

**TOWN BOARD MEETING  
TOWN OF TAGHKANIC  
August 24, 2016**

**Note all documents in these minutes may be clicked on and enlarged for your reading pleasure**

**7 pm:** The Taghkanic Town Board held its Regular monthly meeting on the above date at the Taghkanic Town Hall. Supervisor Erik Tyree opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, moment of Silence.

**Present:** Erik Tyree Supervisor  
Arthur McGuire Board Member  
Ryan Skoda Board Member  
Joyce Thompson Board Member  
Cheryl Rogers Clerk  
**Absent:** Richard Skoda Board Member

**Correspondence:**

1. Columbia County Board of Elections, there will be NO State and Local Primary Election on September 13, 2016.
2. Columbia County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day, September 10, 2016, 8 am – 12 noon. (flyer on back table)
3. Steve Acciani, Insurance spread sheet for the Board's review

**Website:** Tony Gravett introduced his proposal to correct the problem of the website outages as follows:

The collage contains several documents from End-to-End Systems, Inc.:

- Website Project Proposal:** A document titled "Website Project Proposal" for the Town Board of Taghkanic, New York, dated August 9, 2016. It includes a Gantt chart showing project phases from August to October 2016. The phases include:
  - Phase 1: Project Kick-off
  - Phase 2: Requirements Gathering
  - Phase 3: System Design
  - Phase 4: Development
  - Phase 5: Testing
  - Phase 6: Deployment
  - Phase 7: Post-launch Support
- Project Sequence:** A document listing 22 tasks for the project, such as "Project Kick-off", "Requirements Gathering", "System Design", "Development", "Testing", and "Deployment".
- Budget Estimate:** A table titled "Budget Estimate, Phases 1-6" showing costs for various items:
 

Description	Type	Cost
1. Team Training	Hourly	\$ 1,000
2. ExpressEngine 3.0.1 (for initial version of first development)	One-off	\$ 2,000
3. Server Support (average for ExpressEngine)	Monthly fee (initial 6)	\$ 450
4. Software License - Adobe CS6	One-off	\$ 1,000
5. Labor cost to support Phase 1 development	One-off	\$ 500
6. Initial hardware budget		\$ 1,000
<b>Budget Estimate, Phases 1-6</b>		<b>\$ 6,450</b>

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Monday September 12, 2016**

- ✦ Tony Gravett: the website now is run by a Contact Management System (CMS) known as Barley which is having issues and did not respond well to a recent shut down of the website. I have found another CMS company known as Expression Engine, by Ellis Lab.
- ✦ Supervisor Erik Tyree: the biggest reason for the change is the poor response to the outages, hopefully better support system, ease of entering information and a better way to display the calendar.
- ✦ Tony Gravett: correct.
- ✦ Board Member Joyce Thompson: also a way to display the board minutes and reports.
- ✦ Arthur Baker: how does our website compare to other towns.
- ✦ Tony Gravett: very good question, we could research that.
- ✦ Board Member Joyce Thompson: others have gone with companies that setup and manage the site for a fee.
- ✦ Board Member Ryan Skoda: I would like to have more time to review, can we make a decision at the September 12<sup>th</sup> meeting?
- ✦ All agreed.

**Building Project:**

- ✦ Board Member Joyce Thompson: the notice for bids for the approved 52' X 90' Pole Barn Highway Project Building has been advertised, sealed bids are to be returned to the Town Clerk by September 9, by 2 pm. Northeast Environmental has been at the site, removed soils, samples were taken and sent to the lab, and they are waiting for the lab results.
- ✦ Arthur Baker: there have not been a set of plans for the public to review.
- ✦ Supervisor Erik Tyree: yes, Ray Jurkowski went over the plans with the Board at the July 25<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> meetings.
- ✦ Arthur Baker: will there be a set of plans that the public can review?
- ✦ Board Member Joyce Thompson: we will ask Ray Jurkowski to bring a set to be place at the town hall.

**Supervisor Erik Tyree then asked for a motion to approve the following minutes:**

**July 11, 2016:** Tabled

**July 27, 2016:** Tabled

**Open Position ZEO/CEO:** Clerk Rogers reported that she did not receive any other letters of interest.

- ✦ Board Member Ryan Skoda: I reached out to two people but they didn't respond, I will reach out again.
- ✦ Supervisor Erik Tyree: said he would contact James Guzzi, Supervisor of Livingston and Joel Craig, Supervisor of Germantown; he will also call Mr. Gerald Couse to ask if he would take the job if appointed.
- ✦ Board Member Ryan Skoda: we need someone as Dennis is done on August 31. Dennis will you do Per Diem?
- ✦ Dennis Callahan: yes, at \$25.00 an hour.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Monday September 12, 2016**

- ✚ Board Member Ryan Skoda moved to hire Dennis Callahan for \$25.00 per hour for short term period to maintain the same hours, seconded by Board Member Arthur McGuire.

**Approved:**    **4 Ayes**            **(Erik, Arthur, Joyce, Ryan)**  
                         **0 Nays**  
                         **1 Absent**        **(Richard)**

**Pine Plains Shelter Agreement:** Supervisor Erik Tyree, Attorney Decaire is OK with the Board signing the original agreement (see attached). What is the Board's feeling on the Pine Plains Shelter Agreement?

As I just advised, we spoke yesterday with Ginny at Pine Plans Vets regarding the back and forth over the shelter agreement. You will remember that they initially had a few revisions to the agreement I drafted and that I was fine with their changes. Then, they abruptly changed course, rejecting our entire agreement and insisting on the use of their original version – citing the claim that they use that form for other municipalities.

We attempted to engage them in a further discussion on what their concerns were and why our proposal was good for both sides but they are not having it. Basically, it is a take it or leave it choice for the Board.

While I have concerns about the lack of accountability on the part of PPVA to the Town that their form agreement provides, I realize the extensive cost difference between the available choices for this service. Therefore, given the low percentage chance of a claim against the Town for an injury caused by a dog that is being sheltered under this agreement, together with the Town's own insurance coverage and cost savings under this agreement, I am ok with the Town signing the original agreement if the Board so chooses.

- ✚ Board Member Arthur McGuire: I am not in favor. I feel this agreement is better for them, not for us.
- ✚ Ray Colgrove: why does the town have to pay for the sheltering of residents' dogs?
- ✚ Board Member Ryan Skoda: the sheltering is not for residents' dogs, it's more for the stray that has been left by the side of the road. As far as the agreement, I know the Vets; one is about to retire and has dealt with the same agreement for years, the younger Vet was ok with the change. Our insurance is good, we are covered; the liability is on them not us.
- ✚ Board Member Joyce Thompson: I am uncomfortable with the way it was handled, but the price difference is a very important consideration.
- ✚ Board Member Joyce Thompson motioned to approve the shelter agreement from Pine Plains Veterinary Associates, seconded Board Member Ryan Skoda.

**Approved:**    **3 Ayes**            **(Erik, Joyce, Ryan)**  
                         **1 Nays**            **(Arthur)**  
                         **1 Absent**        **(Richard)**

**Resolution Thinking Differently:** The Board would like more information before making a decision.

**LOSAP:** the Board agreed that a more open communication with the Fire Department is needed, quarterly reports would help. The Board agreed to send a letter to the fire company to get that started. The board would like to set up a meeting with Tony Fiorillo, Penflex, to have a more in-depth conversation with him about investment companies.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Monday September 12, 2016**

The Board is not happy with the returns that RBC Wealth Management has been performing.

**September Calendar Revised:** Supervisor Erik Tyree we need to make some changes to the September Calendar as follows:

- ✓ September 20: Budget Workshop 7 pm
- ✓ September 22<sup>nd</sup> TB/Project Meeting 7 pm moved to September 28<sup>th</sup>.

All members present agreed.

**Reminder September 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting at Fire House:** Clerk Rogers informed the Board the Saturday September 17<sup>th</sup> meeting is all setup for the fire house.

**The bills were audited and approved for payment as follows:**

✚ **August 24, 2016 Abstract:** on a motion by Board Member Joyce Thompson, seconded by Board Member Arthur McGuire.

2016 General Fund Vouchers	#	256 - 266	\$	10,649.88
2016 Highway Fund Vouchers	#	103 - 104	\$	4,964.10
2016 Hwy Project Fund vouchers	#			
2016 Escrow	#			

**Approved:** 4 Ayes (Erik, Arthur, Joyce, Ryan)  
0 Nays  
1 Absent (Richard)

**PUBLIC COMMENT – FIFTEEN MINUTES:**

- ✚ Linda Swartz: I am missing Walter rating the meeting.
- ✚ Ray Colgrove: air conditioner is being left on upstairs, why are we cooling the upstairs if no one is up there?
- ✚ Dennis Callahan: I leave it on to keep the room cool; so it does not have to work so hard to cool it down, it takes two hours.

**8:45 pm Executive Session:** Board Member Ryan Skoda motioned to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel, seconded by Supervisor Erik Tyree.

**Approved:** 4 Ayes (Erik, Arthur, Joyce, Ryan)  
0 Nays  
1 Absent (Richard)

**8:50 pm Closed Executive Session:** Board Member Ryan Skoda motioned to exit Executive Session, seconded by Supervisor Erik Tyree.

**Approved:** 4 Ayes (Erik, Arthur, Joyce, Ryan)  
0 Nays  
1 Absent (Richard)

Board Member Joyce Thompson motioned that Ray Jurkowski be contacted to remind him to get a letter of inspection and completion of the Salt Build to Dennis Callahan so that he can issue the certificate of completion for that portion of the Highway Project, seconded by Board Member Ryan Skoda.

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**Approved:**    **4 Ayes**            **(Erik, Arthur, Joyce, Ryan)**  
                         **1 Nays**  
                         **1 Absent**        **(Richard)**

**With no further business,** on a motion by Board Member Ryan Skoda, seconded by Board Member Joyce Thompson, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 pm, carried unanimously by all members present. The next Regular meeting will be **September 12, 2016** at the Taghkanic Town Hall.

Audience:    Ray Colgrove  
                         Tony Gravett

Linda Swartz

Arthur Baker

Dennis Callahan