

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Durham, County of Greene and the State of New York was held at the Town Hall, 7309 State Route 81, East Durham, NY on the 1st, day of December 2015.

PRESENT:

William Carr	----	Supervisor
Linda Sutton	----	Deputy Supervisor
Jerry Cunningham	----	Council member
Nick Nahas	----	Council member
George Deckers	----	Council member
Chris Kohrs	----	Town Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT: Joe van Holsteyn- Highway Superintendent, Thomas Sutton –Police Sgt., David Cunningham – Building Inspector, Cindy Moore- Bookkeeper, , Tal Rappleyea – Attorney and 12 community members.

Supervisor Carr called the meeting to order 7:33 p.m.

Supervisor Carr stated he is reviewing the employee handbook and the new draft will have the language for the required steel toed shoes to be incorporated into the Safety uniform for the highway workers. He also feels that when the town is providing safety gear for employees that they be required to wear or use such.

NYMIR the town’s insurance company has recommended that the town appoint a safety committee to review the policies and practices of the town regarding procedures, equipment and vehicles.

Councilmember Cunningham questioned the verbiage on page 15; the last sentence states that once adopted cannot be changed or rescinded until a specific date. Councilmember Cunningham felt this sentence needed to be changed as issues arise the handbook needs to be able to be modified and not held to a specific date.

Bookkeeper Moore stated the handbook is good for four years. Councilmember Deckers inquired as to if other departments had handbooks. Supervisor Carr stated that the general (office) employee book was completed approximately two years ago and the police department will be reviewed as soon as the highway handbook is completed.

Supervisor Carr moved to accept the donation for Christmas Decoration from the Tirpak family, seconded by Councilmember Nahas all in favor motion carried. (5-years, Carr, Sutton, Cunningham, Nahas, Deckers)

Councilmember Nahas recognized resident Ralph Hall who will be celebrating his 97th birthday this week. A card was passed for everyone to extend birthday greetings to Mr. Hull.

Councilmember Nahas motioned that a formal birthday commendation be drawn-up for Mr. Hull seconded by Councilmember Deckers all in favor motion carried. (5-years, Carr, Sutton, Cunningham, Nahas, Deckers)
Supervisor Carr shared he has received notice from NYS that the Efficiency Plan submitted has been accepted.

The board approved the voucher to pay NYS Retirement in the amount of \$110,573.00 as it needs to be paid by December 15, 2015.

Councilmember Sutton motioned to approve the transfers, seconded by Councilmember Nahas all in favor motion carried. (5-years, Carr, Sutton, Cunningham, Nahas, Deckers) (See attached)

Attorney for the town Tal Rappleyea recommended the board the employee handbook(s) and approve them at the organizational meeting.

Attorney Rappleyea has reviewed the contracts received from Columbia-Greene Humane Society as well as the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society. The new contracts will save the town money on short-term stays and will cost more for long-term stays. He recommends that the long-term stay be reduced to five days to correspond with NYS Ag and Markets Law. Also our local law states that shelter fees have to be paid by the owner before the dog is released to the owner. The proposed contract does not include that provision and cannot be contracted away by the Humane Society. Decision tabled until the next meeting.

The countywide Ambulance service was discussed as the newspaper reported that two mountain top towns have opted out of the plan and that Greenville may be planning to opt out as well. Additional comments were made reminding everyone that the information out there is very fluid and is constantly changing, that residents and agencies need to look at the whole picture and future not just our little corner of the puzzle.

Mrs. Ohle of Elliot Place spoke regarding the noise issue from Zoom Flume Water Park. The issues brought to the board earlier in the year remain unresolved and now there is a posting on Facebook announcing a new ride. She again asked for assistance from the board to address the noise especially as there are also rumors that the water park has been sold. The board agreed to contact the owner and inquire if the property has been sold and discuss solutions to reduce the noise pollution that the surrounding neighbors have been dealing with.

The board set the 2016 Organizational meeting for January 1 at 6 p.m.

Councilmember Deckers motioned to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. seconded by Councilmember Cunningham.

Respectfully submitted:

Chris Kohrs
Clerk/Collector

**TOWN OF DURHAM
BOARD MEETING BUDGET TRANSFERS
12/1/2015 Month/Year End Changes**

FROM:	A-1990.400	Contingent		\$ 5,750.00
	<hr/>			
TO:	A-3120.126	Police, Personal Service		\$ 5,000.00
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	NOTE Nov & Dec - Additional for School Patrols			
TO:	A-3510.400	Animal-Contractual		\$ 500.00
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	NOTE Misc Expenses & Fuel			
TO:	A-3620.400	Bldg - Contractual		\$ 250.00
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	NOTE Misc Expenses			
TO:	<hr/>			
	NOTE			
TO:	<hr/>			
	NOTE			
FROM:		General Surplus		\$ 2,758.00
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TO:	A-9010.8	Retirement		\$ 2,758.00
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	Note Employers Share Billing Overage			
TO:	<hr/>			
	Note			
FROM:		Highway Surplus		\$ 2,815.00
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TO:	DA-9010.8	Retirement		\$ 2,815.00
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