

**Regular Meeting of the Vestal Town Board  
December 5, 2018**

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Vestal, County of Broome and the State of New York was held at the Town Hall, 605 Vestal Parkway West, Vestal, NY on December 5, 2018.

**TOWN BOARD PRESENT:**

**Supervisor John Schaffer  
Councilman Fran Majewski  
Councilwoman Patty Fitzgerald  
Councilwoman Sue Messina  
Councilman John Fletcher**

**ALSO ATTENDING:** Town Attorney David Berger, Town Clerk Emil Bielecki, 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Town Clerk Kathie Young and 2 members of the general public.

The Supervisor called the Regular Meeting to order at **6:00 PM**, welcomed everyone and asked that all present join in the PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On a motion of Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Fitzgerald, the following resolution was

**ADOPTED** Ayes 5      Majewski, Fitzgerald, Fletcher, Messina, Schaffer  
Nays 0

**Resolved** the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on November 14, 2018 are approved.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Supervisor Schaffer offered *Proof of Posting* and *Affidavit of Publication* regarding the Public Hearing on proposed **Local Law “H” of the Year 2018** entitled: “A Local Law Amending Sewer Rents in the Town of Vestal”, then opened the public hearing.

Seeing or hearing no one wishing to speak, Supervisor Schaffer closed the Public Hearing and asked the Board if it wished to vote on Local Law “H” at this time.

**Adopt Local Law “H” of the Year 2018 - Amending Sewer Rents**

**R262-18**      On a motion of Councilwoman Messina, seconded by Councilman Fletcher, the following resolution was

**ADOPTED** Ayes 5      Majewski, Fitzgerald, Fletcher, Messina, Schaffer  
Nays 0

**Resolved** to adopt proposed **Local Law “H” of the Year 2018** entitled: “A Local Law Amending Sewer Rents in the Town of Vestal” as follows:

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**Section 1.** Chapter 18, Article V of the Code of the Town of Vestal is hereby amended to provide as follows:

(a) Sec.18-202(b) (1) Imposition and Computation is amended by deleting "...five dollars and seventy cents (\$5.70)..." and inserting in its place "seven dollars and fifty cents (\$7.50)" and further amended by deleting "...fifty seven dollars (\$57.00)..." and inserting in its place "sixty dollars (\$60.00)".

(b) Sec.18-202(b) (2) is amended by deleting.....*sixty-six dollars and zero cents (\$66.00)* and inserting in its place "seventy dollars and zero cents (\$70.00)....." per quarter year shall be the sewer rent for single-family residential units.

### **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

A speaker wished everyone a happy *Soil Day* and asked how many regular passenger vehicles the Town owns. He recently read that the state has an incentive program for the purchase of electric vehicles. Supervisor Schaffer replied that information about our vehicle inventory can be obtained from the Business Office and in turn asked the speaker to explain how electric vehicles pay to support the transportation infrastructure. The speaker said he would look into it.

A speaker shared several examples of kindness exhibited by Vestal residents and officials citing the positive experiences of one friend who worked as an election inspector and of another who left his keys in the library and was assisted by the police and the library director.

### **RESOLUTIONS & MOTIONS**

#### **Amended Permit and Application Fee Schedule for Building & Code**

**R263-18** On a motion of Councilwoman Messina, seconded by Councilwoman Fitzgerald, the following resolution was

**ADOPTED** Ayes 5 Majewski, Fitzgerald, Fletcher, Messina, Schaffer  
Nays 0

**Resolved** to adopt a new *Permit and Application Fee Schedule* for the Building & Code Department effective January 1, 2019, as attached to Code Enforcement Officer Lincoln Ellis's memo to the Town Board dated November 27, 2018.

#### **Extend Storage Container Permit for BMT Hospitality Inc.**

**R264-18** On a motion of Councilman Majewski, seconded by Councilman Fletcher, the following resolution was

**ADOPTED** Ayes 5 Majewski, Fitzgerald, Fletcher, Messina, Schaffer  
Nays 0

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Resolved to extend the original time frame for 10 storage containers for the **BMT Hospitality Inc.**, 3615 Vestal Parkway E. (*Holiday Inn Express*) BCTMP #158.12-2-11.2 to February 28, 2019 to be used in the remodel of the hotel. The original resolution number is R148-18.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

On a motion of Councilman Majewski, seconded by Councilman Fletcher, the following resolution was

**ADOPTED** Ayes 5      Majewski, Fitzgerald, Fletcher, Messina, Schaffer  
Nays 0

**Resolved** the Consent Agenda is approved as follows:

**PUBLIC WORKS: Fitzgerald/Majewski**

**Memorandum of Agreement re: Harold Moore Park Boat Launch**

**R265-18**      Authorization for the Town Supervisor to sign a **Memorandum of Agreement with Broome County** for the design and construction of a boat launch and access road with associated amenities at Harold Moore Park. The total project amount is \$14,178.00.

**FINANCE: Messina/Fletcher**

**Receive and File**

- **Warrant Reports:** 2018-46, 2018-46E
- **Town Clerk Monthly Report,** November 2018 - Total Local Shares Remitted: \$5,489.54

**2019 Dues for Association of Towns of the State of New York**

**R266-18**      Approval for the Business Office to pay \$1,650.00 for the 2019 dues to the **Association of Towns of the State of New York.**

**PLANNING & ZONING: Fletcher/Fitzgerald**

**Code Department to Increase Petty Cash and Accept Credit Cards**

**R267-18**      Approval for the Code Enforcement Department to **increase petty cash** by \$100 and to begin **accepting credit cards** to accommodate contractors and residents.

**Kohl's Department Store to Add Storage Unit**

**R268-18**      Authorization for **Kohl's Department Store** to add one more storage unit for one month to accommodate a short-term merchandise overflow.

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### **Planning Board to Change Meeting Dates**

**R269-18** Authorization for the **Planning Board** to change their meetings dates from the *second* Tuesday to the *first* Tuesday of each month beginning January 2019.

### **ADMINISTRATION: Majewski/Messina**

#### **Employees Hired for Tax Receiver's Office**

**R270-18** Authorization for the Receiver of Taxes to **hire employees** pursuant to her memo of November, 2018 for the period December 22, 2018 through April 3, 2019, such hiring to be conditional on successful background checks.

### **Renew Agreement with Vestal Veterinary Hospital for Dog Shelter Services**

**R271-18** Authorization for the Town Supervisor to sign a renewed contract for dog shelter services with the **Vestal Veterinary Hospital** effective January 1, 2019.

### **RECEIVE AND FILE:**

- **Fire Advisory Board Minutes** – October 15, 2018

### **END OF CONSENT AGENDA**

### **COMMITTEE CHAIR COMMENTS AND UPDATES**

Councilwoman Messina read a statement to clarify to the public her thoughts about the budget review process and about comments made by Councilman Majewski prior to the voting against the 2019 Town Budget on November 14<sup>th</sup>. A summary of her statement is as follows:

- The Board reviewed the budget for nearly 1 ½ months giving Board members adequate opportunity to ask questions and resolve concerns. The goal was to reach consensus on a budget that maintains quality services at a reasonable cost. We have done that in the past 2 years and have been recognized by the State as being fiscally sound.
- At the final budget review session, Councilman Majewski expressed no objections to the 2019 Town Budget, yet the next day he voted against it citing two issues that had been discussed at length during the budget review process. A consensus view on both issues (pay raises and volunteer board compensation) was reached.
- Councilman Majewski's comments were insulting and disingenuous and did not serve in the best interest of the residents and employees of the Town. He

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resorted to name calling and focused his opposition to a pay raise for a specific position while supporting other comparable increases.

She concluded her statement by noting that good government means serving all the Town residents and employees in a fair and equitable manner and there is no room for temper tantrums, name calling and retaliation.

**SUPERVISOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Winter Parking Hours** - Night parking restrictions. The parking of vehicles is prohibited on all Town and County streets and highways between the hours of 2:00 am to 6:00 am during the period December 1 through March 31.
  
- **Leaf Pick-Up** - The Highway Department is continuing leaf pick-up until all are picked up or there is too much snow to find them. Rake your leaves *to the* curb but *not in the street/road* and our crews will be around to pick them up as soon as possible. Please, no sticks or any other foreign objects. It slows our process and can break down our machines. If you cannot wait for pick up, you may bring your leaves to the Highway Department, 1801 Glenwood Road, Monday-Friday 7am to 3pm. Stop in the Main Office **FIRST** to check in.  
If you have hired a contractor, it is their responsibility to take the leaves away.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion of Councilwoman Fitzgerald, seconded by Councilman Fletcher, the meeting was adjourned at **6:16 PM**. Carried unanimously.

Approved by \_\_\_\_\_  
**Emil J. Bielecki, Town Clerk**