

TOWN OF CHATHAM
488 Route 295, Chatham, NY 12037

SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING
Joint Recreation and Court Committee
November 21, 2013
6:00 P.M.

PRESENT

Supervisor DeGroot, Councilman Maria Lull, Councilman Bob Balcom, Councilman Jean Rohde, Rec. Director Shari Franks, Village Mayor Tom Curran, Doris Appel, Earl Kelsey, Judge James Borgia-Forster, Court Clerk Joan Goold, Town Clerk, Beth Anne Rippel

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM and the Councilmen led the pledge to the flag.

- Councilman Lull asked if Mayor Curran and/or Supervisor DeGroot had spoken to the Tracy Foundation Board. They had both spoken to Peter Curry
- The Foundation will be addressing the unsafe fire escape, windows and carpet cleaning and asked that the Town hold tight while they look into this further.
- Justice Borgia-Forster asked if there was a time line on when some of these things might be taken care of. At this time there is not. He thought that maybe the Town might withhold the rent until the fire escape is fixed.
- Councilman Balcom said that we still need a pavilion at the waterfront at Crellin park and raised the idea again of perhaps using a barn owned by Judy Grunberg as the Rec. Center. Shari Franks said that Barton & Loguidice, the engineering firm, like the idea of renovating an old barn. However the cost of the renovation could be far more expensive than building from scratch. Would the building still be owned by Judy if the Town were going to use it? Maybe investigate a long term lease option. More info is needed.
- Doris Appel would love to see the court remain at the Tracy. It optimizes the idea of a court room to her and commands a certain type of respect. Having traveled throughout the County visiting all of the town courts the Tracy is one of the best. The beautiful hand crafted bench made by past Councilman Tom Meyn is the anchor in the front of the court room. Sadly, there is no longer a full time police presence in the building due to Village budget cuts and the overall state of things has fallen into disrepair but the Tracy, Doris feels, is worth saving.
- Councilman Balcom asked if the Town should begin to investigate alternative court space options if the Tracy Foundation isn't able to make the necessary repairs.
- The next Tracy Foundation meeting is on Nov. 25, 2013.

The next Special Town Board meeting of the Joint Rec. and Court Committee will be held on December 5, 2013 at 6 PM.

Motion was made by Councilman Balcom, seconded by Councilman Rohde to adjourn at 6:55 PM. Motion carried

Respectfully submitted by,

Beth Anne Rippel
Town Clerk