

UNION VALE TOWN BOARD MEETING APRIL 6, 2017

TOWN HALL 249 DUNCAN ROAD LAGRANGEVILLE NY 7:00 PM

PRESENT: Supervisor Tompkins

COUNCILMEMBERS: Steven Frazier, John Welsh Corrina Kelley, David McMorris

THE MEETING WAS OPENED WITH THE FLAG SALUTE.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

REPORTS OF COUNCIL AND SUPERVISOR

Supervisor Tompkins thanked Jessica Dickinson and Kim Scoralick for organizing the Easter egg hunt for visually impaired children and also Kyle Geysen for having the Easter Bunny attend. She also thanked the therapy dogs, the Union Vale Fire Department for bringing the trucks and all others who volunteered to make this event happen. Lastly, she thanked Tyler Pearson for volunteering with the park and recreation staff every chance he gets when he is not working as a police officer.

She would also like to thank George Kolb, our building inspector and MS4 coordinator, Brian Scoralick and Erin Summerville for having an MS4 training at our town hall on March 22. Highway departments and parks departments from other towns were invited, which made for a good turn out even though our highway department was unable to attend.

The Route 55 property is on the market. The Supervisor received an email from Michael Tellerday, our agent, saying there are a few people inquiring about the property.

Robert Taft, George Kolb, John Welsh and she went to meet with real-estate brokers on Wednesday to put a plan in place to protect potential buyers and sellers of homes. This process provides information such as outstanding permits/violations on the property in place before the closing preferably, as soon as it is put on the market. She pointed out that this saves time and trouble for all involved parties during the buying and selling process

Supervisor Tompkins received a few thank you notes from Shelly Knight & Kathleen Hegerarty for attending the Parks and Recreation Conference which she read aloud.

Mary Pearson and she are already preparing for the next census by updating contact information and completing the survey sent by the Census Bureau.

Supervisor Tompkins also talked about her time at the Dutchess Community Municipal Innovation Summit.

Councilman Welsh expanded on the summit stating they are looking into innovation into shared services. A few examples are our shared Assessor with Town of LaGrange as well as our initial shared services with our Code Enforcement Officer who was formerly shared with Wappingers Falls and has now become our full-time employee. Councilman Welsh attended the Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council on March 29th and became a voting member. Their purpose is to review any County wide transportation projects. They are aggressive in getting State and Federal money to upgrade any transportation needs such as infrastructure or expanding county bus service. He also attended the Municipal Innovation Summit. Last week, he reported the Library Steering Committee had their last meeting to wrap up their year of research for their presentation tonight. He thanked the entire committee for all their hard work.

Councilman McMorris also reported on attending the Summit. During the meeting, he noted the information on grants, specifically the \$5,000 grant for using a simplified solar permit. They are offering up to \$50,000 in grants if we participate in 4 of 10 programs and he would like to follow up with this as some of the work with solar may already apply.

Councilman Frazier followed up with his time at the Association of Towns and learned that DOT has equipment available for shared service use which he has also informed our Highway Superintendent. He attended a procurement training class and learned that the low quote is not always the go to best value this can include longevity of purchase, or fuel efficiency which is also a consideration. They are working on procurement laws to benefit the towns as they are

currently very restrictive. The labor rate on public jobs is also applicable and currently this is being looked into as well through his work with Assemblyman, Kiran Lalor.

Supervisor Tompkins wanted to remind everyone the Easter Egg Hunt is Saturday, April 8th 10:00 AM SHARP!

EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

Mary Pearson made all the appropriate amendments and updates, this was emailed within days of the March 16th meeting and the entire Board has had a chance to review.

PLEASANT RIDGE PROPERTY

Supervisor Tompkins stated this was brought up at the last meeting and looked into with our Town Attorney and Assessor, Robert Taft who is currently investigating any pending restrictions. She is waiting to hear back before the Board can make any decisions to go forward.

RESOLUTION (#17-33) TO ADOPT REVISED EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

The following Resolution was offered by Councilman Welsh, seconded by Councilman McMorris, to wit:

WHEREAS, the Town of Union Vale has reviewed its Employee Handbook; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Union Vale desires to adopt and approve a revised Employee Handbook for Town of Union Vale employees and elected officials.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Union Vale hereby adopts and approves the revised Town of Union Vale Employee Handbook; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the revised adopted Employee Handbook shall be kept on file in the Office of the Town Clerk.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call which resulted as follows:

Councilman Welsh	Aye
Councilwoman Kelley	Aye
Supervisor Tompkins	Aye
Councilman McMorris	Aye
Councilman Frazier	Nay

Supervisor Tompkins stated these will be handed out with the next paycheck. Everyone must sign that they received the handbook. Councilman Welsh asked if they should have a Q&A session on new changes. Supervisor Tompkins stated there is a form in the handbook and any employee may submit any questions in writings. Councilman McMorris suggested a Department head meeting to go over everything in the event their employees have questions. Supervisor Tompkins agreed and stated they will schedule a meeting for next week.

Mr. Frazier stated that when he took the oath of office he swore to uphold and defend the Constitution and tonight he would like to exercise that pledge and vote no.

RESOLUTION (#17-34) AUTHORIZING BOND REDUCTION

The following Resolution was offered by Councilwoman Kelley, seconded by Councilman Welsh, to wit:

WHEREAS, the Bruzgul Heights Subdivision currently has a performance bond posted with the Town of Union Vale in the amount of \$493,560.00; and

WHEREAS, based on work completed to date, Bruzgul Heights Subdivision has requested that the bond amount be reduced to \$192,840.00; and

WHEREAS, the Town Engineer, Lawrence J. Paggi, P.E., and Town Code Enforcer, George Kolb, Jr., have recommended that based on their site observation on March 29, 2017, they have no objection to the bond amount being reduced to \$192,840.00.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Union Vale hereby authorizes the bond reduction of the Bruzgul Heights Subdivision from \$493,560.00 to \$192,840.00.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call which resulted as follows:

Councilman Welsh	Aye
Councilwoman Kelley	Aye
Supervisor Tompkins	Aye
Councilman McMorris	Aye
Councilman Frazier	Aye

Councilman Welsh thinks it is necessary and stated that the applicant has complied with all the requests and it would be fair and correct to reduce the Bond.

RESOLUTION (#17-35) AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN INTRASTATE MUTUAL AID PROGRAM (“IMAP”)

The following Resolution was offered by Councilman McMorris, seconded by Councilwoman Kelley, to wit

WHEREAS, the Intrastate Mutual Aid Program (“IMAP”) is a resource sharing mechanism created in §29-h of the New York State Executive Law which allows local governments to share resources during a declared local state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, the benefit of the program is that it allows for mutual aid during a locally declared disaster without the need to enter into individual intergovernmental agreements or memorandum of understanding prior to, or during an event; and

WHEREAS, IMAP not only authorizes the municipality to share resources with other local governments but also provides for reimbursement, and specifies which local government is responsible for liability and worker’s compensation coverage when personnel are shared through this program; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services is responsible for overseeing the program and managing the participant contact list.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Union Vale hereby authorizes the Town Supervisor to execute all necessary paperwork to enroll the Town of Union Vale in the “IMAP” program with New York State Homeland Security and Emergency Services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor shall be the authorized individual who will be responsible for sending and receiving requests and have the authority to approve sending and receiving assets on behalf of the Town of Union Vale.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call which resulted as follows:

Councilman Welsh	Aye
Councilwoman Kelley	Aye
Supervisor Tompkins	Aye
Councilman McMorris	Aye
Councilman Frazier	Aye

Councilman Welsh wanted to remind everyone that the March 14 storm is a good indication of why this is important pass this. Although assistance was not needed at a local level it is important to have in place and is worthwhile to be part of this.

Supervisor Tompkins explained that IMAP is a resource mechanism that allows local governments to share resources during a state of emergency.

LIBRARY STEERING COMMITTEE PRESENTATION

Chair of the Library Steering Committee, Betsy Maas discussed the history with the existing library funding problem. Mrs. Maas also spoke about long term and short term options and goals the town could ultimately peruse.

Their findings were summed up into three categories which were explained in depth.

1. **Contract with the Mid-Hudson Library System**
2. **Contract with neighboring library or libraries directly**
3. **Establish a new library**

Supervisor Tompkins asked: Has option 2 negotiation been discussed with neighboring libraries?

Mrs. Maas replied no, because it needed to be discussed with the Town Board and the public prior to negotiations. Councilman McMorris asked about the “try it to buy it” recommendation which was included in the “establishing a new library” section. This allows users to download books and media on their mobile devices or computers. Mrs. Maas explained the two companies they looked into were Total Books & Odillo in order to test the temperature of if the Town would make use of a library. Pay per use model would be available on mobile devices and during the trial period all downloaded material would be “kept” by those that downloaded it. The cost is \$10,000 per year funded by those that sponsored or pledged to donate the money, not from tax dollars. The “free reading zone” would be accessed via email and downloaded through the site, rather than geo-locking which would cause the reading material to disappear when the user left the geographical area.

There was further discussion with questions and answers on the presentation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. L’Estrange from Otisville, New York spoke about the Country of China and organ harvesting and genocide and how trends were established internationally. He pointed out that although his comments were not directly related to Union Vale he wanted them aired. He further pointed out that some of the problems exist because of China’s lack of organ donation program and discussed the political and cultural issues dominating the problem. He thanked the Board for their time and attention.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

At 9:09 PM Supervisor Tompkins made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Councilman McMorris and all were unanimously in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrea Casey

Town Clerk