

Minutes of October 18, 2010 Germantown Town Board meeting, held at the Germantown Town Hall, Germantown, NY, commencing at 7:00pm

Present: Supervisor Roy Brown
Councilwoman Graceann Lamberta
Councilwoman Joan Snyder
Councilman Joel Craig
Councilman Jeremy Smith
Town Lawyer Jason Shaw

Recorded by: Town Clerk Charlene Diehl

Supervisor Brown opened the meeting and led the Pledge to the Flag.

Motion to approve the September town board meeting minutes, made by Councilwoman Snyder and seconded by Councilwoman Lamberta, with all in favor and none opposed.

Supervisor Brown indicated that two budget transfers would need to be made: one for the JCAP grant for the Justice Court that didn't go into the budget as revenue, one in Youth Programs for summer programs, moving the balance from the .1 to the .4 account.

Motion to approve budget transfers made by Councilwoman Lamberta and seconded by Councilwoman Snyder.

Supervisor Brown:	Aye	Councilwoman Lamberta:	Aye
Councilwoman Snyder:	Aye	Councilman Craig:	Aye
Councilman Smith:	Aye		

Motion to approve paying audited bills made by Councilman Craig and seconded by Councilman Smith.

Supervisor Brown:	Aye	Councilwoman Snyder:	Aye
Councilwoman Lamberta:	Aye	Councilman Craig:	Aye
Councilman Smith:	Aye		

Communication - Town Clerk (letters available at the Clerk's Office)

- Letter from Art Cady re. Proposed Re-Zoning Environmental Impact Statement
- Letter from Bruce Bohnsack as the Comprehensive Planning Committee Response to the Draft Zoning/Subdivision Law
- E-mail from George Nahlik to the board regarding the drastic increase in building permit fees.

Department Updates

Highway Department – no report

Councilman Smith said that just before the heritage weekend, Anthony, Rich and his team put in steps at the Parsonage and discussion of the needs of the historical society needs to occur.

Police Department – reported by Roger Rekow

105 hours of patrol time was worked during the month of September.

Councilman Smith said the Police department did a wonderful job for both weekends of the Anniversary celebration.

Sewer – reported by Joan Snyder

- Average daily flow for the month was 31,000 gallons per day;
- 8 'Call Before you Dig' requests were received for the month;
- starting to get ready for winter.

Parks & Maintenance – reported by Anthony Cidras

- thanks to the highway and sewer departments who helped with the parsonage steps, handrail and cupola;
- all UV filters were replaced;
- the skagg mower is out of service; thanks to Colin Brown for mowing;
- preparation and then recovery from celebration weekends/Oktoberfest.

Supervisor Brown gave a special thanks to George Bennett who built a new cupola for the town; it looks very nice.

300th Celebration – reported by Nadine Rumke

Nadine Rumke thanked everyone who participated in the anniversary celebration, which was two years in the making and brought in folks from 11 different states and Canada.

- over 200 people attended the seminar;
- BYU (Brigham Young University) TV was here and filmed an episode;
- Heritage Award given to the History Department the Historic Committee by the Columbia County Historical Society.

Mrs. Rumke thanked the History Department, Germantown Central School and teachers, and George Sharpe for organizing the Oktoberfest. Merchandise is still available.

Nan Elliot submitted a formal report to the board on marketing and public relations for the anniversary and read the forward from the report.

Supervisor Brown thanked Nan for getting the word out.

Councilwoman Lamberta asked for more information on the BYU TV episode, and Mrs. Rumke said the new season starts in January but she's not sure of when the program will run. She will keep the board updated.

Economic Development – presented by Roy Brown

- 12526 logo merchandise is available.
- Supervisor Brown has reached out to Clermont to promote more businesses on their website and to add their businesses to our website 12526.biz, which has all businesses listed.
- See Roy or Corinne Curry if you're interested in 12526 merchandise.

Rezoning Committee – reported by Joel Craig

- Good input was received at the recent public forum meeting that was held;
- On Saturday, 10/23, from 10-12 the committee members will be at town hall for those who want to stop by and ask questions.

Councilwoman Lamberta asked if the board has to accept the document as a whole when it is presented in final form for approval, or can the board ask for revisions on some parts of it?

Jason Shaw responded that the town board is ultimately responsible for what's in the document and that they can tweak it. If there are significant changes to the document a public hearing should be held, and Councilman Craig advised folks not to wait till the end of the process to suggest changes.

Supervisor Brown advised the link to the Comprehensive Plan should be put back on the website for residents to review.

Jason Shaw will do the SEQRA with Councilman Craig's help and the steps that need to be taken were laid out:

- public hearing for comment on the Re-Zoning; the public hearing on the Comprehensive Plan has been done;
- SEQR needs to be done
- the Re-Zoning and Comprehensive Plan documents need to go to the Columbia County Planning Board for approval. When that is granted it comes back to the town board for a vote.

Park Commission – reported by Roy Brown

- Nothing to report

Old Business – nothing to report

New Business

Smoke-Free Park Resolution #31 – Supervisor Brown said the Rip Van Winkle Tobacco-Free Action group of Columbia and Greene Counties had requested that the board support a smoke-free park resolution.

The Town of Germantown agrees to the adoption of the following resolution to create tobacco-free zones at Germantown Town parks.

WHEREAS, smoking is responsible for the premature deaths of over 430,000 Americans each year from lung cancer, heart disease, respiratory illness and other diseases; and

WHEREAS, children exposed to secondhand smoke are more likely to have reduced lung function and symptoms of respiratory irritation, like coughing, excess phlegm and sneezing; and

WHEREAS, children with asthma who are exposed to secondhand smoke are especially at risk for having their condition worsened by secondhand smoke; and

WHEREAS, secondhand smoke is responsible for over 50,000 deaths among nonsmokers each year; and

WHEREAS, tobacco kills more Americans each year than alcohol, cocaine, crack, heroin, homicide, suicide, accidents, fire, and AIDS combined; and

WHEREAS, 80% of smokers started smoking before the age of 18, and the average initiation age is 12 years old; and

WHEREAS, everyday an estimated 3,900 young people under the age of 18 try their first cigarette and one-third of these children will die prematurely from tobacco related illnesses; and

WHEREAS, to help role model non-smoking behavior to children and youth; to provide children, youth and their families with a safe, smoke-free environment;

THEREFORE, the Town of Germantown, Columbia County, resolves as follows:

That in park areas where children play (playground, ballfields, beaches) appropriate signage will be posted designating tobacco-free zones.

This resolution will become effective on November 1, 2010

Motion to approve the resolution made by Councilman Craig and seconded by Councilwoman Snyder.

Supervisor Brown:	Aye	Councilwoman Snyder:	Aye
Councilwoman Lamberta:	Aye	Councilman Craig:	Aye
Councilman Smith:	Aye		

Councilwoman Snyder confirmed with Supervisor Brown that the resolution affected all parks in Germantown, including Cheviot and the Anchorage.

Justice Court Grant Resolution #32 – Supervisor Brown said that last year the Justice Court had applied for and received a grant. In order to apply for another grant, the board needs to approve a resolution authorizing the application.

WHEREAS, the Germantown Justice Court wants to apply for a Justice Court Assistance Program grant from the New York State Office of Court Administration for upgrades to the Town Court, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Germantown Town Board hereby grants the Town Justice Court authority to apply for the maximum amount available for grant funding from the Justice Court Assistance Program from the New York State Office of Court Administration, this 18th day of October, 2010.

Motion to approve the resolution authorizing the Justice Court to apply for a grant made by Councilwoman Snyder, with a second by Councilwoman Lamberta.

Supervisor Brown:	Aye	Councilwoman Snyder:	Aye
Councilwoman Lamberta:	Aye	Councilman Craig:	Aye
Councilman Smith:	Aye		

Councilman Craig confirmed with Judge Beaury, who was in the audience, that it was a state grant and that no matching funds would be requested of the town.

Councilman Smith asked what will be requested in the grant and Supervisor Brown let him know there was a list and he should see Judge Beaury.

Supervisor's Report

- 2011 tentative budget is out and workshops will be held at the Activity Building on October 25, November 3 and November 10 at 6:00pm.
- 2011 Budget Public Hearing will be November 15th at 6:00pm
- November 22nd will be the next Town Board meeting
- Reopening of the Rte 9G bridge will happen soon – DOT is currently doing drainage work and they need to install the new approach aprons, put up the guardrails and repave the approaches to the bridge.
- Thanks to everyone who assisted during the 300th and Oktoberfest activities. A letter has been sent to the paper applauding all the efforts.

Open to Public

Kay Abraham said she is concerned there is not a clearer process of adopting the Comprehensive Plan and Rezoning Plan, and when does the board anticipate being able to vote on it?

Supervisor Brown said he is optimistic to have it done by the end of the year.

Councilman Craig said the committee sat down after the last meeting and reviewed each comment and made changes as they thought appropriate.

Mrs. Abraham said she thinks Channel 35 should reflect a calendar of upcoming meetings.

Susan Robb, a newly appointed member of the History Department, asked if the board would consider installing DSL in the Parsonage.

Supervisor Brown said he would work on having it installed.

The next town board meeting is November 22nd at 7:00pm.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Councilwoman Lamberta and seconded by Councilwoman Snyder, with all in favor and none opposed.

Respectfully submitted,