

VESTAL TOWNBOARD WORK SESSION MINUTES

MONDAY, JULY 08, 2019

Board Attendance: Supervisor Schaffer; Board Members: Fletcher, Messina, Fitzgerald, Majewski

Also Attending: Town Attorney David Berger, Town Engineer Vern Myers, Director of Human Resources Nancy Olmstead and Town Clerk Emil Bielecki.

Supervisor Schaffer **convened the Work Session at 6:00 PM.**

COMMITTEES

7.1 PUBLIC WORKS (FITZGERALD/Fletcher)

1. Request from Town Engineer Vern Myers to adopt a resolution finding the structures at the following locations to be dangerous or unsafe and to serve notice on owners of same: 1725 Vestal Road; 1625 Vestal Road; 385 First Avenue; 1944 North Road.

Councilman Fletcher asked for additional information about the procedure in dealing with dangerous and unsafe properties. Town Engineer Vern Myers replied that after a notice is sent out and there is no satisfactory response, the Town Board will schedule a Public Hearing on the matter. If nothing is done after the public hearing, the Town Board can arrange for the demolition and removal of the building or structure. All the expenses of the demolition and removal shall be assessed against the owner of the property. Town Attorney David Berger added that we have had issues in the past in completing the demolitions because of budgetary constraints and the unwillingness of the County to make us whole. We have no choice but to pursue the property owners for any expenses incurred by the Town.

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

7.2 FINANCE (MESSINA /Majewski)

1. Warrants: 2019-26, 2019-26E, 2019-27, 2019-27E

OK – This item will be placed as a ‘Receive and File’ on the Agenda for the next Regular Meeting

2. Request from Recreation Planner Sue Jastran to accept a \$50.00 donation from The Highlands Resident Association for the Town Band to go into budget line A7310.4345 (music).

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

7.3 PERSONNEL (MAJEWSKI/Fitzgerald)

1. Request from Recreation Planner Sue Jastran to hire volleyball and basketball camp labor as indicated in her memo to the Town Board dated July 3, 2019.

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

7.4 PLANNING & ZONING (FLETCHER/Fitzgerald) – no items were brought for consideration.

7.5 PUBLIC SAFETY (MESSINA/Fletcher) – no items were brought for consideration.

7.6 ADMINISTRATION (FITZGERALD/Messina) – no items were brought for consideration.

VESTAL TOWNBOARD WORK SESSION MINUTES

MONDAY, JULY 08, 2019

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Discuss the Town's Pre-Employment Background Check Policy and Hiring Policy.

The Director of Human Resources Nancy Olmstead stated that she has made one additional change in the language that was presented in the draft version of the Pre-Employment Background Check Policy. No Board member commented on the amendment or expressed any issues with the policies as presented.

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

NEW BUSINESS

1. Councilman Majewski stated that on several occasions in past years he has brought up the issue of adding fluoride to the Town's water. He continues to feel that fluoridation is no longer necessary and is likely to be more harmful than good. It is an unnecessary expense. Supervisor Schaffer noted that when this issue surfaced in the past, there was no support on the Board to take such action. Nonetheless, he is asking the Board members to reach out to our Water Department and to the Broome County Health Department to get their current opinions on the issue of fluoridation.
2. Councilwoman Fitzgerald stated that she continues to get inquiries about the ash trees that have died due to the ash borer infestation. Supervisor Schaffer commented that he is regularly reviewing the situation with any trees that are on Town property and in the Town's right-of-way. We are also doing a limited spraying on Town owned forest land. We do not have the resources to tackle this problem on a town wide basis. We should however proceed with a previously discussed plan to do selective clearing in our forest areas. It would be an environmentally sound policy.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

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

Resolved the Board enter into Executive Session to discuss and review the applicants for the vacant Town Court Clerk position. The time was 6:18 PM.

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

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

Resolved the Board leave the Executive Session and **adjourn the meeting. The time was 6:46 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,
Emil Bielecki, Town Clerk