

COUNTY OF GREENE
TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE
WORK MEETING
MARCH 26, 2012- page 1

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OPENING OF MEETING

Supervisor O'Rorke called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Also attending: Councilwomen Benway and Finke, Councilmen Meredith and Norris, Highway Superintendent Jordan, Town Clerk Brooks, and 12 members of the public who signed the attendance sheet. Absent:

MONTHLY REPORTS

Supervisor has been notified that Congressman Chris Gibson will hold a Broadband Symposium on April 11, Catskill High School, hoping a Board member may attend. From Greene County came information regarding grant relief from *Irene* and *Lee*, Congress allocated \$400 million in federal fiscal year 2011-12 for housing and urban development's community development block disaster recovery grants; NYS received \$93.2 million to assist communities, and Greene County is looking for anyone who may want to participate in economic development, public infrastructure or housing. Under public infrastructure, Town might use this toward 12.5% we would be responsible for under FEMA; Supervisor will meet with Town Emergency Management Officer Van Wormer to complete necessary paperwork. Greene County Planning's Warren Hart is in charge of assisting Greene County businesses; Supervisor has connected him with marina and restaurant owners in New Baltimore. Supervisor provided the Board with proposed local law for late fees for Sewer District 2 and Water Districts 2 and 3, asked to be contacted with questions, added to April Regular Meeting's agenda; next step is to read law at next Regular, set public hearing, and passage of a resolution adopting the local law. With bond counsel, Supervisor prepared the bid for Highway truck bond last week, asked National Bank of Coxsackie and Bank of Greene County, and Bank of Greene County lowered its bid to 2.09%. Supervisor hopes to have bond closing on Thursday and have the money when truck arrives next month. Supervisor received Greene County IDA's reimbursement to offset unexpected Sewer District 2 pump station costs, \$3,641; Sewer District 2 is now made whole.

County Legislator Van Slyke reports the legislature passed the contract extension for Greene County's Household Hazardous Waste Collection, Sat, June 23, and NYS will reimburse 100% for the program. County sales tax monthly revenue is about 8% over last year and may be attributable to gasoline prices; over 2010, and projected to be two million over budget. Legislature has bonded \$10 million for the damages from *Irene* and *Lee* at 3.68% (renewable), expect to renew for at least 2 years; cost of reconstruction is estimated at \$15 million and the county has already laid out \$10 million; received some federal monies from FEMA, no money yet from NYS. Also, Greene County Clerk has favorably improved service over past 3-4 years. Councilman Norris asked if this was the second or third year for college chargebacks; answer: 2nd, 2 resolutions passed, 20% reduction for fall 2011 and 40% reduction for spring 2012. The larger reduction will be seen in the tax bill next year.

Town Clerk Brooks reports for February: building permits 5 \$829.00; certificates of occupancy searches 1 \$15.00; dog licenses 42 \$360.00; marriage license 1 \$17.50; park rentals 1 \$25.00; minor subdivision 2 \$60.00; photocopies 6 \$1.50; total to Supervisor of \$1,308.00, non-local revenues disbursed of \$100.50; performed research for RFP for Sewer District 1 and follow-up for Bond Counsel, and a Personnel report later in agenda. Also, Deputy Town Clerk Jordan took 8 cartons of Town records to Greene County Records for free shredding; they had met their retention requirement.

Highway Superintendent Jordan reports Feb. 24 to March 26: Fri, Feb 24 light snow sanded all roads; Finished painting dump box on 2002 pickup; Wed, Feb 29 snow plowed and sanded all roads; Thurs, Mar 1 light snow, called all in at 3:15am; Repaired mirror on 2011 International; Sat, Mar 5 called in all at 5:30 am sanded all roads; Repaired tire chain on 89 International; Patched holes with winter mix; Washed and greased all trucks and loader; Repaired flat tire on Ford backhoe; Cut limbs along roads; Waxed 2011 International; Repaired washout on New

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Baltimore Road; Patched dirt roads with crusher run; Removed fallen fence at Recycling Center; Cut dead tree on Madison Ave; Took microfilm reader from Town Hall to Greene County Records Management, Catskill; Cleaned leaves from culvert on East Honey Hollow Road; Cut limbs and trees in cemeteries; Cut tree limbs in District 3/Silver Lake Park; Replaced steering motor on Ford backhoe; Cleaned up along roads where plows dig in; Painted frame on 1996 International; Installed 60'x30" and 60'x15" culverts on Lydon Lane; Repaired window in excavator; York-raked School Hill Road; Repaired oil pressure gauge on grader; Installed 340' of 12" culvert on Hadley Drive; York-raked parking lot at Town Hall.

Supervisor provided Highway Committee quotes for sander and plow to the Board members; action to be taken at April Regular Meeting. Councilman Norris reports the Highway crew will replace Recycling fence, put in 6"x6" instead of 4"x4" posts, believes estimate is \$600 to replace fence. Councilwoman Finke asked was it in the 2012 Budget; Supervisor said no, the fencing collapsed, part can be taken from Recycling/Buildings and Grounds, part from Highway Garage budget. Councilman Norris believed it has stood 20 years between the Garage and Recycling properties; without it, security is lost. Ellie Alfeld asked is Recycling part of Highway Fund; Supervisor reminded that Highway Garage budget appears in the General Fund and added, with milder winter, the cost of garage fuel may be less. Councilman Norris asked regarding the 12.5% FEMA; Supervisor reminded that will go to Highway Fund and this fence leaves the highway grounds open to vandalism; no objections from Board members.

Buildings & Grounds Town Hall: Spencer Sebert reports changing water filter. For Recycling, Spencer reports 1 tires, \$2.00, and 22 60 gallon bags of plastic, 9 55 gallon drums of cans, 59 bundles of magazines, 55 bundles of newspaper, 15 bags of shredded paper, and 32 bundles of cardboard. Two tires were picked up by Highway crew.

For basement office renovation, Councilman Norris reported floor was painted and dropped ceiling was hung and office is nearly ready for move in next week or so; Ray has done outstanding job on this project on his Town hours. Scott Alarm installed at Town Hall on March 5, new codes are in; Councilman Norris thanked local owner Joe Sacchetti for his additional work of running new wiring, including pendants, working out glitches and, with email, the changes are complete in hours, not days. To reactivate after an alarm going off: 1) code in and off (2) code in; when leaving, the code in arms system. Supervisor remembers Safe Home dispatch gave little or no assistance; very helpful to now have 'live' help. Scott Alarm was asked about an additional pad; meetingroom door is not alarmed as an entrance but justices use it as entrance for arraignments in the night. Councilman Norris assumes a 4th panel would have cost: Supervisor felt may not need 4th panel but just a delay on the door. Councilwoman Finke confirmed no change in Town Hall keys; correct. Councilman Norris seeks Board feedback on installing a bathroom downstairs; Ray suggests a sink and flush-up toilet behind his code office for approximately \$500-600 (have door, electricity, and light fixture). Councilwoman Benway asked for Town Code requirement for visitors; John Cashin answered there must be a rest room available every 300'. Councilman Norris added, under the building code, emergency lights and exit signs (that appeared in original satellite plan) must to be purchased. Free furniture is being identified. Councilwoman Benway felt a flush-up unit is less expensive than an actual bathroom.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer Blaisdell reports for February: New Building Permit Applications Received 2; Building Permits Issued 2; Building Permits Renewed 2; Building Inspections 15; Compliance Orders Issued 1; Certificates of Occupancy Granted 1; Certificates of Compliance Granted 1; Code Violation Investigations 3; Commercial Site Fire Inspections 3; Application Fees for February \$829.00; Total Fees Year to Date \$1,449.00.

Insurance Chair O'Rorke reported Town should have notified HRA when health insurance plan was changed; Councilwoman Benway and Supervisor have made necessary amendment, changing plan to comply with deductible. Supervisor thanks the Town Clerk's office for assistance dealing with billing problems with AFLAC, an employee benefit paid by employee; AFLAC invoice determines the withheld amount; accountant is making progress.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Committee Chair O'Rorke updated: Request for Proposal was completed and mailed to 4 Town-approved engineering firms, requested each firm indicate their

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interest; CT Male, Delaware and Weston-Sampson responded; quotes are due April 20. Having scheduled a plant walk-through on March 29, Supervisor and Councilman Norris thanked Liz Tedford and Steve Grimm, NY Rural Water, for all their help, and added that the engineers knew Steve Grimm from previous work.

Planning Board Chair Rundberg reports Planning Board met on March 8, 2012, with the following business: Public Hearing was held on the Minor Subdivision Application for Dale and Susan Tratnack; In the Regular Monthly Meeting that followed: Approved the minor subdivision for Dale and Suzanne Tratnack; Received Site Plan Application from James Pietropaoli for the conversion to an office of one of the storage units at County Line Storage on Route 9W; the Board classified it as a minor Site Plan and, after discussion with applicant, approved the Site Plan. Supervisor O'Rorke received the check to set up an escrow fund for the assisted-living.

Zoning Board of Appeals Chair Tooher reports Zoning Board of Appeals met on March 7, with the following business conducted: Approved renewal of the Variance for William Brandt's proposed assisted living facility; Appointed Jack Covey as Vice Chair of the Zoning Board of Appeals for the 2012 year; Appointed David Wukitsch as attorney for the Zoning Board of Appeals for the 2012 year. Supervisor added Town Board planning and zoning committees and board chairs and vice chairs met a week and half ago regarding PDD and site plan fees; with proposal to Town Board for April Regular Meeting discussion, and to have in place for June 1.

Assessor Bennett reports: *EXEMPTION-RENEWALS*: Past March 1st deadline, we breathe a big sigh from the months of activity: Below are the 2012 roll changes with regard to exemptions. Agricultural-2 new property owners, but 3 parcels; both lease the land to farmers; total agricultural exemptions-50. Disabled-1 new exemption granted; total disabled exemptions-12. Forest-2 new exemptions granted; total forest exemptions-7. Enhanced STAR & Senior-17 new exemptions granted, 5 seniors failed to renew their exemption; notices were sent as well as phone calls; these individuals are now receiving the Basic STAR exemption for 2012; 9 seniors passed away between 2011 and 2012; Total Enhanced STAR & Senior exemptions-289. Clergy and Non-Profit-No changes. *DATA COLLECTION*: Tracy Boomhower has almost completed this year's data collection; Ray Blaisdell completed his data collection class last week; we look forward to working with Ray from this time on. *AROUND THE OFFICE*: the RPSV4 software we use received a big update, in preparation for the Tentative Roll, bringing us to the latest version available; Julie has begun her building department training with Clerk Loux. Supervisor added that the NYS Comptroller's audit had gone well; a couple of processes were brought to attention. Councilwoman Finke asked if Tracey Boomhower would continue as data collector; no, Ray will now data collect.

Economic Development Committee Chair Norris reminds of the next meeting on March 29, 7pm, at Town Hall. Agenda includes: Russ Francis' proposal of a McDonald's in Cocksackie, along with information on the upcoming Broadband symposium to be held in Catskill; planning the Business Appreciation Breakfast; Greene County Chamber of Commerce holds an energy-saving seminar this Thursday morning, \$10/members and \$20/nonmembers. Ellie Alfeld reminds of hearings scheduled soon in Catskill and Ravena regarding the transmission line proposed for Canada to NYC, may be underwater to Coeymans and then follow CSX rail tracks, and may impact New Baltimore.

Grants Committee Chair Finke had no report.

Fire, EMS & Law Enforcement Chair Norris reports a March 20 Greene County EMS meeting, Board reviewed and approved the insurance policy renewal for 2012 with a slight increase; Medic 9 had serious accident and was totaled by insurance company; a replacement is due by end of April; Paramedics have started a 403B retirement plan; Discussed an April fundraiser for the paramedic who was injured and her husband; GCEMS calls for the Town in February- 4; total year to date- 11. CODE RED is similar to a reverse 911 program; residents who sign up are notified by telephone or e-mail of an emergency; sign up at www.greenegovernment.com. If you do not have a computer you can call 635-5120.

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Emergency Management Officer Van Wormer reports for March: Correction has been made on project worksheet for Hillcrest Road; FEMA forgot to include the engineering fee for the hydrology study therefore the Town will receive an additional \$2,500.00; Received blue folder for the emergency bridgework at Hudson River Interpretive Trail; Waiting for actual date of completion from John Cannon; I will return; Total of project was \$1,750.00; Alan and I would like to call a meeting of Emergency Management Committee: April 7, 10am, Gill Road Firehouse. Regarding the trail work for which Town will receive federal and state money; Supervisor asked will the Conservancy be able to help 12.5% match? Councilman Norris asked can they apply for the Greene County grant? Supervisor will put that in, if we get the grant back; FEMA sees no problem with the application; coming up with the 12.5% is the issue. Councilman Norris will discuss with the Conservancy, Supervisor said this is not something we have in the Budget, Conservancy did install the bridge; Councilman Norris figures approximately \$3-4,000. Supervisor asked Board what to do with the remaining Town of Cocksackie invoice, was Town of Cocksackie willing for New Baltimore to remit to Cocksackie what had been budgeted? Councilman Norris is having difficulty establishing that with 'email tag'. Supervisor sees invoices for 2009-11, but hasn't received remainder of 2008; her total is \$64,433, now \$45,632 invoiced. We paid \$18,802 in 2009, brings surplus to \$45,138, we're \$490 short, if you look at budget, \$9,000 short. Councilman Norris is asking will he accept what was budgeted in the past. Supervisor asked what is surplus in that budget- Town of Cocksackie's Ambulance Budget; confirm with him are they going to 'waive it'- assess the residents of the Town of Cocksackie for the \$9,000 or back it out of their budget? Councilman Norris said they will bill another \$5,800 for 2009 in addition to the \$18,802; Supervisor said 2008 was \$29,000, 2009 was \$24,000, and 2010 was \$20,611, and pointed out the contract allows for their books to be audited. In old minutes, Councilman Norris found prior Supervisor David Louis had negotiated the amounts in the contract and come up with formula. Supervisor is holding that voucher.

Technology/Website Chair Meredith reports quotes on Ricoh printer about \$5,000; looking ahead 3-6 months, Councilwoman Benway inquired about leasing, waiting for options, would have necessary information to make decision; she asked about trade-in, and possibility of moving unit to basement, if it were only used small amount of time.

Newsletter Chair Finke reports publication dates and deadlines; Supervisor received comment about how photos appear using software she has at home. Next deadline is April 30.

Animal Control Chair Benway reminds of March 28 Greene County Public Health free rabies vaccine clinic for dogs, cats and ferrets at Medway-Grapeville Firehouse, CR51, from 6-8pm. Donations are appreciated. ACO Tanner has his wife Lynn and friend working; anyone looking to donate their time, please give him a call. Clerk Brooks mails the remaining clinics with the dog license renewal letters.

Parks Chair Meredith reported for Summer Rec Director Campbell: Bowl-a-thon will be May 6 and June 15 a Chicken Barbeque to fundraise for the summer recreation program for 2012. County Legislator Van Slyke reminded Councilman Meredith to get his application in early for the Youth Grant and has already awarded a grant for \$300 for Fathers' Day fishing derby. Clerk Brooks asked to install portajohn for Cornell Park's striped fishermen would be placed as soon as possible after March 21 and Clerk Brooks spoke to Greene County Septic about baseball club, asked need direction from the Board; portajohn will be requested and baseball club will reimburse; Councilman Norris asked to put in District 2 Park now for April 2.

Personnel Chair O'Rourke reports Clerk Brooks is working on Civil Service report. Code Books have been returned but for one prior Board member, need to notify employees who have not signed on for retirement system. Retirement reporting resolution will be on agenda soon.

Agriculture Committee Councilman Norris reports March 8 meeting at Kriel Farm; topics included: 'pink eye' affecting cattle, hay issues and where to get, bull castration, Rocky Mountain oysters. Looking for interested farmers to join next meeting, a cookout, on May 10 at Kriel Farm; Ron Rausch, NYS Ag and Markets, will speak. All are welcome.

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Seniors Ellie Alfeld reports March 15 core group meeting; anticipating next meeting on April 25 at 1:30pm but may have conflict with Board member at Town Hall; planning picnic for June 13, District 2/Cecil C. Hallock Park 12n-3:30pm, bring a dish to share and the committee will supply drinks, hotdogs, hamburgers, and rolls; asking Town Board to make donation to Town of Coxsackie Senior Center for chairs- \$50. Ellie believes Town Board authorized \$500 to Food n Fun program at New Baltimore Reformed Church; seniors were not under the impression that this was ongoing each month but rather to show support of the program. Setting a donation amount is up to Town Board; Seniors' Committee will not make that a general rule of the group, gave up \$1,000 of \$1,500 budget, Committee will ask for picnic supplies but do not know exactly what it will cost. Councilwoman Finke said \$500 was mentioned when allocation was \$2000; now it is a 1/3 of budget; problem is that a voucher was handed in, shortfall on church's behalf one month and made money the next month. Ellie felt program is done well, seniors are coming farther, appealing, but have a small budget to devote 15-20% to this program. Councilman Norris apologized, likes Ellie's idea, Supervisor reminded that the Board has already paid \$226.18 voucher, less than year before, and suggests holding tight with that. Councilman Norris asked, if decide to do \$50 for Coxsackie, take from Cultural Programs? Supervisor will sit with AgFest committee Thursday, if there's money left in Cultural Programs; someone needs to notify Food n Fun of the decision made, and Supervisor will prepare resolution for \$50 donation. Ellie expressed thanks to have both Councilwoman Finke and Councilman Norris present to discuss everything. Councilman Norris already notified church in email; they said anything the Town contributes to the program is appreciated; 106 dinners served at March luncheon, said Councilman Norris.

Memorial Committee Chair Benway had no report.

Ag Fest Committee Kathy Rundberg reports a meeting March 20, Festival will be June 2-3, Alan Van Wormer was present to discuss the Saturday night community dinner, bring covered dish and \$2 to cover beverage and paper products. Some activities confirmed are: Peggy Weir, airbrushed temporary tattoo, Spiderweb Farm horse and buggy, antique tractor, New Baltimore's Farmers' Market, Michelle Ford's Falconry, Crossroads Brewery, Dean Davis reptiles, Bill Burns hit'n miss engines, Greene County Sheriff canine unit, Greene County Clerk, New Baltimore Conservancy, and anyone interested may contact Rob or Shelly Van Etten at 756-3517.

Town Courts Councilwoman Benway reports all fine.

Historian Ted Hilscher reports for February: Visited the Bronk/Armstrong site on the east side of Route 61; Wrote 3,000-word report on status and significance of five farm buildings, the most important being a pre-Civil War three-bay bank barn; Submitted report to New Baltimore Conservancy who may become the custodian of the site; The history of the site was researched by Jean Bush; With Jean Bush and John Cannon, interviewed Eleanor Armstrong Moon, who was raised on the Bronk/Armstrong site; Collected oral history and enjoyed Mrs. Moon's lemon pie.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Hearing no more from the Board, Supervisor moved to convene to Executive Session for the purpose of discussion of litigation and was seconded by Councilman Meredith.

Ayes- 5

Nays-0

Motion Carried

The Town Board went into executive session at 8:41 pm; executive session began at 8:45p.m.

Motion to close executive session was made by Supervisor and was seconded by Councilman Meredith.

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Ayes-5

Nays-0

Motion Carried

Executive session was closed at 9:05 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Town Board meeting was made by Councilman Norris and seconded by Councilwoman Benway. No discussion. The adoption of the foregoing Motion was duly put to a vote, and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

BENWAY-AYE FINKE-AYE MEREDITH-AYE

NORRIS-AYE O'RORKE-AYE

Motion Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07p.m.

Respectfully,

Janet A. Brooks
Town Clerk