

**TOWN OF KIRKWOOD  
TOWN BOARD MEETING**

**August 1, 2017**

A regular meeting of the Kirkwood Town Board was held on August 1, 2017 at 7:40 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: Oliver Blaise III, Attorney  
Gayle Diffendorf, Town Clerk  
John A. Finch Jr., Commissioner of Public Works  
Marchie Diffendorf, Planning Bd. Chairman

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** June 27, 2017 Town Board Meeting

In regard to Item #8 of the June 27, 2017 work session minutes, Councilman Weingartner clarified that years ago he visited friends and relatives at the Woodhill Court Apartments, he did not live there.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** None.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Street Lighting.**

Councilman Diffendorf reported that 30 street lights are now working. There are more that have gone out since then so it's an ongoing process.

**Park Issue.**

Councilman Grubham reported that on Saturday a ceremony was held at the Valley Park pavilion for old time race drivers, for which a permit had been obtained. He said about 200 Islamabad people turned up to play a sport called kabaddi, with no permit, and it created a problem because of cars and people all over the place. He spoke to them and got them to move so they wouldn't be conflicting with the racing people. He said they claimed they talked to someone with the Town to get a permit and Councilman Grubham said he would have known about it if that were the case. They also said they were here last year. The Captain from the troopers' barracks showed up and he told Councilman Grubham this group had called him and he told them if they were here last year there was probably no reason why they couldn't be here this year. It could have been a big problem but it all worked out, and they were respectful. He told them they would need a permit and follow the rules in the future. Councilman Diffendorf said he thinks Councilman Grubham handled it right, but there is no procedure for doing this. He said they have to watch that this doesn't start happening. Councilman Grubham said it can be an ongoing problem, noting that it happens a lot at Veterans River Park, that people just show up to use the ball fields, and the fields have already been reserved for someone else. The Town Clerk noted the fee to use a pavilion in Town parks is \$200 for groups of 100 to 200 people, and someone would have to apply to the Town Board for approval to use any of the park facilities for over 200 people and the Board would determine the permit fee at that time.

**Veterans Memorial.**

Councilman Grubham reported that the Veterans Memorial at Veterans River Park has been completed and it looks good.

**Water & Sewer 2018 Benefit Roll.**

Mr. Blaise reported that he and Mr. Smith started meeting on the water and sewer benefit units for the 2018 roll. With the changes in place, this is a much more streamlined process.

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**Kirkwood Sign Dedicated.**

Supervisor Kniffen reported as part of the Beautification Committee, "KIRKWOOD" stone letters were put in on the bank of the park across the street and at 5 PM yesterday The Country Courier was there to take pictures as part of the dedication.

**Geiger Lane Boat Launch.**

Supervisor Kniffen reported that a grand opening of the Geiger Lane boat launch will be held August 15, 2017 at 6 PM. Invitees include neighbors, sportsmen, firemen, Conklin Supervisor and Town Board.

**LED Street Lighting.**

Supervisor Kniffen reported that the City of Binghamton has saved over 50% by switching to LED street lighting. Todd Grubham also has a contact in that regard and will provide additional information. Councilman Weingartner noted that the lights along the walking track in Veterans River Park are very bright and questioned if they are LED lights. John Finch said they are not but he is looking into the cost of replacing them with LED.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Councilwoman Yonchuk moved to adopt resolution scheduling a Public Hearing for September 5, 2017 at 6:00 PM regarding the revision to the Water Main Local Law. Councilman Diffendorf seconded.

118-17  
Sched PH  
Revise Water  
Main LL

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Councilman Diffendorf moved to adopt resolution ratifying a resolution authorizing Tim Bailey Lawn Care to mow 8 Dennis Street at a cost of \$50 per week. Councilman Grubham seconded.

119-17  
Ratify Lawn  
Maint. 8  
Dennis St.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Councilman Grubham moved to adopt resolution authorizing Brian Kinney to attend the Grade D Water Distribution Operator Certification Course to be held September 18-22, 2017 in Cortland, NY, at a cost of \$550, plus all reasonable expenses paid, in accordance with the Reimbursement Policy for Employee Training Expenses. Councilman Weingartner seconded.

120-17  
B. Kinney  
Education  
Grade D  
Water Cert.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Councilman Weingartner moved to adopt resolution authorizing the purchase of a 20' seven ton gravity tilt – 16' tilt with 4' stationary platform trailer from Cross Country Mfg., Inc., at a cost of \$5,500. Councilwoman Yonchuk seconded.

121-17  
Purchase 20'  
Tilt trailer

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

MOTION CARRIED.

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Councilwoman Yonchuk moved to adopt resolution authorizing the creation of an Equipment Mechanic position with Broome County Personnel, with the position to be filled with a current employee. Councilman Diffendorf seconded.

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

122-17  
Create Equip  
Mechanic  
Position

MOTION CARRIED.

Councilwoman Yonchuk moved to amend the above resolution to add: at the rate of \$17.65 per hour. Councilman Diffendorf seconded.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Councilman Diffendorf moved to adopt resolution increasing William Tozer's hourly rate by \$1.00 per hour to \$18.62. Councilman Grubham seconded.

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

123-17  
Inc. W. Tozer  
Pay Rate

MOTION CARRIED.

**AUDIT AND PAYMENT OF CLAIMS:**

Councilman Grubham moved to adopt resolution authorizing the audit and payment of the following claims: General and Highway Funds, Special Districts (Fire, Light, Water and Sewer Districts), Professional Services, Capital Projects and Reserve Funds claims, and ratifying the payment of the prepaid claims as authorized by resolution adopted January 3, 2017, all in accordance with the abstract of claims on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Councilman Weingartner seconded.

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

124-17  
Audit/Pay

MOTION CARRIED.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Councilwoman Yonchuk moved to adopt resolution authorizing the transfer of funds in accordance with the attached schedule. Councilman Diffendorf seconded.

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

125-17  
Transfer of  
Funds

MOTION CARRIED.

**OTHER:**

Councilman Weingartner moved to adopt resolution to adjourn this meeting to conduct an Executive Session pursuant to Section 105 paragraph h of the Public Officers Law to discuss the proposed acquisition, sale, or lease of real property, when publicity would substantially affect the value thereof. Councilwoman Yonchuk seconded.

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

126-17  
Exec. Sess.

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Supervisor Kniffen - yes  
MOTION CARRIED.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Gayle M. Diffendorf  
Town Clerk