

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Durham held February 15, 2005 at the Town Building in Oak Hill, N.Y.

Present: Robert Elpel – Councilman  
Linda Sutton — Councilwoman  
Gary Hulbert — Supervisor  
William Can - Councilman  
Jodi Wood- Councilwoman

Recording Secretary: Chris Kohrs - Deputy Town Clerk

Others Present: Charles Soderblom — Town Clerk  
Wes Moore — Highway Superintendent  
Al Schmidt — Code Enforcement Officer

The Supervisor called the meeting to order with the Pledge to the Flag at 7:30 PM. Fourteen people were present.

**Mrs. Sutton made the motion seconded by Mr. Elpel to approve the minutes of January 4 and January 18, 2005. All were in favor, motion carried.**

Legislator Ohm reported the county continues to review the project for a new jail. The state is requiring a site of at least 20 acres with water and sewer. This is presenting a problem, as most towns in the county do not have the acreage available with water and sewer. He will keep us informed as to how things are progressing.

Wes Moore, Highway Superintendent gave his monthly report. In addition, he reported that the new 2005 Dodge pickup has arrived and requested permission to put the 2000 Dodge pickup out for bid. **Mr. Elpel made the motion seconded by Mr. Carr to advertise for bids for the 2000 Dodge pickup with a minimum bid of \$2,500, to open at the March 15 meeting. All were in favor and the motion carried.**

Al Schmidt gave the report for the Code Enforcement office. Eight permits, one certificate of occupancy, and twelve certificates of compliance were issued for the month of January.

The board received copies of the report of the Judges.

Tom Sutton reported a relatively quiet month for the police department fourteen complaints, three accidents, one arrest, three DWI.

There was no report from the Dog Control officer.

Charlie Soderblom reported that there are 1829 paid bills for \$2,052,669.95 collected in taxes. The amount left to collect is 449 bills amounting to \$759,037.19. The town has received all of its finds and the county will receive the balance as it comes in and clears.

There was no report from the Task Force or the Historical Commission.

The board reviewed the contract with the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society. **Mr. Carr made the motion seconded by Ms. Wood that contingent on approval of the town attorney; the board authorizes Mr. Hulbert to sign the contract with the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society. The terms are for one year with an annual fee of \$1000.00, a fee of \$85.00 per dog and a per diem fee of \$13.00 for dogs ordered impounded by the court. All were in favor and the motion carried.**

**Ms. Wood made the motion seconded by Mrs. Sutton to approve the application for a Mass Gathering permit for the Irish Cultural Center. The event is the annual Irish Festival on Memorial Day weekend. All were in favor and the motion carried.**

Supervisor Hulbert reported that the Hudson River Valley Greenway grant was submitted by the office of Warren Hart Greene County Economic Planning and Development on behalf of the Town of Durham. The grant work for the sidewalk planning and design project is underway. The deadline for all information to be to Fraser Associates is February 23 and the grant deadline is February 25.

The board will discuss the proposed site plan review at the March 1 workshop.

Mr. Hulbert reported that letters were sent to all necessary department heads informing them of the tabletop exercise scheduled for March 8.

The board discussed what to do with the old copier once the new one is in place. It was decided that the old copier would be placed in the meeting room for court use. They would not purchase a service agreement for it and when it dies, it will be properly disposed of.

Supervisor Hulbert reviewed the Residential Assessment Rate report. In 2004, our assessment equalization rate was 96% the rate for 2005 is 78%. Additional discussion followed.

Abstract #502, consisting of Vouchers #138 through #149 for \$14,908.39 was reviewed and approved for payment. The total was broken down as follows:

|                |             |
|----------------|-------------|
| Trust & Agency | \$14,908.39 |
|----------------|-------------|

Abstract #503, consisting of Vouchers #150 through #231 for \$356,618.10 was reviewed and approved for payment. The total was broken down as follows:

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| General Funds   | \$58,186.86  |
| Highway Funds   | \$137,777.98 |
| Safety & Fire   | \$160,100.00 |
| Street Lighting | \$553.26     |

**Ms. Wood made a motion seconded by Mrs. Sutton to adjourn at 8:27 p.m.**

Minutes approved:

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Chris Kohrs, Deputy Town Clerk