

The Gardiner Town Board met this evening in workshop session at the Gardiner Town Hall at 7 PM. Supervisor Katz presided with Councilwoman Lemmon and Councilmen Wiegand, Koenig & Mele present. There were approximately 36± audience members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 10 – Gardiner Day Committee Spaghetti Dinner re-schedule at the Gardiner Firehouse

April 14 – Rabies Clinic, Gardiner Firehouse from 4 pm to 6 pm

April 17 & 18 – Gardiner Clean Sweep. Pick up bags at the Town Hall for trash pick up along the road. All full bags should be left on the roadside for pick up, to be brought to the Transfer Station

SHARED SERVICES

Ulster County would like the Town of Gardiner to contract with them for snow removal/winter services in a Shared Services Contract. The County will pay the Town \$4600 per mile of County road that is serviced by the Town Highway Department. Supervisor Katz stated that an analysis has been done for the 2008 and 2009 snow removal expenses and has recommended, along with Highway Superintendent Charles Haynes, to designate McKinstry Road and Sand Hill Road as the “pilot” roads for winter maintenance only. The Supervisor has sent a letter to Mr. Bolles, Deputy Commissioner of Ulster County Public Works, advising of the Town’s decision. Supervisor Katz is requesting authorization from the Board to allow him to speak with attorney Paul Kellar to draw up a contract. Councilman Mele and Councilwoman Lemmon both would like to review a copy of the draft contract. Councilman Mele is concerned with the overall plan which he believes may drive County costs up since they will still have to maintain other County roads in Gardiner. On motion of Councilwoman Lemmon, seconded by Councilman Wiegand and carried, Supervisor Katz is authorized to contact attorney Paul Kellar.

FUTURE OF FORMER LIBRARY/FIREHOUSE BUILDING

Under the direction of Joe Trapani and Hank Vance, a group of volunteers removed a small section of wall, a large section of ceiling and insulation from the former Library/Firehouse on Station Square. To everyone’s surprise the building was in much better shape than anticipated. The Fire Department and the Gardiner Historical Society has requested that the Town keep the building and refurbish it to be a meeting place/museum.

Councilmen Wiegand & Mele put together a process to follow through June. They proposed 1.) getting a proposal for the building, 2.) obtain an estimate, 3.) determine where the funding will come from, 4.) establish a timeline for completion. The intent is to get as many ideas as possible before making any decisions. Councilwoman Lemmon suggested doing an online “survey monkey” to get more public input. Supervisor Katz commented that it is the decision of the Town Board on what to do, which is basically keep the building or sell it. He believes that it can never be replaced and once it is sold the Town can never get it back. Fire Department members are willing to do fund raising and to do the physical labor for the renovating.

LIBRARY PARKING LOT EASEMENT

The Town reserved to itself a couple of acres of land for a municipal parking lot when the old Highway Garage property was transferred to the Library, with the agreement that a map would be drawn up at a later time. NYS DOT is requiring a finalized map for the sidewalk project. Board members reviewed the easement and suggested changes to Section 8 – remove “asphalt” and in Section 14 – remove “The text proposed by Library’s counsel”. With these changes a motion was made by Councilwoman Lemmon, seconded by Councilman Koenig and carried, to authorize the Supervisor to sign the easement agreement.

RESOLUTION GREEN ENERGY TASK FORCE

Board members received a copy of a resolution at last week's meeting from Tanya Marquette, a member of the Green Energy Task Force, urging the Town to support their interests by adopting this resolution.

Board members chose not to pass it this evening and requested that a representative of the organization come before the Board at a meeting in May to explain their concepts.

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION

Supervisor Katz reminded the Board of summer camp registration to be held for Gardiner residents on Friday April 24 from 4-6 PM and Saturday April 25 from 11 AM to 1 PM. Registration for out of town residents will take place on Friday April 30 and Saturday May 1. They are expecting approximately 200 summer campers this year.

BICYCLE RESCUE

Councilman Koenig presented an idea of rescuing bicycles, to be re-furbished and distributed to those who are in need. It would get the bikes out of the waste stream. Logistics still need to be worked out.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mary Bonner – suggested the Town use another way of advertising other than the website for those who do not have a computer.

Pam O'Dell – announced that the Gardiner Rights Tea party will be held on April 15 at the intersection of Route 44/55 and the Rail Trail.

Linda Geary – asked if the grant had ever come in for the Rail Trail and what uses were allowed on the Rail Trail.

Annie O'Neill – commented there is a great deal of ATV and dirt bike traffic on the Rail Trail. What can the Town do about it.

Marion Kells – asked the cost of maintenance of the Rail Trail.

Matt Aube – asked when the skate park would open.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Town Board entered executive session on motion of Councilman Wiegand, seconded by Councilwoman Lemmon and carried at 8:20 PM. They will return to regular session only to adjourn.

LEAVE EXECUTIVE SESSION AND ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Supervisor Katz, seconded by Councilman Wiegand and carried the Board left executive session and adjourned the meeting at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle L. Mosher
Town Clerk