

Minutes of March 10, 2020 Germantown Town Board meeting, held in the Germantown Town Hall, 50 Palatine Park Road, Germantown, NY, commencing at 7:00pm.

Present: Supervisor Beaury
Councilman Sullivan
Councilman Kukon
Councilmember Suarez
Councilman Christian

Town Attorney, Corinne Smith

Recorded by: Town Clerk, Joyce Vale

Supervisor Beaury opened the meeting and Led with the Pledge to the Flag.

Motion to open the meeting made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Motion to approve February 11, 2020 meeting minutes made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Motion to pay audited bills made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Sullivan, with all in favor and none opposed.

Written Communications to the Town Clerk

Town Clerk received resignation from Ellen Jouret Epstein as alternate on the Planning Board. Letter will be on file in the Town Clerk's office.

Motion to enter Executive Session at 7:02pm to discuss matters leading to the appointment of particular persons and collective negotiations made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Motion to come out of Executive Session at 7:36pm made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Motion to re-enter regular meeting made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Sullivan, with all in favor and none opposed.

Old Business

- IFB for the Salt Shed Roof- Resolution to award the bid.
Four bids were received:

Shinas Construction LLC-- \$84,400

Titan-- \$60,900

Skepi Development Inc-- \$43,000

ACT Construction-- \$39,950

Supervisor Beaury read the following Resolution:

TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF GERMANTOWN
COLUMBIA COUNTY, NEW YORK

Dated: March 10, 2020

RESOLUTION AWARDING BID FOR RE-ROOFING OF SALT STORAGE SHED

WHEREAS, the Town of Germantown issued an Invitation for Bids (“IFB”) for Re-Roofing of the Salt Storage Shed for the Town of Germantown (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, sealed bids for the Project were publicly opened and read at the Germantown Town Hall on February 27, 2020, with bids being received from four parties; and

WHEREAS, the Town has reviewed the bids submitted, and ACT Construction’s bid was the lowest bid submitted by a responsible bidder.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Germantown:

1. That ACT Construction’s bid for \$39,950 for re-roofing of the salt shed using Architectural shingles, is hereby accepted, subject to the terms of the IFB; and
2. That the Supervisor be, and he hereby is, authorized to issue the Notice of Award to ACT Construction and execute a contract for such Project in substantially the form provided in the IFB, subject to approval by the attorney for the Town.

On a motion by Councilman Sullivan, and seconded by Councilman Kukon and having been approved by a majority of the Board, this Resolution was declared duly adopted by the Town of Germantown Town Board.

At this time, we had a presentation from Holly Tanner, Columbia County Clerk, regarding Real ID. Ms. Tanner said the Real ID and Enhanced licenses are based out of the Homeland Security Act after 9/11. This is part of protecting domestic airline flights. There are 3 types of licenses. First is Standard which is your driver’s license and can be used for ID. Second is the Enhanced license which enables you to fly domestic and enter Federal buildings, border cross into Canada or Mexico either by land or sea. The cost is an extra \$30.00 each time you renew your license, and this license has an American Flag on it. Third is Real ID, and as of October 1, 2020, you will need to become Real ID complaint. Ms. Tanner said there is no extra cost if done at the time

of renewal if not cost is \$17.50. You can upgrade at any time with approved documentation which is: Driver's license, Birth Certificate, Original social security card, 2 proofs of residency and for a name change marriage license, divorce records or name change documentation. The Real ID has a star on it. Holly left information with the Town Clerk.

Old Business, continued

- Appointment of a particular person as Chair of the LWRP committee.

Motion to appoint Jen Crawford as Chair of the LWRP committee made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Sullivan, with all in favor and none opposed.

- Reformation of the Waterfront Advisory committee.

Christina Bohnsack spoke of the goals the committee wants to achieve like Amtrak, construction and debris removal of the seawall at Lasher Park and the water chestnuts. Supervisor Beaury suggested that the committee's goals can be discussed at the workshop they are going to set up.

- Appointment of a particular person as Chair of the Waterfront Advisory committee.

Motion to appoint Christina Bohnsack Chair of the Waterfront Advisory committee made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Sullivan, with all in favor and none opposed.

- Appointment of Waterfront Advisory committee members.

Motion to appoint the following people to the Waterfront Advisory committee made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Billy Shannon
Donald Dubac
Doris Dubac
Jo Hills
Martin Overington
Tracy Martin
Kaare Christian
Elizabeth Bathrick

- Ratification of CBA- Resolution.

Supervisor Beaury read the following Resolution:

TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF GERMANTOWN
COLUMBIA COUNTY, NEW YORK

RESOLUTION

Dated: March 10, 2020

WHEREAS, the bargaining teams for UPSEU and the Town of Germantown have executed a Memorandum of Agreement reflecting a tentative agreement to the terms of a new Collective Bargaining Agreement commencing January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2023, a copy of which is annexed to this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Memorandum of Agreement is approved and the Town Supervisor, in consultation with the Town Attorney, shall execute a new Collective Bargaining Agreement substantially conforming to the terms annexed to this Resolution, and shall take all steps reasonable and necessary to implement the intent of this Resolution.

On a motion by Councilman Kukon, and seconded by Councilman Sullivan and having been approved by a majority of the Board, this Resolution was declared duly adopted by the Town of Germantown Town Board.

New Business

- Social Media Policy- Discussion.

Councilmember Suarez along with Councilman Sullivan are working on an Instagram account for the Town of Germantown. Attorney Smith presented the Board with a draft social media policy. Supervisor Beaury suggested putting together a list of the edits and pass it around.

Motion to table discussion on the draft social media policy until April made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

- Updated No Smoking Policy- Discussion.

NYS Department of Health upgrading signage. Changes to the policy will be required. Attorney Smith presented the Board with a draft updated no smoking policy. The Board discussed expanding areas where smoking is prohibited. Councilman Christian asked if smoking is prohibited in town vehicles. Attorney Smith explained it's currently prohibited and pointed out that the new draft includes that prohibition as well. Supervisor Beaury suggested putting together edits and passing it around.

Motion to table discussion on the draft updated no smoking policy until April made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

- Census 2020- Discussion.

Councilmember Suarez said to make sure you fill out your census report, it can be done online.

- Update from the Technology Committee.

Councilman Sullivan they would like to do a complete re-design of the Town webpage, which will cost approximately \$2,000. Councilman Sullivan said this will be user friendly and provide more options.

Motion to approve re-design pending receipt of a plan made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Sullivan, with all in favor and none opposed.

- Motion to approve hiring a second clerk for the Justice Court.

Motion to appoint Mattie Gifford, part-time Justice Clerk 4 hours a week at \$15.00 an hour made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

- Purple Heart Community- Resolution.

NYS Senator Daphne Jordan asked our Tow to become a Purple Heart Community. The Town will receive a plaque to place in the Town Hall.

Supervisor Beaury read the following Resolution:

TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF GERMANTOWN
COLUMBIA COUNTY, NEW YORK
RESOLUTION

Dated: March 10, 2020

WHEREAS, the Town Board has great admiration and the utmost gratitude for all of the men and women who have selflessly served their country and this community by joining the military; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration in present use and was initially created as the Badge of Military Merit by General George Washington in 1782; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart was the first American service award or decoration made available to the common soldier and is specifically awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces who have been wounded or paid the ultimate sacrifice in combat with a declared enemy of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Military Order of the Purple Heart is to foster an environment of goodwill among the combat-wounded veteran members and their families, promote patriotism, support legislative initiatives, and most importantly – make sure we never forget; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Germantown appreciates the sacrifices our Purple Heart recipients made in defending our freedoms and believe it is important that we acknowledge them for their courage and show them the honor and support they have earned.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Germantown Town Board hereby proclaims the Town of Germantown as a Purple Heart Town, honoring the service and sacrifice of our nation’s men and women in uniform who were wounded or killed by the enemy while serving to protect the freedoms of all Americans.

Introduced by Councilman Kukon, Seconded by Councilman Christian.

Upon the question of the adoption of this Resolution, the following Board members voted “Aye” in favor of the Resolution:

The proposed Resolution having been approved by a majority of the Board, the same was declared duly adopted by the Germantown Town Board.

- Trees for Palatine Park Road.

Supervisor Beury met with Barbara Hughey and they talked about planting some trees on the west side of Palatine Park Road. Supervisor Beury asked Lori & Adam Crawford permission to do this. This will be approved at the April meeting. Janet Crawford said a few 6th grade students would like to plant trees along Palatine Park Road. Janet also said the girls would do a bake sale as a fund raiser this will be discussed at the workshop.

- Workshop.

Town Board will hold a workshop on March 24, 2020 at 7:00pm.

Supervisor’s Report

- Athens Stevedore Environmental Production LLC/C&D processing in Catskill and Athens.

Supervisor Beury went to Athens March 1, 2020 and heard experts talk about a proposal for a massive C&D project that might be happening in Athens a 6-acre site on their waterfront. They will be allowed to process up to 500- tons per day without a permit for each of three types of debris, for a total of 1,500 tons per day. If they are over the 500-tons for any particular type, they will have to get a permit. Supervisor Beury said with the crushing and screening there will be lots of dust and noise. Supervisor Beury asked the Waterfront Committee to make contact with the Athens Village Waterfront Committee and monitor the situation.

- Amtrak- Update

There is no update.

- COVID-19
- Spring Mixer sponsored by GEDAC: April 1, 2020 6-8pm at Central House.
- Blood Drive, March 28, 2020 8:30am to 12:30pm, Town Hall parking lot.
- Pancake Breakfast 8:00am-12:00pm and Easter Egg Hunt 10:30am-, April 12, 2020 Lions Club.
- Next meeting April 14, 2020 at 7:00pm.

Comments from Councilmembers

Councilmember Suarez said spread the word about the Spring Mixer if you received an invite.

Councilmember Suarez said the Parks Commission would like to set up an information kiosk at Cheviot Park. Different ideas. Tom Shannon will be doing the history. Tracey Martin and the Parks Commission raised \$800 at the Holiday Stroll.

Councilman Christian said the Ethics Law recommends that people with a possible or perceived conflict of interest should make a disclosure, so that is what he did. Councilman Christian wants included in the record the following disclosure was sent to all the Town Board members prior to the February 11, 2020 Town Board meeting. he has a conflict of interest.

Councilman Christian read the following Residence ~~enceents~~ Disclosure Letter and would like the entire letter entered in the minutes. Letter is entered below.

Residence Disclosure Statement

Kaare Christian, Germantown Town Board

As many town residents know, I reside at 72 Anchorage Rd, a beautiful and historic property on the Hudson shoreline. Like many town officers before me, I own a wonderful and distinctive property, but in all town-related roles I act solely in the interest of the town. As a Town Board member I have an obligation to be transparent and accountable, as outlined in the 2019 Ethics Law, so I'm voluntarily disclosing relevant details about my residence.

72 Anchorage Road:

- A Hudson River shoreline property of just under 3 acres
- Adjacent to Ernest R. Lasher Jr. Memorial Park (Germantown has approximately ten properties within 50 yards of one of the town's two Hudson shoreline parks)
- Adjacent to the railroad right of way (Germantown has approximately 60 properties adjacent to the RR ROW)

- One of 363 residential parcels in the study area of Germantown's 2018 Local Waterfront Revitalization Study

The location of my residence is available in numerous public sources, such as the Columbia County Board of Elections voter rolls, the Columbia County Real Property Tax Service Agency's tax maps and other records, the Tax Collection page of the town website, and it is common knowledge to many people in the town of Germantown

Section 11.B.1 of the 2019 ethics law allows town officers to have investments in real property located within the town and used as a personal residence, and Section 10.A.2.ii of the 2019 Germantown Ethics Law specifies that disclosure is not required for matters that affect all residents of an area of the town.

I write this disclosure to ensure full transparency around my duties, particularly as they relate to my work on the waterfront issues. My work on these issues is based on my dedication to the town's well-being. With this statement I assure the town and board that whenever any potential conflicts of interests may come up in my duties I will abstain and recuse myself when necessary and will exercise discretion to ensure impartial judgements in the public interest.

I look forward to continuing to serve the Town of Germantown.



Kaare Christian, Feb. 11, 2020

Councilman Sullivan said the Athletic Director from Germantown School reached out to him about using Town grounds for Softball practices. Councilman Sullivan said as long as they use the South field and not the North field it would be okay. Supervisor Beaury said it was okay with him as long as it fit into the Town schedule. Supervisor Beaury said in the past they had an agreement with the school and was there an agreement, Councilman Sullivan answered no there wasn't one. Supervisor Beaury requested a certificate of insurance. Councilman Sullivan will ask the school for it.

Motion to allow Softball practice on the South field made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember Suarez with all in favor and none opposed.

Public

Christina Bohnsack said that River Sweep is May 2nd and the Overington's are unable to attend this year so she will lead it. Christina asked if she should proceed as a resident or as a member of the Waterfront committee? Supervisor Beaury said that he received an email from Martin

Overington and he said he and Kathy are going to be involved and that Christina should touch base with them. Supervisor Beaury answered by saying it should be done as it has been done in the past with volunteers.

Christina also said for the past 2 years during River Sweep they have been clearing vines and debris at Ice- House Landing. Supervisor Beaury said the issue with this is that we have to cross property that we don't own, Amtrak owns it. Supervisor Beaury said he doesn't feel comfortable trespassing where we don't have legal authority. There was more discussion held. Councilman Christian said what he thought Christina was getting at was once the committee got to Ice-House Landing by means the Town doesn't have to know if the Town would be okay with that. Supervisor Beaury said as long as you don't trespass.

Supervisor Beaury announced "Disney's Newsies" at the school March 20 & 21st at 7:30pm, March 22nd at 2:00pm. Tickets are Adults \$10.00 and Students \$5.00.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Meeting closed at 8:54pm.

Respectfully submitted,