

Workshop Meeting
February 22, 2021
836 Route 217, Philmont, NY 12565
6:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Clifford Weigelt	Supervisor	Stephen Hook	Councilman
Katy Cashen	Councilwoman	Brian Keeler	Councilman
George Duntz	Councilman	Robert Fitzsimmons Esq.	Town Attorney
William Michael	Deputy Town Clerk		

Meeting started completely virtual at 6:00 p.m.

Supervisor Weigelt advised the board that Suzette Booy from Columbia County Real Property will virtually attend the March board meeting to discuss the recent revaluations of parcels in the town.

Discussed a PILOT program and Host Community Agreement with Wendy DeWolf of East Light Partners. Councilwoman Cashen spoke of the PILOT that had been proposed at the last Town Board meeting but was tabled by the board due to the town's portion being less than expected. She stated that it was discussed with Ms. DeWolf that the town was looking to receive more funds which Ms. DeWolf stated that the town could possibly enter into a Host Community Agreement as well. Councilwoman Cashen advised the board that she and Attorney Fitzsimmons worked with Ms. DeWolf and an agreement was made to offer the town a Host Community Agreement which would provide the town with an additional \$1000 per year for 15 years, the life of the agreement, on top of the PILOT program.

Motion to except both the PILOT program as well as the Host Community Agreement made by Councilman Hook, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen, all in favor, carried.

John Bradley from the Climate Smart Program came on to introduce Imre Varga who spoke about possible hydro power at the proposed new town hall building. Mr. Varga stated that the current location of the town hall would be perfect because there is already a dam in place there. Mr. Varga stated that a company who works with this, Current Hydro from Rhinebeck, which managed a project like this at Bard College, looked at the location and stated that the project may be technically and financially viable. He stated it is possible to have a small turbine system generating electricity to the town hall at a possibly very low cost. Mr. Varga stated that a system such as this could last for approximately 50 to 100 years with very low maintenance. Mr. Varga stated he would like to investigate further with other project managers and explore other options as well. Supervisor Weigelt suggested to Mr. Varga that as more bits or information come in, he could relay them to Mr. Bradley, who would convey the information to the board, rather than him have to enter into board meetings often.

Supervisor Weigelt informed the board that he had spoken with Derby Shutts, who had previously worked in the town park and stated he is interested in working with and supervising employees in the park again this year. Supervisor Weigelt stated that he and the park committee, which consists of Councilmen Hook and Duntz, would need to get together and decide what is happening in the park and its re-opening for the year. Councilman Duntz advised that the local little leagues are looking to play this year and will need access to fields. This all depends on COVID regulations regulated by the Health Department.

Motion by Councilman Hook to enter into executive session, seconded by Councilman Keeler, all in favor, board into executive session 6:35 p.m.

Motion by Councilman Hook to leave executive session, seconded by Councilwoman Cashen, all in favor, board out of executive session at 8:05 p.m.

Motion by Councilman Hook to adjourn meeting, seconded by Councilman Duntz, all in favor, meeting adjourned 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William R Michael – Deputy Town Clerk