

VESTAL TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION MINUTES
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

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

Also Attending: Town Attorney David Berger, Human Resource Director Nancy Olmstead, Town Clerk Emil Bielecki, three news reporters and several members of the community.

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

6:00 Sarah Campbell, Esq. re: 2520 Vestal Parkway East (Cornelius property)

Sarah Campbell, an attorney representing the owner of this property, presented the Board with a site map showing the proposed configuration of the parking spaces to accommodate the needs of the four businesses at the location. Specifically, she is requesting Board approval to modify a special permit to allow Hertz Car Rental to use 20 parking spaces instead of 8. Hertz is asking for the additional spaces before they agree to re-sign a lease at the location. There are a total of 48 spaces available at the site, which meets the minimum Code requirements. According to Ms. Campbell, the other tenants at the location are agreeable to the change. She is asking the Board to schedule a public hearing on the special permit.

Several Board members expressed concern about the long term parking at the location. Sarah Campbell responded that there is very little long term parking. Most customers are dropped off at the location. Hertz needs the additional parking spaces as a cushion for the occasional busy times.

Supervisor Schaffer expressed skepticism about having 11 available spaces in the back of the property.

The consensus of the Board was to refer the matter to the Town Engineer and the Code Department for review and recommendation prior to deciding whether to schedule a public hearing.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. Continuing review of 2014 budget

Supervisor Schaffer announced that the 2014 Tentative Budget has been completed and filed with the Town Clerk. The budget shows a 2.1% increase in spending which is largely due to contractual wage increases. The budget calls for an increase of \$165,183 (2.2%) in the tax levy, which meets the state mandated cap. There is still much more work to be done on the budget, but he is pleased about where we are at this stage of the process. He thanked the Board members for their hard work in formulating the budget.

Several Board member expressed satisfaction with the budget process to date and the relatively modest tax increase called for in the Tentative Budget. With additional review, it is hoped that further reductions in the budget can be achieved prior to adopting the final budget in November.

2. Discuss the use of \$3,000,000 that Vestal will receive from the NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program to correct flooding issues.

Supervisor Schaffer noted that this program is great news for Vestal because we rarely qualify for community development funds. Town Engineer Gary Campo is coordinating the project selection process and is asking all department heads and Board members to submit recommendations to him as soon as possible.

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OLD BUSSINESS

LED Advertising Signage

Supervisor Schaffer noted that two companies, Outdoor Advertising and Lockridge Advertising, have made presentations to the Board concerning the installation of outdoor LED advertising signs that would also be used to post public service announcements. These signs would be installed and maintained at no cost to the Town. It appears that the majority of the Board supports moving ahead with such a project. If that is the case, the Board needs to determine what steps need to be taken next.

Town Attorney David Berger noted that the signage, as proposed, probably does not meet the existing sign regulations. The Board needs to decide whether it wants to change the local law to accommodate these proposed signs.

Several Board members asked the representative from Lockridge Outdoor Advertising (who was present at the meeting), to submit a proposal to the Town with detailed specifications of the signs and to identify the locations where they would prefer to place them.

Supervisor Schaffer stated that he will ask the Code and Engineering Departments to review the submitted proposals and advise the Board as to what changes would be required in the Town codes to permit the new signs.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion of Councilman Majewski, seconded by Councilman Milkovich, 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 labor negotiations with the following bargaining units: PBA, Police Supervisors and Operating Engineers. The time was 6:45 PM.

On a motion of Councilwoman Fitzgerald, seconded by Councilman Milkovich, 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 7:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Emil Bielecki, Town Clerk