

Regular Meeting of the Vestal Town Board July 10, 2019

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 July 10, 2019.

TOWN BOARD PRESENT:

Supervisor John Schaffer
Councilman Fran Majewski
Councilwoman Patty Fitzgerald
Councilman John Fletcher

ABSENT: Councilwoman Sue Messina

ALSO ATTENDING: Town Attorney David Berger, Director of Human Resources Nancy Olmstead, Town Clerk Emil Bielecki and 4 members of the general public.

Supervisor Schaffer 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 Majewski, seconded by Councilman Fletcher, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Majewski, Fitzgerald, Fletcher, Schaffer
 Nays 0 Absent 1 Messina

Resolved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on June 26, 2019 are approved.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

A speaker who is a member of the Vestal Residents for Safe Energy (VRSE) stated that the group recently heard a presentation from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). NYSERDA offers grant funding for municipalities for clean energy projects. Although the first round of funding has been allocated, there will be a second round in the September-October timeframe. He will review the projects which may be appropriate for Vestal and will update the Town Board once NYSERDA releases the information.

A speaker expressed concern about the number of dead ash trees on Main Street in the vicinity of Barlow Park. These dead trees create a dangerous situation and the Town should do something about it. Supervisor Schaffer acknowledged the problem and stated that the Town is reviewing the situation

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in various locations where the trees are on Town property or in the right-of-way. The Town is already doing some limited spraying and is exploring the feasibility of doing selective cutting as part of a forest preservation plan.

RESOLUTIONS & MOTIONS

Updated Hiring and Pre-Employment Background Check Policies

R117-19 On a motion of Councilman Majewski, seconded by Councilman Fletcher, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Majewski, Fitzgerald, Fletcher, Schaffer
Nays 0 Absent 1 Messina

Resolved Adoption of the Town of Vestal Hiring Policy as discussed on July 8, 2019 (dated June 13, 2019). This policy will replace the Town of Vestal Employment Policy and Procedure (R099-06) adopted March 8, 2006. The Town Board also adopts the Town of Vestal Policy and Procedure on Pre-Employment Background Checks as discussed on July 8, 2019 (dated July 8, 2019). This policy will replace the Town of Vestal Policy and Procedure on Pre-Employment Background Checks (R129-05) adopted on April 13, 2005.

Notice of Declaration of Dangerous or Unsafe Structures

R118-19 On a motion of Councilman Majewski, seconded by Councilwoman Fitzgerald, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Majewski, Fitzgerald, Fletcher, Schaffer
Nays 0 Absent 1 Messina

Resolved, the Town Board of the Town of Vestal has found the following structures to be dangerous or unsafe to the public health, safety, and welfare:

- 1725 Vestal Rd., BCTM#157.52-1-18.1, Owner of Record: Bank of America
- 1625 Vestal Rd., BCTM#157.52-1-43, Owner of Record: HSBC Bank USA
- 385 First Ave., BCTM#157.52-3-14, Owner of Record: Mastronardi, A.
- 1944 North Rd., BCTM#172.11-1-29, Owner of Record: KECA Corp.

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Vestal further directs the Town Engineer to serve notice on the owner or someone of the owner's executors, legal representatives, agents, lessees or any other person having a vested or contingent interest in same, per the Code of the Town of Vestal Section 5-93

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Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Vestal shall set a date, time and place for a hearing before the town board in relation to such dangerous or unsafe building, which hearing shall be scheduled not less than five (5) business days from the date of service of the notice.

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Vestal, upon refusal or neglect of the person so notified to comply with an order of the Town Board made pursuant to this article, and after the hearing, the Town Board shall provide for the demolition and removal of such building or structure, either by town employees or by contract.

Resolved, to assess all expenses thereof against the land on which it is located and to institute a special proceeding to collect the cost of demolition, including legal expenses.

Sabrina Scelsi Hired as Clerk to Town Justice

R119-19 On a motion of Councilman Majewski, seconded by Councilwoman Fitzgerald, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Majewski, Fitzgerald, Fletcher, Schaffer
Nays 0 Absent 1 Messina

Resolved to authorize the Court to **hire Sabrina Scelsi as Clerk to Justice**, CSEA, Grade 3 at the hourly rate of \$15.07 effective July 22, 2019. Such appointment to be contingent on a successful background check.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Majewski, Fitzgerald, Fletcher, Schaffer
Nays 0 Absent 1 Messina

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

FINANCE: Messina/Majewski

Receive and File

- **Warrant Reports:** 2019-26, 2019-26E, 2019-27, 2019-27E
- **Town Clerk Monthly Report**, June 2019-Local Share Remitted: \$5958.79

ADMINISTRATION: Fitzgerald/Messina

Accept \$50.00 Donation from the Highlands Resident Association

R120-19 Authorization for the Recreation Planner to accept a \$50.00 donation from **The Highlands Resident Association** for the Town Band to

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go into budget line A7310.4345 (music).

Hired Volleyball and Basketball Camp Labor

R121-19 Authorization for the Recreation Planner to hire **volleyball and basketball camp labor** as indicated in her memo to the Town Board dated July 3, 2019.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

COMMITTEE CHAIR COMMENTS AND UPDATES

Councilman Majewski stated that the presentation of a proclamation honoring Vestal resident and renowned jazz musician Al Hamme will need to be postponed. Mr. Hamme is doing concerts in July and will not be available until sometime in August.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Fletcher, Fitzgerald, Majewski, Schaffer
Nays 1 Absent 1 Messina

Resolved the Board enter into Executive Session to discuss taking possible disciplinary action against a Town employee. The time was 6:14 PM.

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

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Fletcher, Fitzgerald, Majewski, Schaffer
Nays 0 Absent 1 Messina

Resolved the Board leave the Executive Session. The time was 6:35 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion of Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Fitzgerald, the **meeting was adjourned at 6:35 PM.** Carried unanimously.

Approved by _____
Emil J. Bielecki, Town Clerk