

MINUTES
TOWN OF EAST FISHKILL
TOWN BOARD MEETING
APRIL 23, 2020
7:00 p.m.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

The Town of East Fishkill's Town Board Meeting on April 23, 2020 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor D'Alessandro with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Supervisor's Announcements

Supervisor D'Alessandro thanked everyone for joining in the meeting. He stated Comptroller Pozniak would be unable to attend tonight's meeting as his mother passed away last week. Thoughts and prayers are being sent to him and his family.

He stated this has been a very difficult month with limited staff in the building and the situation as it is. They have been getting a lot done. He thanked the Town Board for all of their support as well as all the Town Professionals and Town employees who have been working very hard during this time. He has had several department meetings using Zoom. He is getting reports from them as to what employees are working on. Older projects are being caught up and as new issues arise they are being dealt with. They did discuss protocols as to when business can go back to normal. Government is essential business and every department will be staffed starting on Monday. He thanked those who have started today. They will continue with social distancing and the requirement of wearing masks if there is more than one employee in the office at a time. The building department is getting busy as they are still accepting applications. You can call them for an explanation as to how to do this. It is being done on a case-by-case basis. They are doing some inspections, but not going into occupied homes as of yet. The Governor has discussed the meeting he had with the President regarding the need for federal government funding for frontline workers. President Trump stated he would be pushing for that funding to be in the next bill. Governor Cuomo also clarified that he is not declaring the school year to be over. He is trying to reopen schools and businesses. He also stated that for employees that have not been approved for unemployment benefits, he expects that backlog to be processed quickly.

Tomorrow is Hashtag Farmstand Friday. You can find a list of participating Dutchess County farms on the Dutchess County website. Dutchess tourism has put together a video showing the resiliency of our communities and they are promoting it with #WeWillFlyAgain campaign.

Last month there was a Paycheck Protection Program at Town Hall. The program is expected to receive more funding once the House of

Representatives approves it. This follows the Senate passing their version of the bill on Tuesday. You can call your local banker as they have all the details.

County Executive Molinaro has been having biweekly conference calls on Mondays and Thursdays with all of the mayors and supervisors in the County. They are discussing how to reopen things within the County. The state will be opened depending on their regional areas and we are in the area that includes Westchester and Rockland and those areas both have significantly higher amounts of COVID-19 cases than Dutchess County does. Those two counties will be included in the New York City opening protocols and not Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster.

Supervisor D'Alessandro has been in conversations with the Town of Wappingers, Fishkill, Pawling, Poughkeepsie, and Beekman to discuss a multi-town restoration and reopening plan. Any state or county plan will trump local plans. We want to be prepared when the state and county give us the green light. A lot of local businesses have indicated they will not survive this. Supervisor D'Alessandro hopes that the PPP program and other initiatives that the state and federal government have started will help.

The Town of East Fishkill currently has no unnecessary spending as they are on a spending and hiring freeze as they wait and see what the income implications are from this. There are some employees thinking about retirement and those positions will not be filled. East Fishkill and Wappingers were going to hire a shared Human Resources Director, but that is on hold right now. The Supervisor will be contacting all federal representatives urging them to include direct funding for local governments.

Supervisor D'Alessandro thanked the community for abiding by the rules and especially thanks the youth. He understands how hard it is to not see friends and appreciates, and is proud of, how they have all abided by the rules. He said they are grateful to healthcare workers and those working in all essential areas for everything being done, as well as all emergency responders. He also thanked all those who have called and sent e-mails or texts.

Roll Call: Supervisor D'Alessandro asked Town Clerk Hurray, to call the rolls. All were in attendance via video conference.

Board Members in attendance:

Peter	Thomas	Emanuele	Anil	Nicolas
Cassidy	Franco	Marinero	Beephan	D'Alessandro

Also in attendance:

Thomas Wood, Attorney; Michael Cunningham, Attorney; Scott Bryant, Engineer; Ken Williams, Highway Superintendent; Chief Bellino, East Fishkill Police Department.

Public Hearing:

None.

Approve Minutes:

March 26, 2020

Motion to approve the minutes for the March 26th, 2020 meeting: Board Member Cassidy. Seconded: Board Member Beephan. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Announcement of Additions to the Agenda:

Supervisor D'Alessandro said there are no additions to the agenda.

Courtesy of the Floor:

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated this was a webinar meeting and people could dial in. The link has been posted. They also could send comments or questions to Town Clerk Hurray until three o'clock today. Clerk Hurray stated she has not received anything for the meeting. She stated she had checked e-mail up until an hour prior to the start of the meeting and checked voice mail multiple times during the day. Attorney Cunningham stated there are some attendees and someone was requesting to speak.

Debra Hall asked a question regarding item number three on the agenda and if the property had been owned by the current owners when the dumping took place. Attorney Wood stated the name of the owner and that the EPA has given a release with respect to the Superfund issues. He stated it was based on a rent factor and the appraisal is for \$470,000.

John Koch asked about the appointment of the seasonal intern and what their duties would be. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated last year there was someone who assisted in the Building Department and this year it is a student who is in the Accounting Masters Program and so they will be helping in the Comptrollers Department as well. There is an employee that is going to be retiring in one of those departments and the Town is not going to be replacing that position. Attorney Wood stated the Comptroller tracks time spent on various departments and it gets billed back to the general fund if necessary.

Receive and File:

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated there was nothing for receipt and file.

Resolutions:

1. Award Bids Tentatively for the Concession Stands at Camp, Red Wing Park and Soccer Complex

RESOLUTION
(GRANTING CONCESSION FACILITY USE PRIVILEGES)

WHEREAS, on various recreational sites owned and operated by the Town, there are concession facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has reviewed request for proposals for various vendors to utilize the concession facilities on these sites to serve the users of the facilities over the summer months; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has reviewed the references, the menus and other issues pertaining to the vendors; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Town Board to authorize the use of the concessions;

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rt. 376 Hopewell Recreation Concession Facility may be utilized for dates to be determined by the Recreation Department. A prorated rate will be determined by the Town of East Fishkill. Randy Baker will be granted the bid for this facility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rt. 52 Complex Concession Facility may be utilized for dates to be determined by the Recreation Department. A prorated rate will be determined by the Town of East Fishkill. East Fishkill Soccer Club will be granted the bid for this facility.

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Red Wing Park Concession Facility may be utilized for dates to be determined by the Recreation Department. A prorated rate will be determined by the Town of East Fishkill. Randy Baker will be granted the bid for this facility.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all of the vendors shall sign a letter of agreement as prepared by the Town Attorney and provide to the Town Attorney for approval, Certificates of Insurance prior to entering upon the use of the concession facilities. Renovations and/or improvements proposed in said bids shall be agreed upon after inspection from the Recreation/Highway Department.

2. Authorizing the Extension of Retirement Incentives

RESOLUTION

(AUTHORIZE AN EXTENSION OF THE RETIREMENT INCENTIVE PAYMENT)

WHEREAS, the Town Comptroller has submitted a Retirement Incentive Payment plan for current CSEA employees to the Town Board; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached document outlines such a Retirement Incentive Payment plan with terms thereof as it relates to CSEA current employees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board does and hereby authorizes a Retirement Incentive Payment for CSEA employees as per described in the Town Comptroller Memo that is attached herein.

3. Authorizing the Settlement of a Tax Certiorari for 15 Ryan Drive

(AUTHORIZING SETTLEMENT OF TAX CERTIORARI – 15 RYAN DRIVE)

WHEREAS, DeNicholas, the owner of 15 Ryan Drive filed a tax certiorari challenging the 2019 Tax Assessment; and

WHEREAS, the property owner submitted a summary appraisal showing a value of \$440,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the assessment of the property was \$550,000.00; and

WHEREAS, after consultation with the Assessor, review of the appraisal and discussions with the property owner’s attorney;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOVLED, that the Town Attorney be and hereby is authorized to settle the above tax certiorari by adjusting the assessed value for 2019 to \$475,000.00; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Assessor is authorized to make the adjustment upon approval of the NYS Supreme Court.

4. Award Brush Drop Off RFP and Allow Supervisor to Award such Proposal upon Receipt of the RFP due to an Emergency Situation

RESOLUTION

(AWARD BRUSH DROP LOCATION)

WHEREAS, the Town of East Fishkill has requested proposals for a Brush Drop location for the Town; and

WHEREAS, the proposals will be received by the Town Clerk on April 27, 2020 and will be reviewed by the Town Supervisor, Town Comptroller and Highway Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent, Town Supervisor and Comptroller are hereby authorized to award the brush drop off proposal to the lowest responsible bidder for services to commence on May 4, 2020 due to the emergency situation that now exists; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the lowest responsible bidder will adhere to the Governors Covid-19 Regulations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Brush Drop Program will run from May 4, 2020 until June 5, 2020 and in the fall from October 2, 2020 until October 30, 2020.

5. Set a Supplemental Public Hearing regarding Industrial Zones for June 25, 2020

RESOLUTION

(SETTING A SUPPLEMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING FOR INDUSTRIAL ZONES)

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Town Board to hold a supplemental public hearing with regards to Industrial Zones; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board will conduct a Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. on June 25, 2020 at its regular Town Board meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk be and hereby is authorized to advertise notice of said Public Hearing.

6. Appoint Temporary Seasonal Intern

RESOLUTION

(APPOINTING TEMPORARY SEASONAL INTERN)

WHEREAS, the Engineer and Comptroller has requested a seasonal intern to assist with the water rates, and other needed items; and

WHEREAS the Engineer has reviewed and interviewed the applicants; and

WHEREAS, the Town Engineer is requesting that, Samuel Ross, be hired as an intern; and

WHEREAS, Sam Ross, is a Penn State University student majoring in Accounting and enrolled in the Integrated Masters Program; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby appoint Sam Ross as a Temporary Seasonal Intern in the Engineering and Comptroller's Department. The position is to be paid \$14.00 per hour.

7. Designate May 3 - May 9 National Travel and Tourism Week 2020

RESOLUTION
(DESIGNATE MAY 3 – MAY 9, 2020 AS NATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK)

WHEREAS, travel has a critical role in Dutchess County, New York and the nation's economic prosperity; and

WHEREAS, a robust travel industry has provided significant economic benefits for the nation, generating more than \$2.6 trillion in economic output last year, with \$1.1 trillion spent directly by travelers in the U.S; and

WHEREAS travel has been the foundation of a healthy workforce, serving as one of the largest private-sector employers in the U.S., supporting 15.8 million jobs in 2019, including 9 million directly in the travel industry and 6.8 million in other industries; and

WHEREAS, spending by travelers has aided state and local governments alike, generating \$180 billion in tax revenue last year to support essential services and programs; and

WHEREAS, visitors in 2018 spent \$642.2 million in Dutchess County, contributed \$79.7 million in county and state taxes, and created 11,024 jobs with a combined income of \$351.9 million for our friends and neighbors; and

WHEREAS meetings, events and incentive travel have always been a core business function that helps companies strengthen business performance, educate employees and customers, and reward business accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, leisure travel, which accounts for more than three-quarters of all trips taken in the U.S., spurs countless benefits to travelers' health and wellness, creativity, cultural awareness, education, happiness, productivity, and relationships; and

WHEREAS, businesses and workers in the travel industry were some of the first and hardest hit by the economic crisis resulting from coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, travel and tourism-dependent businesses, 83% of which are small businesses, depend on our community's support through and after this crisis; and

WHEREAS, the leaders of our state's travel and tourism industry truly encapsulate the spirit of our community and our nation; and

WHEREAS, even while the Town of East Fishkill cannot welcome visitors in person, the spirit of travel and hospitality remains the enduring ethos of the travel industry and Dutchess County; and

WHEREAS, the spirit of travel will be a necessary and prominent component of our return to everyday life and must be supported and protected at all costs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, I, Supervisor Nicholas D'Alessandro, do hereby proclaim May 3-9, 2020 as National Travel and Tourism Week in the Town of East Fishkill, and urge the citizens of the Town of East Fishkill to join me in recognizing the critical role this industry places in the Town of East Fishkill and throughout Dutchess County, New York.

Motion to authorize all resolutions one through seven be approved as presented: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Cassidy. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Additions to the Agenda by Majority Vote:

None.

Budget Transfer:

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated there were no budget transfers at this time.

Comments from Town Board Members:

Highway Superintendent Williams stated the windstorm last week did a lot of tree damage in the area. They are just about done with the cleanup from that. They are all back working but with different start times to stagger staff. All of recreation is back to work. They started filling potholes the other day.

Police Chief Bellino stated since the last meeting there have been 2900 calls for service, 67 offense reports, and two arrests, which were traffic related, as well as three drug possession arrests, four pertaining to larcenies, and out of the medical calls they respond to 56% have been either Covid-19 positive or patient suffering from possible Covid-19. Last week it has gone down to 41%. He thanked the Highway Department for having their backs during that windstorm. He also thanked the community and the businesses that have been dropping off supplies and masks and gloves to the police department. He read the list of businesses and individuals who have donated to the Police Department.

Board Member Beephan thanked all the residents for adhering to the guidelines set forward by the Governor. He thanked the Police Department for their tremendous job and the Fire District and Highway for all of their efforts during the last storm. All summer program registration is open online but it does not need to be paid for yet. Red Wing will not be opening Memorial Day weekend. They are hoping for the end of June but will keep everyone updated. The Italian carnival will not be taking place on Memorial Day weekend. All parks will remain open for passive recreation only. All playgrounds remain closed until further notice. Senior citizen staff is continuing to contact homebound seniors and meal deliveries are still happening.

Board Member Franco thanked all of the first responders and frontline employees and everyone working every single day. He thanked all of the residents as they are what makes this a great place to live.

Board Member Marinaro stated the Highway Department has been very busy. He stated there are a lot of projects that need to be taken care of and they cannot fall behind. Everyone did a great job during the storm. Some residents lost power but Central Hudson took care of outages relatively quickly. Sweepers are starting to go around the roadways and cold patch is being done on potholes. They are discussing how to move forward with paving projects. He stated he hopes everyone stays safe.

Board Member Cassidy thanked everyone on the front line. He urged everyone to support the businesses that are still open anyway that you can. He hopes everyone will be back out in the public soon.

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated the next workshop is May 14. He thanked Attorney Cunningham for acting as the host for the meeting. He wishes everyone to stay safe and thanked everyone.

Motion for Adjournment: Time: Motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:46 PM: Board Member Cassidy Seconded: Board Member Beephan. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Town Board Meetings:

**Workshop:
Regular Meeting:**

**May 14, 2020
May 28, 2020**

Respectfully submitted by Julie J. Beyer on behalf of Town Clerk Carol A. Hurray
– April 27, 2020