

Members present: Supervisor Patricia Tompkins
Councilmen: Steven Frazier, Corrina Kelley, David
McMorris John Welsh

The meeting was opened with the flag salute.

Supervisor Tompkins asked for a moment of silence for the men and women who have served our country past and present.

OPEN MEETING TO COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Lisette Hitsman mentioned that the amount of money that the Town Board has been giving to the Seniors of Union Vale is not a payment, it is sponsoring the Seniors of the Town. The Town sponsors other groups such as Little Leagues and does not require that they bring in invoices before they can have the money.

There were no comments and the regular order of business was begun.

Supervisor Tompkins introduced Dutchess County Legislator Marc Coviello who listed the various County Committees he serves on. One that he is especially interested in is the Veteran's Affairs Committee as he is especially interested in as a veteran of the Iraq/Afghanistan conflict. He is interested in setting up a Veterans Affairs Corps in Dutchess County. Mr. Coviello also spoke about the overcrowding at the Dutchess County Jail.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Welsh offered a motion to approve the minutes of January 8th, and 15th as copied to the Town Board. The motion was seconded by Councilman Frazier and passed with a unanimous vote.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Tompkins thanked the volunteer Fire Company for their help to Town Residents during the power outage on Sunday which was a very cold day. This power outage reinforced the need for a generator for the Town Hall. Ms. Tompkins asked Councilman Welsh to check with the Grant Writer to see if there is funding for a generator. Mr. Welsh stated that he had looked into this before and there were no grants available at that time but he will check again. Wednesday Supervisor Tompkins and Councilman Welsh met with Halmar, the company doing the work on the bridge at Route 55 and Wisseman Road. Signs will be put up regarding detours. There will be a meeting on March 14th for the residents sponsored by the Dutchess County Emergency Center at 7:30 p.m. for emergency planning.

Councilman McMorris reported that he attended the Association of Towns meeting in New York and went to classes on Solar Energy and there is grant money available. NYSERDA would like to give a presentation at a Town Board meeting. Councilman Frazier also attended these meetings and will have an in-depth report next meeting. He also attended a meeting regarding the use of drones.

Supervisor Tompkins said that the Web Site will be up and running tomorrow under a new Web Master, Andrea Casey. Andrea mentioned that residents who are unable to attend or watch the meetings on television can watch them tomorrow on YouTube.

HIGHWAY REPORT

No report.

BOOKKEEPER REPORT

Ryan Courtien, Bookkeeper thanked the Town Board for allowing him to attend the New York Association of Towns Classes. He stated that it was very educational. Mr. Courtien gave the town financial report for the month of January.

PARKS

Mr. Mattes reported that ninety-nine percent of the renovations of the indoor facilities are complete. The work on clearing the trails is ongoing, brush cleared and trails widened. An application for the Arbor Day grant was submitted and hopefully if the application is accepted Cyprus trees will be planted. A new program is the outdoor survival skills camp during Spring Break. All summer programs are available on the Parks & Recreation Website. The money given in the past to the Seniors has been theirs to use without submitting vouchers and Mr. Mattes feels that is how it should be given to them, to offer the services to the Town as they have been doing in the past. He feels that they should be given the thousand dollars twice a year and fill out a voucher, put together an invoice as the Union Vale Senior Citizens and they will be hired just like any other group and they can use the money to run their programs. Mr. Mattes also spoke regarding the income generated by the recreation programs that have been increasing since 2007 and he also spoke about all the costs involved in running the Park and Recreation Department.

JESSICA DICKINSON TO ATTEND TRI-STATE CAMP CONFERENCE

Mr. Mattes requested that Jessica Dickenson be sent to the American Camping Association Tri-State Camp Conference to be held in March in New Jersey at a cost of \$700. Councilman Welsh offered a motion to send Ms. Dickenson to this camp and the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Kelley and passed with a unanimous vote.

NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARK CONFERENCE

Mr. Mattes asked for authorization to attend the National Recreation and Park Association Congress held in October in St. Louis, Mo. At an approximate cost of \$2000., which includes admission, hotel and airfare. After much discussion regarding cost this was tabled until the next meeting.

RECYCLE

Supervisor Tompkins reported that Tom St. Onge did not have a report for this evening but she wanted to let residents know that they can fill out the permit application the Center or purchase recycling permits from the Town Clerk's office Monday through Thursday.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER

There were no dogs reported lost or found for the month of January. The Dog Control Officer spent the majority of the month reviewing New York State Agriculture & Markets Law. The Dog Control Officer had preliminary meetings with Kim Volpe, New York State Agriculture & Markets Health Inspector and Melanie Rogers, Intake Services Manager of the D.C. SPAC. An inventory revealed the need to replace certain pieces of dog control equipment need by the Town and submitted a list to the Town Board.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

Conservation Licenses - \$61.40, New York State Neutering Fund - \$30.00, Marriage Licenses - \$22.50, Recycle/Compact Fees - \$29,148.31, Recreation Fees - \$8,444.00, Town Fees - \$448.10 for a total for January of \$38,154.31.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICE REPORT

Report for the month of January was submitted as follows: 51 Inspections performed, 9 Building Permits issued, 7 Complaints received and 7 acted on, 16 Old Permits Cleared, 11 Applicant meetings, 5 Abstract Letters, 27 Certificates of Occupancy/Compliance issued, 4 Violation notices issued and 2 abated, 0 Appearance tickets issued, 2 Fire call out and 13 hours of plan reviews with a total of \$625.00 collected.

CONSTABLES REPORT

The Constables submitted a report that they patrolled approximately 905 miles of town roads for the month. Officers found the rear town hall door unlocked with the code set. Court dates were without incident. A parking ticket was issued for illegal handicap parking in Verbank.

MEDIA

Councilman McMorris mentioned that he is looking a purchasing a new camera to tape the Town meetings. There have been complaints regarding the quality of the video. The Town is using a VHS camera on a digital system. The Town was given \$7,500 through the last cable contract and that hasn't been spent yet. When Mr. McMorris finds out exactly how much money there is to spend he will look into upgrading the equipment.

ZONING BOARD REPORT

No fees collected for the month of January.

PLANNING BOARD REPORT

No report for the month of January.

TAX COLLECTOR

Edna Bonk, Tax Collector submitted a report stating that she collected \$348,532.42 during the month of January.

CONSTABLE POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Councilman McMorris mentioned that at the Association of Classes in New York City and they suggested that the Constable Policy and Procedures should be reviewed every year. When the Town hired new constables there was a large expenditure due to the amount of training needed. Union Vale's Town Code states that all constables need to live in Union Vale. If that restriction was removed from the code the Town could save money by hiring trained constables from other Towns.

SENIOR CITIZEN FUNDING

Supervisor Tompkins spoke about the money that is budgeted for the Union Vale Senior Citizens. They have been given \$1,000 in January and \$1,000 in July. Councilwoman Kelley stated that according to the State Comptroller the Town Board cannot give the money to them without paper work. The Treasurer of the Senior Citizens has agreed to submit vouchers in the future. The Town Attorney, Thomas Jacobellis agreed with Councilwoman Kelley that there needed to be a paper trail.

AUTHORIZE MARC COVIELLO USE OF MEETING ROOM

Supervisor Tompkins offered a motion to allow Marc Coviello to use the Town Hall on February 23, 2016 starting at 6:30 p.m. for a meeting with Dutchess County Veterans. The motion was seconded by Councilman McMorris and passed with a unanimous vote of the Town Board.

APPOINT PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD MEMBERS

Councilwoman Kelley offered a motion to appoint Alain Natchev to the town of Union Vale Planning Board, term to expire December 31, 2022 and Ralph Mondello to the position of the Town of Planning Board Alternate, term expiring December 31, 2019 and James Layton to the position of Town of Union Vale Zoning Board of Appeals, term expiring December 31, 2020. The motion was seconded by Councilman McMorris and passed with a unanimous vote of the Town Board.

AUTHORIZE SETTING UP A LIBRARY STEERING COMMITTEE

Councilman Welsh offered a motion to appoint a Library Steering Committee comprising of any individual interested in serving on such committee, who will serve at the pleasure of the Town Board. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Tompkins and passed with a unanimous vote of the Town Board.

AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF BILLS

Councilman McMorris offered a motion to pay the General Fund Claims, the Highway Fund Vouchers as set forth in Abstract #2 and authorizes the supervisor to make all payments. The motion was seconded by Councilman Welsh and passed unanimously.

ACCEPT PROPOSAL FOR TOWN HALL UV SYSTEM

Councilman Frazier offered a motion to accept the proposal of Griffen Pump Service to install a UV system at the Union Vale Town Hall in the amount of \$6,500.00 which was the lowest responsible bidder. The proposal was received and reviewed by Town Engineer Larry Paggi. The motion to second was made by Supervisor Tompkins and passed with the following roll call vote:

Supervisor Patricia Tompkins	Voting	Aye
Councilman Steven Frazier	Voting	Aye
Councilwoman Corrina Kelley	Voting	Aye
Councilman David McMorris	Voting	Aye
Councilman John Welsh	Voting	Aye

APPROVE FEE WAIVER / RACING TO SAVE LIVES 5K/10K RUN/WALK

Supervisor Tompkins offered a motion that the Union Vale Town Board waives the small pavilion fee for July 9, 2016 for the annual Racing to Save Lives 5K/10K Run/Walk. The motion was seconded by Councilman McMorris and passed with a unanimous vote.

APPROVE PROCLAMATION FOR PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH

Nancy Redkey requested that the Town declare the month of April as Parkinson's Awareness month. Supervisor Patricia Tompkins offered a motion that the Town of Union Vale declares April as Parkinson's Awareness month and endorses the following Proclamation. The motion was seconded by Councilman David McMorris and passed with a unanimous vote of the Town Board.

PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is a progressive neurological movement disorder of the central nervous system, which has a unique impact on each patient; and

WHEREAS, according to the Parkinson's Action Network, the Parkinson's Disease Foundation, the American Parkinson's Disease Association and the National Institutes of Health, there are over one million Americans diagnosed with Parkinson's disease; and

WHEREAS, symptoms include slowness, tremor, difficulty with balance and speaking, rigidity, cognitive and memory problems; and

WHEREAS, although new medicines and therapies may enhance life for some time for people with Parkinson's more work is needed for a cure; and

WHEREAS, increased education and research are needed to help find more effective treatments with fewer side effects and ultimately a cure for Parkinson's disease; and

WHEREAS, a multidisciplinary approach to Parkinson's disease care includes local wellness, support, and caregiver groups; and

WHEREAS, April has been proclaimed as World Wide Parkinson's Awareness month for all to recognize the need for more research and help in dealing with the devastating effects of Parkinson's disease.

NOW, THEREFORE, The Town Board of the Town of Union Vale does hereby proclaim April as Parkinson's Awareness Month.

Supervisor Tompkins announced that the town Board is seeking interested residents who would like to serve on a Conservation Advisory Committee. Anyone interested should contact the Town Board, write a letter or call the Town Hall.

OPEN MEETING TO NON-AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Jean Moore of Darren Road thanked Robert Mattes for his work and dedication to the Park. She also thanked Lisette Hitsman and former Councilman Mondello for signing the Library contract. Ms. Moore feels that everyone should have access to libraries. Ms. Moore looked at the Town budget and she stated that the pool and equestrian center are losing money.

Carlos Mina asked for more security in the Park evenings to curb the illegal activity that is going on. Supervisor Tompkins told him that there has been discussion regarding cameras and additional lighting to address the problems. Mr. Mina also asked about the bridge repairs and was concerned about fire trucks getting to the back of the park.

There were no further comments and the regular order of business was resumed.

Councilman Frazier stated that he has been an advocate of improving the town web site since he first was elected to the Town Board and he is happy that something is being done but he doesn't recall any Town Board discussion. He wasn't aware of it until the past couple of days and it should have been discussed by the Board. No changes should be made without approval of the Town Board. In the future changes should be brought before the Board. Supervisor Tompkins told Mr. Frazier that she had gotten many calls about all of the outdated information on the web site and went to the Town Clerk's office for their help. Mr. Frazier said that his problem was not being informed before it was done. Supervisor Tompkins apologized for not discussing the upgrade before it was done.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Councilman Welsh offered a motion to adjourn at 9:50 p.m. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Tompkins and passed with a unanimous vote of the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Lou DeForest

Mary Lou DeForest, Town Clerk