

Clifton Park Town Board Meeting Minutes

October 20 2003

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Clifton Park was held in the Town Office Building at 7:00 p.m., Deputy Supervisor Speckhard presiding.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Present: Councilman Paolucci
Councilman Speckhard
Councilman Roth
Councilwoman Walowit
Supervisor Barrett
Town Clerk O'Donnell

Also Present: Town Attorney Trainor
Mark Heggen, Comptroller
Jeffrey Vedder, Transfer Station Supervisor

Deputy Supervisor announced that Supervisor Barrett has laryngitis this evening and has asked him to preside over the Town Board meeting.

MOTION by Councilman Paolucci, seconded by Councilwoman Walowit, to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2003 meeting as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Paolucci, Councilman Speckhard,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

Absent: Councilman Roth

MOTION CARRIED

Councilman Roth arrived at 7:05 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Deputy Supervisor Speckhard announced Supervisor Barrett is proposing an arrangement between the town and County Waste Recycling Service and gave a brief overview of the agreement. County Waste will provide weekly curbside collection and processing of yard waste from all town residents from April 1st to November 30th, as well as a Christmas

tree collection during the first two full weeks of January at no cost to the town or residents. In exchange, the town is will lease approximately three acres at the Transfer Station to County Waste for a fee of \$30,000 per year for five years for the purpose of making topsoil, compost, wood chip mulch, etc. In the past the composting activity has cost the town approximately \$15,000 which cost will now be assumed by County Waste giving the town a savings of about \$45,000. Mr. Shahan said this was noticed through a legal notice in the newspapers and also by phone and County Waste was the only respondent.

Scott Earl, President of County Waste Recycling Service, reported New York State does not allow yard waste material to enter any landfill and material has to be processed and reused. He said a mailing will be sent to all residents describing the program.

Deputy Supervisor Speckhard stated this program does not affect Clifton Knolls as that subdivision has a leaf pickup taxing district. Mr. Earl stated he currently collects cut and tied brush in Clifton Knolls and if leaves are bagged County Waste will pick up. Deputy Supervisor Speckhard said under the law, the taxing district would have to be assessed until the residents of Clifton Knolls wish to dissolve the district.

Councilman Paolucci stated the residents of Clifton Knolls can be part of the program right now, noting it has no impact on the leaf district. Town Attorney Trainor said the agreement covers all town residents.

Mr. Earl stated leaves and brush that are curbside in the town will be collected without refusal as long as they are in 32 gallon can or less or brown bag. He said leaves and brush from Halfmoon and Charlton, as well as Clifton Park will be brought to the Transfer Station for composting.

It was noted residents will still be able to pick up compost on a limited basis at no charge.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

Town Administrator Shahan gave his monthly update noting budget workshops have been held, and he is in the process of finalizing the 2004 preliminary budget. He has been reviewing a DOT program regarding wiring certain traffic signals in town for generator operation in the case of a power outage. The town would be responsible for the purchase of generators and for any accidents or mishaps at those intersections should the power go out or the generator runs out of fuel. An agreement would be signed to hold the state harmless in an emergency situation when the town is in charge of those traffic signals. This program is being introduced statewide. Areas identified by NY State Police for this program are: Blue Barns Road and Route 146, Route 146 and Clifton Country Road, Route 146 and Exit 9, Routes 146 and 146A, Route 9 and Kinns Road. Mr. Shahan announced all patrol cars will be out on Halloween night.

Town Comptroller Heggen updated the Board on town financials and noted the contingency fund is at zero. Mr. Heggen reported he has been appointed as Chairman of

the Northeast Counsel of the NYS Government Finance Officers Association.

Councilman Roth reported the town received \$35,750 from the county open space grant program for the purchase of 15 acres next to the Vischer Ferry Nature Preserve.

Resolution No. 263 of 2003, a resolution scheduling a public hearing to consider the 2004 Preliminary Budget.

Introduced by Councilman Roth, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Walowit.

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to obtain comment regarding the 2004 Preliminary Budget; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that a public hearing is hereby scheduled for November 6, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wood Memorial Room at Town Hall, One Town Hall Plaza, Clifton Park, to consider the 2004 Preliminary Budget; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk publish appropriate notice of same.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Paolucci, Councilman Speckhard, Councilman Roth, Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 264 of 2003, a resolution expressing the intent of the Town of Clifton Park Town Board to encourage parents to limit the times that children will be trick or treating on Halloween to between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Introduced by Councilman Paolucci, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Roth.

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Clifton Park wishes to encourage parents to limit the hours that their children will trick or treat for safety reasons; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board encourages families residing within the Town of Clifton Park to limit trick or treating to between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Deputy Supervisor Speckhard stated this is not mandatory but is to encourage parents to limit the hours.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Paolucci, Councilman Speckhard, Councilman Roth,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 265 of 2003, a resolution authorizing additional landscaping to be placed on the Clifton Common.

Introduced by Councilman Paolucci, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Roth.

WHEREAS, the Town has committed to providing additional landscaping along the border of the Common to provide additional screening against the lights and noise associated with the activities on the Common, and

WHEREAS, the Director of Planning and the Director of Buildings and Grounds have estimated that these additional plantings could cost \$10,000, and

WHEREAS, additional landscaping was approved in Resolution No. 137 of 2003, and

WHEREAS, an additional 4 or 5 trees will be required to complete the landscaping, and

WHEREAS, the exact placement of the additional trees will be determined by the Director of Planning and the Director of Buildings and Grounds; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that authorization is given for additional landscaping to be placed on the Clifton Common at a cost not to exceed \$10,000.00 to be paid from the Community Enhancement Capital Improvement Account (A-8560-90).

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Paolucci, Councilman Speckhard, Councilman Roth,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 266 of 2003, a resolution appointing a Laborer at the Transfer Station.

Introduced by Councilwoman Walowit, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Paolucci.

WHEREAS, an opening exists at the Transfer Station for a Laborer, and

WHEREAS, the Transfer Station Supervisor has recommended that Daniel Clements, 13 Tekakwitha Court, Clifton Park, be hired to fill this position; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Daniel Clements, 13 Tekakwitha Court, Clifton Park, is hereby appointed to the position of Laborer, Grade 3, Step 1, (\$23,036), to be paid from A-8160-E (Solid Waste Management-Laborer) effective immediately.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Paolucci, Councilman Speckhard, Councilman Roth, Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 267 of 2003, a resolution authorizing the promotion of two employees at the Transfer Station.

Introduced by Councilman Roth, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Paolucci.

WHEREAS, the Transfer Station Supervisor has recommended that two employees at the Transfer Station be promoted to the position of MEO, and

WHEREAS, the Transfer Station Supervisor has recommended that Anthony Simmons and Joseph Broscko be promoted to the position of MEO, and

WHEREAS, the recommended above employees classified as MEO-Light have met all the qualifications; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Anthony Simmons be promoted to the position of MEO, Grade 5, Step 1, total increase in salary for current year \$600, to be paid from A-8160-E-0067 (Solid Waste Management-Simmons), and that Joseph Broscko be promoted to the position of MEO, Grade 5, Step 1, total increase in salary for current year \$500, to be paid from A-8160-E-3100 (Solid Waste Management-Broscko).

Deputy Supervisor Speckhard said the County Waste agreement will have no impact on personnel at the Transfer Station.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Paolucci, Councilman Speckhard, Councilman Roth,

Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 268 of 2003, a resolution honoring Zachary S. Kineke for attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

Introduced by Supervisor Barrett, who moved its adoption, seconded by the entire Town Board.

WHEREAS, Zachary S. Kineke, 5 Friar Tuck Court, Clifton Park, of Boy Scout Troop 246, Clifton Park, has attained the rank of Eagle Scout, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Clifton Park Town Board wishes to acknowledge and honor Zachary's achievements, particularly his community service project of leading a group of adult and youth volunteers to turn an overgrown area at St. Casmire's Regional School in Arbor Hill, Albany into an outdoor classroom environment, an area which has since been certified as a habitat by the National Wildlife Federation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Zachary S. Kineke, of Boy Scout Troop 246, Clifton Park, is hereby recognized and honored for having attained the rank of Eagle Scout.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Paolucci, Councilman Speckhard, Councilman Roth, Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 269 of 2003, a resolution authorizing the Town Supervisor to enter into a License and Service Agreement with County Waste and Recycling Service, Inc.

Introduced by Councilman Paolucci, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Walowit.

WHEREAS, there is a need to obtain collection services for yard waste, which shall be taken to the Town of Clifton Park Transfer Station; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized to enter into a five year agreement with CWRS to provide collection services for yard waste, at no cost to the Town in exchange for a License to use a portion of the Transfer Station for mulching operations in accordance with the attached Agreement.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Paolucci, Councilman Speckhard, Councilman Roth, Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Councilman Paolucci noted the Transfer Station will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Veterans' Day.

PUBLIC PRIVILEGE

Jan Lemon, Esopus Drive, asked for an increase in the wages of election inspectors. Mr. Shahren reported in the proposed 2004 budget the wage for election inspectors is \$9.00 per hour. Councilman Roth said there will be an increase of a \$1.00 a year for the next two years. Ms. Lemon doesn't agree with calling the proposed PDD project senior housing. She expressed concern with the height of the building. Deputy Supervisor Speckhard stated the proposed housing is a unique residential option in a convenient location.

Youseff Ballout, Torrero Drive, said the proposed PDD violates the spirit of the Exit 9 GEIS. He said the GEIS is useless if it is not put into law. He stated though he opposes the entire project, if the senior housing is built, it should be middle income.

Deputy Supervisor Speckhard said this project will be primarily for seniors rather than younger families. He said often senior housing is subsidized by government and is not available to the private sector. He further explained the Exit 9 GEIS was approved by the Town Board but not translated into law because the Town Board is not the planning agency. He said there are times in the planning process where the absolute mandatory numbers don't work and exceptions need to be made. The Town Board feels that the Planning Board has been administering the Exit 9 GEIS guideline well.

Councilman Roth said there are very few middle income subsidies. He was hoping the proposed facility would be similar in amenities to Beltrone, Wesley and Kingsway which are all privately owned facilities for seniors. He believes the project should be called independent senior housing.

Deputy Supervisor Speckhard said this will be advertised to the senior population. He said this is looked at as middle income in terms of Clifton Park.

Norman Goldman, London Square Drive, said if a proposal came to the town for assisted living housing he hopes it would be welcomed. He said housing is needed for those individuals whose income is just above the federally subsidized housing limits. He asked

the Town Board to find reasonable affordable housing for seniors in Clifton Park.

Deputy Supervisor Speckhard agreed that an effort has to be made to find affordable housing for seniors.

MOTION by Councilman Roth, seconded by Councilman Paolucci, to adjourn the meeting to the next regular meeting or any other meeting necessary for the conduct of Town business.

Motion carried at 8:17 p.m.

Patricia O'Donnell
Town Clerk