board and Planning Board for further discussion.

RESOLUTION #63-08 to accept the plan to restripe the Village/Town parking lot.

Offered by Supervisor DeGroot, moved adoption to accept plan P-1, dated 4-4-08 and revised 4-10-08, to restripe the Village/Town Parking lot adjacent to 59-61 Main Street.

Councilwoman Rohde seconded the motion.

Vote: Supervisor DeGroot, aye; Councilman Balcom, aye; Councilman Hegeman, aye; and Councilwoman Rohde, aye.

The resolution was adopted.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Outdoor wood boilers. The Town Board discussed regulation of such and specifically referred to environmental and atmospheric issues in addition to grandfathering-in existing wood boilers up to 10 years. The Board agreed to have the Town Attorney formulate language for a law in time for the next Board meeting.
2. Old Chatham Pond. There was some discussion of the recommendations of Barton & Loguidice and/or Joe Rickert to remove the dam on the Old Chatham Pond to reduce the risk of flooding during heavy rainfall. The Board decided that more research needed to be done on the options of dealing with the pond.
3. Draft Comprehensive Plan. Supervisor DeGroot explained to the public that the Town Board met several times to discuss the plan and several things have been reformatted to make it easier to read. Nan Stolzenburg will be using the Town Board's suggestions regarding hamlets and farm lands and changing a few other things to make the plan comprehensible. In the near future, there will be new CDs and updated information on the Town website for the Public to review. After that time, the Board will hold informational sessions and public hearings on the plan and go from there.

RESOLUTION #64-08 to approve minutes.

Offered by Councilwoman Rohde, moved adoption to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2008, regular town board meeting, and the April 3, 2008 town board workshop meeting.

Councilman Hegeman seconded the motion.

Vote: Supervisor DeGroot, aye; Councilman Balcom, aye; Councilman Hegeman, aye; and Councilwoman Rohde, aye.

The resolution was adopted.

RESOLUTION #65-08 to renew the Highway Grader BAN.

Offered by Councilman Balcom, moved adoption to renew the BAN for the Highway Grader for \$97,540.00 at 3.98% with the National Union Bank of Kinderhook.

Councilwoman Rohde seconded the motion.

Vote: Supervisor DeGroot, aye; Councilman Balcom, aye; Councilman Hegeman, aye; and Councilwoman Rohde, aye.

The resolution was adopted.

RESOLUTION #66-08 to approve the Town Comptroller's report.

Offered by Councilwoman Rohde, moved adoption to approve the Town Comptroller's report.

Councilman Hegeman seconded the motion.

Vote: Supervisor DeGroot, aye; Councilman Balcom, aye; Councilman Hegeman, aye; and Councilwoman Rohde, aye.

The resolution was adopted.

RESOLUTION #67-08 to authorize amendments to budget appropriations.

Offered by Councilman Balcom, moved adoption as follows:

Whereas, the Chatham Town Board authorizes the Town Comptroller to make the following Amendments to Budget Appropriations:

From	To	Amount
A1990.4	A6772.4	\$1250.00
DB909	DB9730.7	\$9800.00
	Total Funds	\$11,050.00

Councilwoman Rohde seconded the motion.

Vote: Supervisor DeGroot, aye; Councilman Balcom, aye; Councilman Hegeman, aye; and Councilwoman Rohde, aye.

The resolution was adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Randi Walker asked if there would be Public Informational Sessions held after the Draft Comprehensive Plan was reformatted. Supervisor DeGroot replied that there would be, as well as Public Hearings.

Jim Temple discussed the Comprehensive Plan for a few minutes. He stated that he read it three times and continuously tries to understand it. While he previously referred to it as a bear with a wet nose, now it is more like a ransom note. Temple stated that while the Town Board has had the document for almost a year while discussing the plan with a consultant to understand it, the people are not given that chance, so it is like a ransom note. He also spoke of his opposition to banning outside boilers, burn barrels, annual septic inspections, limiting sizes of houses built, and many other issues being restricted in the hamlets. Temple compared Chatham's situation to a new town in Florida that built water, sewer, and roads after considering the costs for those improvements. He stated that implementing the Comprehensive Plan without considering costs defies logic.

Deirdre Henderson stated that the Town Board held Public Information Sessions so the public could understand the Draft Comprehensive Plan.

MOTION TO CLOSE MEETING: Councilman Balcom moved, Councilwoman Rohde seconded, and it was carried to adjourn the Town Board meeting of April 17 at 7:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Horst
Deputy Town Clerk