

TOWN OF WHITE CREEK TOWN BOARD MEETING

MARCH 10, 2015

The White Creek Town Board held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at the White Creek Town Hall. Supervisor Robert Shay called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Town Board Members present at the meeting were Erin Sheridan, Barbra Kingsley, Joe Bates, James Perry and Supervisor Shay. The Board waived the reading of the February 10, 2015 minutes and approved them as presented. Motion made by Barbra Kingsley, seconded by James Perry and all others voted in favor of approval.

Old Business

The Board returned to their previous discussion on the Washington County “Committee Now” Protecting Our Children. Supervisor Shay suggested inviting Director Tammy DeLorine to attend a future Town Board meeting to explain how the Town can help with the project. Barbra Kingsley stated that she had attended a training session in Whitehall on a recent weekend and felt it was very worthwhile attending it. The program educates on how to handle and diffuse possible situations involving child abuse.

New Business

There were three presentations on the agenda for the evening. The first presentation was from representatives of the Cambridge Central School District to discuss the proposed \$10.7 million Capital Project. Science teacher Steve Butz gave a power point presentation highlighting the different improvements that will be done if the Capital Project is approved. The vote on the project will take place on March 31st.

The second presentation was delivered by Nash Alexander and Greg Danio of the Cambridge Volunteer Fire Department. The Fire Department is considering becoming a Fire District. A Fire District would replace the current system of each municipality funding a portion of the department’s overall budget. Mr. Alexander

explained a Board of Fire Commissioners composed of five (5) elected individuals would oversee the Fire District. If the voters in White Creek, Cambridge and Jackson were to approve the change, the village and towns would no longer be involved in creating fire contracts but residents would be billed directly by the Fire District.

The final presentation was from County Administrator Kevin Hayes and County Treasurer Al Nolette. The two were present to discuss the Government Efficiency Plan that was established by the State in the 2014 budget. This plan requires local governments to come up with a plan to save one percent (1%) of their 2015 tax levy for three years (2016, 2017, and 2018). The actual tax levy does not have to be reduced. The main requirements are to comply with the tax cap and make the best effort to meet the efficiency plan. Municipalities must comply with the tax cap. The Board was given a sample resolution to look over and consider adopting. The Board members agreed that they did not think this would be feasible for the town but agreed that the decision should be tabled to the April 14th meeting.

Planning Board

Planning Board Chairman Neil Gifford reported that the JB Burgess Minor Subdivision on Ash Grove Road was given Final Approval at the March 4th meeting.

Town Clerk

Tax Collector Lisa Austin-Cuddihy reported a total of \$146,678.61 was collected for taxes during the month of February. One month remains for collection at the Town level. Taxes will be returned to the Treasurer's Office on April 03, 2015.

Assessor

Town Assessor Ronna Meerwarth submitted her monthly report on the activities in the Assessor's Office.

Budget Officer

The monthly operating statement was submitted to the Board. Budget Officer Laura Manning was absent from the meeting due to illness.

Highway Report

Highway Superintendent Chris Rieben submitted the monthly report to the Board. The crew went out plowing, sanding and salting the roads twelve (12) times since the last meeting. They have pushed back snowbanks and opened up culverts in order to take water. Chris will be meeting with a River Road resident regarding culverts. The 2005 truck and loader have been serviced. The left rear axle broke on the 1995 truck putting Al in a ditch. It is being repaired at Delurey's. Chris is waiting to hear about the electrical bid for the garage.

Audit and Pay Bills

Highway Fund: \$26,102.43

General Fund: \$ 5,333.84

Total Vouchers: \$31,436.27

Meeting adjourned at 10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lisa Austin-Cuddihy, Town Clerk