

MINUTES OF WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HUNTER HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2020 AT 7:00 PM HELD VIA ZOOM

Present at Town Hall:

**Daryl Legg
David Kukle
Raymond Legg
Sean Mahoney
Dolph Semenza**

**Supervisor
Councilman
Councilman
Councilman
Councilman**

**Larry Gardner
Sgt. Robert Haines
Robert Cologero
Marc Czermerys**

**Town Attorney
Hunter Police Department
Code Enforcement Officer
IT**

Present via Zoom:

**Corina Pascucci
Lara Hamrah-Poladian
John Farrell
R. Bates, R. Sheridan, D. Bates, B. Gude**

**Town Clerk
Secretary to Supervisor
Superintendent of Highways**

6:45PM PUBLIC HEARING -Continued 6/9/20 Scrap Processor License

Supervisor Legg opens the Public Hearing at 6:45 PM.

No public comments were received.

Supervisor Legg makes a MOTION to close the Public Hearing for a Scrap Processor License renewal at 7:00 PM.

Seconded by Councilman Mahoney.

Ayes -5-

Noes -0-

AMBULANCE

Supervisor Legg states that he has asked E. Bain to price out one new ambulance for this budget season.

SCRAP PROCESSOR LICENSE Discussion on application for renewal.

R. Cologero states that he did an inspection of Haines Falls Auto with Councilman Kukle and Councilman Legg. He states that all looked good and paperwork was in order, adding that there was a fire extinguisher issue that was taken care of.

He states that he is concerned about not being able to distinguish which cars are being worked on, which ones are for sale and which ones are scrap. He suggested some type of sticker system to identify vehicles and what vehicles must be behind the fence.

Discussion on a conditional 30-day approval, with the condition being that the cars must be marked and done so on a continuous basis.

Councilman Mahoney asks if this renewal if approved would be for the entire period.

Town Board members state yes.

Councilman Kukle asks about water testing.

R. Cologero states that he doesn't know yet as there has not been a significant water event.

He adds that if the town received any complaints, they could decide the amount of time the applicant has to remedy it.

Councilman Kukle states that there are outside agencies that R. Cologero can contact if he has questions.

R. Cologero states that he has already contacted NYSDEC with questions.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Supervisor Legg makes a MOTION to open the workshop meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
Seconded by Councilman Semenza.

Ayes -5-

Noes -0-

SCRAP PROCESSOR LICENSE

Councilman Mahoney makes a MOTION to grant Haines Falls Auto a full Scrap Yard permit conditional upon him meeting the requirements based upon the Code Enforcement Officer's findings. Vehicles must be clearly marked as to the kind of vehicle it is and those that belong behind the fence must be behind the fence. Seconded by Councilman Legg.

Discussion

Councilman Kukle asks about the Site Plan.

Councilman Mahoney responds stating that this two-year renewal is based on data we have, subsequent renewals may have new standards.

Ayes -5-

Noes -0-

SUMMER PROGRAMS-Discussion

Board states that Camp Loyaltown is not opening nor are the Village day camps.

L. Gardner states that his understanding is that Machne Tashbar had attempted to open a temporary residence with a day camp on it which may have since changed.

2nd Zoom session

He adds that S. Basagic has foiled NYSDOH for their intent.

Supervisor Legg states that the Redcoat's Return premises has an expired permit and the other property's permit is expiring on Friday.

R. Cologero states that no new permit applications have been received and no new permits have been issued.

Supervisor Legg adds that currently there is no application in front of the Town and no Safety Plan has been filed.

L. Gardner states that if this is going to be a temporary residence only, that takes the County out of it. He adds that no sleepover camps are allowed at this time.

Discussion on the threshold of 25 persons and social distancing with this not being family units, they are minors.

Councilman Kukle states that the Town of Hunter must be shown how the social distancing will occur and a written narrative of how they would be operating. He adds that there is a percentage of capacity allowed but you must add social distancing to that, asks how they are safely going to be fed meals and sanitation between groups mealtimes.

L Gardner states that he has spoken with the County Attorney and he will look closely at this and will be proactive.

Councilman Kukle states that there is currently no Certificate of Occupancy for a temporary residence.

Supervisor Legg states that the Town has to reach out and inform them that they cannot open on Friday. He feels that they would need Site Plan approval as this would be a change of use. He adds that they could occupy the Redcoat's Return building only if the inspection goes well but would still have to go through Site Plan. He states that he will reach out to the Machne Tashbar tomorrow.

3rd Zoom session

TOW OPERATOR

Sgt. Haines spoke to all four tow agencies in the Town of Hunter and none are interested in a contract for towing services because of the hassles they get from the people when they arrive to pick up their vehicles.

He adds that his department has issued 438 tickets so far this month, just on the mountain road which will likely top 600 by the end of the month.

Discussion about the trash, litter, and graffiti problems.

Councilman Mahoney states that this is a very sore topic with the town residents adding that there is also a problem on Platte Clove Road, visitors are even parking in people's driveways.

Sgt. Haines states that he counted 86 cars on Prediger Road on one day over the weekend, he had trouble negotiating the police car through there. He adds that all the parking lots were full, and cars parked in the roadway. He states that a ticketing system is not a solution to the problem and it only works with NYS registrations. He feels it would be a waste of money and would rather come up with an in-house system.

Councilman Mahoney asks if the Town could pass a local ordinance.

Supervisor Legg states that they were told that it is a state road so no.

Discussion on lobbying the state to set up a permitting system with a limited number of permits being issued daily, only those with a permit would be allowed to be there.

Sgt. Haines states that totally closing the area would require a saturation of police officers. He feels that it is the trail crew's (NYSDEC) responsibility to clean up the garbage as it is state land.

Discussion on requesting that the speed limit be lowered.

Councilman Legg states that he would like to see the area shut down, there is a garbage, policing and graffiti problem and the area will end up being destroyed.

Councilman Mahoney asks who would enforce the issue of people without permits.

Councilman Kukle states that they could use stewards who would check for a permit and tell them they must leave if they do not have one, all before they even get out of the car.

Sgt. Haines states that a permit system would still require a saturation of police officers all summer long.

Councilman Legg states that this still would not fix the garbage or graffiti problem.

Sgt. Haines informs the board that a car was towed on Friday and the person made a big scene in front of the Town Hall making the employees nervous.

L. Hamrah-Poladian speaks about numerous complaints being received and the Town's potential liability concerning prior written notice.

Sgt. Haines states that there are issues with marijuana, there has already been a brush fire there and we are also in a pandemic situation.

Discussion on a shuttle system.

Councilman Legg feels that there should be no parking on the mountain road.

Councilman Mahoney feels that it should be shut down.

4th Zoom session

Supervisor Legg asks the Town Board members if they want it shut down, swimming and parking.

Sgt. Haines asks if he means the entire road.

Town Board members state yes, close the entire road to parking. They add that if a permitting system begins, they will revisit re-opening some of the lots.

Supervisor Legg states that he will make the necessary calls tomorrow.

Councilman Kukle adds that the Town of Catskill should be notified of this decision.

GOVERNOR'S MANDATE

Supervisor Legg states that the Greene County Sheriffs Department is putting a template together for the entire county.

Sgt. Haines feels that the board may be oversimplifying the Governor's Mandate and No Chokehold Policy. He adds that training is still being developed adding that this would be a good time to develop a Policy and Procedure Manual.

PLATTE CLOVE ROAD – SPEED LIMIT

L. Hamrah-Poladian states that although a town road, the state must review the request to have a speed limit lowered.

Supervisor Legg makes a MOTION to approve John Farrell reducing the speed limit on the town portion of Platte Clove Road. J. Farrell to forward this request to NYSDOT. Seconded by Councilman Semenza.

Ayes -5-

Noes -0-

CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS-Discuss Franchise Agreement

Town Board to contact Kevin Egan, a government liaison with Spectrum about areas in the town still without service.

Supervisor Legg makes a MOTION to adjourn at 9:00 PM. Seconded by Councilman Semenza.

Ayes -5-

Noes -0-

Corina Pascucci, Town Clerk, RMC
Town of Hunter