

Workshop Meeting
March 29, 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	William Michael	Deputy Town Clerk

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

Aiden Paul and Nathaniel Williams discussed a proposal to build skateboard ramps on the existing cement pad used for skating. They would like to donate their time and materials for the project. A proposal that included drawings, materials needed and a timeline was provided to the board to examine. Supervisor Weigelt suggested that the first step would be for them to get together with park committee board members Councilmen Hook and Duntz and go over things. Rich Nesbit from Johnnie Walker Insurance, who was on for a presentation later in the meeting was asked his thoughts, which he responded he did not feel it would make much of a difference because the area is pre-existing for that purpose, but would also like to see the drawings and investigate further as to liability issues. Councilwoman Cashen voiced her concern of the project due to its close proximity to homes in the area. Mr. Paul and Mr. Williams will make arrangements to meet with the park committee members as well as send Mr. Nesbitt the drawings so he can look into it further.

Rich Nesbitt from Johnnie Walker Insurance spoke about the town's insurance renewal policy. He went over the different sections that are being covered line by line, and explained any increases and decreases in coverage.

Motion by Councilwoman Cashen to accept the 2021-2022 Insurance policy, seconded by Councilman Hook, all in favor, carried

Discussed the summer youth program. Supervisor Weigelt advised the board that Jordan Hoose will take over supervising the program. He stated that he has heard that other towns with parks are going to be opening them up for the summer. Councilman Hook stated at this time the number of children allowed to attend the program may have to be limited but it will have to be monitored by decisions from NY State as to the capacity at that time. Councilman Duntz advised the board that he has heard from Taconic Hills Little League and they are planning on starting games on May 5th so they would need to start practicing within the next few weeks. The little league provided a letter with a plan including COVID precautions approved by the Columbia Co. Health Department.

This will be discussed more at the next board meeting because of an upcoming little league meeting this week and then there will be more information available. Park rentals will also resume in May but will be under any COVID restrictions set by the State at the time.

Discussed the use of time clocks by the part-time park employees as well as youth counselors when they return in the summer. It was decided that those employees do not need to make punches in the clock due to not having access at their starting times, and will use time sheets instead.

Discussed needed repairs to the park's basketball and tennis courts. Supervisor Weigelt stated that the town is still waiting for a previously approved grant from the state for work in the park and would like someone to check again on its status. Until then he suggested that town employees could patch the areas. Councilwoman Cashen suggested that someone check into the grant before patching the areas so any work done does not possibly jeopardize the grant. Councilman Hook said he would follow-up on the grant question. Councilman Hook also updated the board on the status of new playground equipment going up in the park. He stated that he has been in contact with a company that will erect the equipment, and that it should be soon. He is waiting to hear back from them and will advise.

Councilwoman Cashen informed the board that at the next workshop meeting there are two architects that she has had contact with that would like to speak with the board and give some input as to replacing the old town hall and the process that could be used to get input from the community and get the new Town Hall built.

Councilwoman Cashen discussed amendments to the town employee handbook that updates a few areas due to changes in State law as well as removes specific references to some policies for the Highway Department employees that are now covered in their union contract.

Supervisor Weigelt discussed the Highway 284 form that he received from Highway Superintendent LaMont and the work that he is planning on completing this coming year. Supervisor Weigelt will provide copies to board members and discuss it more at the upcoming board meeting.

Motion by Councilman Hook to enter into executive session, seconded by Councilman Duntz, all in favor, board into executive session 6:56 p.m.

Motion by Councilman Duntz to leave executive session, seconded by Councilman Hook, all in favor, board out of executive session at 8:02 p.m.

Motion by Councilman Hook to adjourn meeting, seconded by Councilman Keeler, all in favor, meeting adjourned 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William R Michael – Deputy Town Clerk