

**TOWN OF CHATHAM TOWN BOARD MEETING
APRIL 16, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Town of Chatham, Town Board was held on April 16, 2009 at 7:00 pm. Present: Councilman – Jean Rohde, Councilman – Bob Balcom, Councilman – Don Hegeman. Absent: Supervisor – Jesse DeGroot, Councilman – BethAnn Rippel. Also present: Town Clerk – Carol Gregg, Comptroller – Earl Kelsey, Highway Supt. – Joe Rickert and several others.

Councilman Rohde opened the meeting and the pledge was led by Councilman Hegeman.

CORRESPONDENCE

HOUSING RESOURCES OF COLUMBIA COUNTY regarding RESTORE program.

PUBLIC COMMENT

VAN CALHOUN stated that the same process that was used to do our comprehensive plan has been used around the state. He thanked the town board members who spoke out in the paper in favor of voting to implement the Comp. Plan now.

JAMES TEMPLE felt that the letters written to the paper by town board members concerning the comprehensive plan was distasteful. He questioned why the subject of slopes was only mentioned once in the plan.

BRIN QUELL stated that she worked on the comprehensive plan in the very beginning and thought that at that time the community outreach was great. She wondered what the board needed in order to vote on the plan.

RANDY WALKER she stated that she only sees two town board members supporting the plan at this time. Would like to see the other three not be swayed by the minority people against the plan.

LANDON WINNER feels that this has been an open process and gave his strong voice of support for the comp plan.

JOSEPH BRIGGS stated that he is very impressed with the way that the com plan has come together. He applauds all those people that have worked on it.

JUDY GRUNBERG is in favor of voting on the comp plan now.

REPORTS

HIGHWAY Joe Rickert reported to the board that the town gravel mine is being depleted. He respects the people that want to keep the dirt roads but without gravel it cannot be done. He reported that he has received petition's concerning three town roads that the residents want to be kept dirt. His report is on file.

RECREATION DEPT. report is on file.

RES. #54-09 to allow Recreation Director to charge lesser fee for use of Park.

Councilman Hegeman offered Res. #54 and moved its adoption to allow the Recreation Director to charge Solaqua a lesser fee for "Solaqua Solstice Family Picnic and Energy Fair" which will be held at the park on June 20th. Councilman Balcom seconded the motion.

Vote; ayes, Rohde, Hegeman, Balcom

Nays, none and resolution was adopted.

RES. # 55-09 to approve minutes.

Councilman Balcom offered Res. #55 and moved its adoption to approve the minutes of March 19 town board meeting. Councilman Hegeman seconded the motion.

Vote; ayes, Rohde, Hegeman, Balcom

Nays, none and resolution was adopted.

RES. #56-09 to renew BANS note.

Councilman Balcom offered Res. #56 and moved its adoption to renew BANS note in the amount of \$73,000 at 2 1/4 % interest. Councilman Hegeman seconded the motion.

Vote; ayes, Rohde, Hegeman, Balcom

Nays, none and resolution was adopted.

RES. #57-09 to approve town comptroller's report.

Councilman Balcom offered Res. #57 and moved its adoption to approve town comptroller's report as written. Councilman Hegeman seconded the motion.

Vote; ayes, Rohde, Hegeman, Balcom

Nays, none and resolution was adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

MELISSA POLLACK encouraged everyone to participate in the town roadside cleanup. People will be meeting at Melisa's Café at 11 am on Sat. April 18 to go out together to clean up roadside.

JAMES TEMPLE feels that if the town leaves out the cost of comp plan it will be a big mistake.

WILLIAM CALHOUN requested that a new sign be installed on Birge Hill Rd. as the other one has been missing for some time.

DIEDRA HENDERSON would like town board to vote on comp plan soon.

EARL KELSEY said that the Town Board has a responsibility to the electorate but that the comp committee has a responsibility to the Town Board to make the plan more understandable. He feels that there are contradictions throughout the plan.

VAN CALHOUN stated that the steering committee made an offer to the town board to work with them on making clarification's in the wording in the plan.

Motion was made by Councilman Hegeman, seconded by Councilman Balcom and carried to adjourn at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Carol Gregg RMC
Town Clerk