

Town of Chatham
Special Town Board Meeting
January 25, 2016, Monday, 8:30 AM

Present: Supervisor Maria Lull, Councilman Bob Balcom, Councilwoman Landra Haber, Councilman John Wapner. **Absent:** Councilman Henry Swartz.

Call to Order

Lull called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM and led the pledge to the flag.

Correspondence

- Resignation by Tammy Shaw as Bookkeeper and Supervisor's Secretary
- Resignation by Shari Franks as Recreation Director
- Email from Bob Alexander regarding Town Law on Dog Control

Lull explained that Bob Alexander, the Dog Control Officer for the Town of Canaan, has a number of suggestions on how to change the Town of Chatham law and how to save money in that department. She will be talking to Attorney Tal Rappleyea this week about how to adjust the Town dog law. Lull stated that she already talked to the Town Justices, who are in agreement to uphold any law that the Town modifies, and to Paul Czajka, who will receive a letter from Rappleyea since the District Attorney's Office has to be on board with citations and is also fine with any changes. Lull mentioned that everyone is in the channels and that she will bring more discussion to the Board after more conversations with Alexander. She explained that they are waiting for information from the Town Clerk that will hopefully provide Alexander with a better idea on what he can do for the Town in order to provide guidance and get everyone on board. Lull concluded that the animal control reports from Wes Powell were all up-to-date, so he is not delinquent on any reports, and she does not want to speak with him until she receives more information.

New Business: Meeting Schedule

Wapner confirmed that the next Town Board meeting is on Thursday, February 4, to discuss the Zoning Implementation Committee's proposed law. Lull explained that the Board will be interviewing engineers and attorneys at 5:00 PM, and that they will also leave interviews for the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals for the last.

Old Business: Fire Company Contracts

Lull stated that no one had previously explained the contract process to her and so she had assumed that the Fire Departments would bring contracts with them. She added that Attorney Tal Rappleyea and the Town Clerk had copies of last year's contracts that were never forthcoming. She determined the amounts as followed: East Chatham per contract on file, Chatham per Village Clerk Barbara Henry, Tri-Village that was the same as in 2015, Niverville per a letter from the Fire Company, and North Chatham per a letter.

RES. #57-16 To accept Fire Company Contracts

Councilwoman Landra Haber offered that the Town accept the contracts for the following fire companies: East Chatham for \$76,906.00, Chatham at \$35,039.00, Tri-Village at \$193,800.00,

Niverville at \$24,966.00, and North Chatham at \$72,951.00. Councilman Bob Balcom seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes, all: Lull, Balcom, Haber, Wapner. Nays, none. The resolution was adopted.

Business: Resignations

Lull asked if the Board had any discussion regarding the two resignations. She will be working on putting an ad together for a bookkeeper and a secretary. Lull mentioned that Michael Richardson is going to give her information on reasonable hours for a bookkeeper for a municipality of the same size as Chatham, which is pro-bono work for the Town. Balcom mentioned that Richardson is a budget expert, does seminars at the Association of Towns, lives in the community, and has been just waiting for someone to ask for his help. Haber asked about the back-up plans for the bookkeeper/secretary. Lull stated that Tammy Shaw said she would work until February 6, and there are other plans under way. Lull concluded that she believed they had a handle on the situation.

Councilwoman Landra Haber made a motion to run an advertisement for Bookkeeper and Supervisor's Secretary, which would be one position with two specific duties. Councilman John Waper seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion, and it was carried.

Adjournment

Haber moved to adjourn the meeting, Wapner seconded the motion, and the meeting was closed at 8:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Elizabeth Horst, Deputy Town Clerk