

**TOWN OF KIRKWOOD
SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING**

August 17, 2010

A special meeting of the Kirkwood Town Board was held on August 17, 2010 at 6:12 PM at the Joseph A. Griffin Town Hall with Supervisor Gordon Kniffen presiding.

Present: Supervisor Gordon Kniffen
Councilman Robert Weingartner
Councilman Lewis Grubham
Councilman William Diffendorf, Jr.
Councilwoman Linda Yonchuk

Also Present: Cheryl Insinga, Attorney
Gayle Diffendorf, Town Clerk
Richard Jones, DPW Commissioner

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

OLD BUSINESS:

137-10
Public Int.
Order
Fairview Dr
Sewer

Councilwoman Yonchuk moved to adopt Public Interest Order After Public Hearing Regarding Increase in Maximum Cost of Fairview Drive Sewer District Pursuant to Town Law Article 12A, in accordance with the attached Public Interest Order.

Councilman Diffendorf seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Councilman Weingartner - yes
Councilman Grubham - yes
Councilwoman Yonchuk - yes
Councilman Diffendorf - yes
Supervisor Kniffen - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

Discussion: Randy Williams, Supervisor of the Town of Windsor, explained that a letter will be sent to all property owners in the district advising them if they are successful in getting the grant money they requested. He added that part of the reason for the cost increase was that a lot of homeowners combined lots. He said that they are planning on holding an open house early in October.

Discussion – Sale of Old Truck 39 with plow and sander to the Town of Chenango Highway Department – Book Value.

Mr. Jones stated that the book value is \$9,500. He explained that the Town of Chenango offered Kirkwood \$9,000 cash plus a 60” x 40” x 60’ aluminized steel pipe for a total value of \$13,440.30. The plan is to use the pipe on Zimmer Road, just above Maple Drive; a big sluice pipe that runs under the road needs to be replaced.

138-10
Surplus
Volvo truck

Councilman Diffendorf moved to adopt resolution to declare the Town of Kirkwood’s 1997 Volvo dump truck VIN #4VHSAARFZVN517851 as surplus equipment.

Councilman Grubham seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Councilman Weingartner - yes
Councilman Grubham - yes
Councilwoman Yonchuk - yes
Councilman Diffendorf - yes
Supervisor Kniffen - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

139-10
Sell Volvo
Truck –
Chenango

Councilman Grubham moved to adopt resolution to sell the 1997 Volvo dump truck VIN #VHSAARFZVN517851 to the Town of Chenango for a cash value of \$9,000 plus a 60” x 40” x 60’ aluminized steel pipe with a value of \$4,440.30 for a total purchase price of \$13,440.30. Councilman Weingartner seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Councilman Weingartner - yes
Councilman Grubham - yes
Councilwoman Yonchuk - yes
Councilman Diffendorf - yes
Supervisor Kniffen - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

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Discussion – Compensation Policy.

Supervisor Kniffen explained that they are now in the process of putting the 2011 budget together and it is going to be a tough year. There will be an additional \$50,000 in the Town's pension contributions as well as ongoing health insurance increases. The Preliminary Budget will be presented on September 7th. He said that currently he is looking at it as if there is no Compensation Policy and that everyone will be treated equally, whatever it is. Councilwoman Yonchuk is in agreement and added that something still needs to be in place for starting salaries for new hires. This will be discussed again at a future meeting.

Discussion – Fairview Drive Sewer Project.

Councilman Diffendorf noted a concern that since the cost to repair the roads was not included in the contract, that the cost would go back to the general public of the entire Town of Windsor. Councilman Weingartner said that it is his understanding that the FAB (Financial Assistance to Business) grant money (through Senator Libous) will be used to repair the roads. Cheryl Insinga added that when the FAB money runs out, they will stop repairing the roads. That is why the higher priority roads will be repaired first. The cost of repairing the roads will not be spread across the town as a whole. Councilman Diffendorf questioned how the remaining roads will get repaired. Mr. Jones said that it is in the contract to repair the cut area, and they have repaired about 90% of the roads that way and they are still serviceable. There are four roads that the FAB money will be used on because they were in such bad shape since there was no material in them. Mr. Jones added that Kirkwood's involvement is the use of a grader. He also said that to help keep the cost down they will reset the manholes. It was also noted that there was a gravel issue with this project that cost additional money.

Discussion – Draft Resolution – Natural Gas Drilling.

Supervisor Kniffen explained that for the last meeting a draft resolution from the Town of Barker was received asking the state legislature to step aside and let DEC do its job in regard to natural gas drilling. He added that at that time, the moratorium had already been voted on. He said that now a copy has been received from Chenango and Sanford and Mr. Kline has submitted a resolution for Kirkwood to consider adopting. The moratorium has been voted on by the Senate but not the Assembly so it is not a law yet and Supervisor Kniffen would like to act on this.

Councilman Weingartner moved to adopt Resolution With Regard To Natural Gas Drilling, in accordance with the attached resolution. Councilman Diffendorf seconded. Councilman Weingartner read the complete resolution.

140-10
Natural Gas
Drilling

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Weingartner	- yes
Councilman Grubham	- yes
Councilwoman Yonchuk	- abstain
Councilman Diffendorf	- yes
Supervisor Kniffen	- yes

MOTION CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion – Storm Drainage – Floyd Bell School.

Councilman Grubham explained that Roy Tondeur spoke to him about this situation. He said they have about a 30" pipe coming out of the retention pond and it just comes out and dumps on the edge of the road. There does not seem to be any provisions for where the water will go in the event the pond should overflow. The drainage pond is already half full so there is a concern if we get a bad storm. Councilman Grubham said that he feels that included in the SPEDES process there should be a route for the water to go; into a storm sewer or a ditch. NYSDEC governs storm water permitting, so they should be contacted in this regard, as well as the engineer who designed it.

Mr. Tondeur said that it is a 28" pipe, the pond has overflowed twice and the storms were not major. He noted a concern that in winter the water will stay on Kirkwood Avenue.

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Mr. Jones will check into this and report back to the Board in September. Marchie Diffendorf, Chairman of the Planning Board, suggested that the Town's Engineer, Dan Griffith, be contacted to review this as well.

Discussion – Assessor retirement.

Supervisor Kniffen said that he has received verbal notice that after 20 years Joyce Ottens, the Assessor for the Town of Kirkwood, will be retiring at the end of October. Since a written notice must be received within 30 days of her scheduled retirement date, no action can be taken at this time. He said that at the time she was hired the position was advertised, and now is the time to look at how they want to proceed. One other consideration is to contract with an assessor that would not be a town employee with no benefits involved. Mr. Kline will provide more information on this for future discussion.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Weingartner moved to adopt resolution to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Grubham seconded. All voted in favor.

MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 6:41 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gayle M. Diffendorf
Town Clerk

141-10
Adjourn