

VESTAL TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION MINUTES

MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 2013

In Attendance: Supervisor Schaffer, Board Members Marnicki, Fitzgerald, Milkovich and Majewski

Also Attending: Town Attorney David Berger, Human Resource Director Nancy Olmstead, Comptroller Laura McKane, Town Clerk Emil Bielecki Fire Chief Pat McPherson and several members of the community.

WORK SESSION – Supervisor Schaffer convened the meeting at 6:00 PM

Doug Bulman–Update on Health Insurance and Interactive Health Solutions wellness program

Doug Bulman, the Town's insurance consultant, presented an update on the Health Insurance process and procedures, highlighting the following:

- As a result of the changes under the Affordable Care Act, the Town will be facing about \$26,000 in additional costs.
- We are going to do a full Request for Proposal (RFP) process to evaluate our minimum premium preferred provider plan against a self-insured Administrative Service Only (ASO) plan.
- If all goes as planned, we should be ready with plan proposals by 2/1/14, in time for a 4/1/14 implementation.
- The target to implement an Interactive Health Solutions (IHS) administered wellness program would be at the time of the Health Fair.

Comptroller Laura McKane and Human Resource Director Nancy Olmstead stressed the importance of offering financial incentives in a wellness program. They recommend offering the program to all active plan participants (including spouses and dependents) and pre-65 retirees.

The Board agreed by consensus to have a wellness program prepared for consideration and review at the next Work Session.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. Vestal Community Picnic and Parade on August 24, 2013

Fire Chief McPherson noted that the Fire Department has given permission to use the field for the event.

All Board members agreed to authorize the organizers to proceed with the planning of the parade and the picnic with Board approval anticipated at the next regular meeting.

OK-This item will be placed on the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board.

2. South Jensen Road Sewer Hook Up (placed on hold at the June 3, 2013 meeting)

In a memo to the Board, Town Engineer Gary Campo stated that both he and the Water and Sewer Superintendent support allowing this sewer connection with the following conditions:

- The new lot has road frontage on the lower side similar to the existing lot.
- When they join the sewer district, they are agreeable to pay their unit cost if the sewer

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extension is ever constructed.

Councilman Majewski asked if the SUNY Foundation, one of the neighboring property owners, would be required to share in the construction cost if the sewer extension is eventually done. Town Attorney Berger stated that he was not sure but that he would look into it.

OK-This item will be placed on the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board.

3. Coal House Insurance

Town Attorney David Berger explained to the Board that an issue has arisen with respect to the insurance at the Coal House. The agreement with M Squared, the lessee of the Coal House, states that they have \$1,000,000 coverage that includes "fire liability". They have \$100,000 in coverage. To increase the insurance to the required amount would be a substantial increase in premium.

Since the Town already has insurance on the building, he recommends that we chose an option outlined by our insurance agent Bill Oliver as follows:

Delete Section 6 of the agreement and add a Waiver of Subrogation, (in both directions), and change the coverage for "Damage to..." to the \$100,000 we already have.

According to Bill Oliver, if the Town chooses this option, the current coverage would meet the contract requirements. With this approach, if M Squared is negligent and causes a loss to the building, the Town's insurance policy would respond and make payment, subject to the policy deductible, and they would not subrogate back to M Squared. This approach is used quite often on lease agreements.

Town Attorney Berger stated that the changes to the agreement should also include language that in the event of a loss caused by M Squared, they would be responsible for the payment of any deductible that applied under the Town's insurance policy.

By consensus, the Board asked the Town Attorney to draft the changes to the agreement with M Squared along the lines of the above recommendations.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Route 434 Greenway Project

Cyndi Paddick, the Director of BMTS, has asked the Town for a letter of support of the Route 434 Greenway Project (from downtown Binghamton to the Binghamton University). This letter would be submitted as part of an application for NYSERDA funds through the Regional Economic Development Council's current application process for the RT 432 Greenway Project.

Several Board members expressed a willingness to write a letter of support with the understanding that the Town would not be asked to contribute to the project.

By consensus, the Board instructed the Town Attorney to draft a letter of support for the 434 Greenway Project.

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2. Response to the Town audit

Supervisor Schaffer informed the Board that the Town needs to submit a response to the State audit particularly as it concerns the capital projects budgeting process. The response should include a corrective action plan that is adopted by the Board.

3. Children at Play signs on Juneberry Road

4. Supervisor Schaffer stated that a petition has been submitted requesting the placement of Children at Play signs in the Juneberry Road area. It is his understanding that such an action is at the discretion of the Highway Superintendent and does not require Board approval. He asked the Town Attorney and the Town Clerk to research whether this is in fact the case.

SUPERVISOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Vestal Police Department will host the National Night Out 2013 – Cruise & Cookout across from the Target Department Store on Tuesday, August 6, 2013 from 6 PM to 9:00 PM.
2. The Recreation Department will host the End of the Season Picnic at Arnold Park on Wednesday, August 7, 2013 from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Rain date is Thursday, August 8, 2013.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion of Councilman Milkovich, seconded by Councilman Majewski, the following was
ADOPTED Ayes 5 Majewski, Fitzgerald, Milkovich, Marnicki, Schaffer
Nays 0

Resolved the Board enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the Article 7 United Health Services litigation and to review the applicants for appointment to the Board of Assessment Review (BAR). The time was 6:49 PM.

On a motion of Councilman Milkovich, seconded by Councilman Marnicki, the following was
ADOPTED Ayes 5 Majewski, Fitzgerald, Milkovich, Marnicki, Schaffer
Nays 0

Resolved the Board leave the Executive Session and adjourn the Work Session. The time was 7:18 PM.

The Work Session was adjourned at 7:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Emil Bielecki, Town Clerk