

A regular meeting was held March 2, 2010 at Hutchinson Hall, Newark Valley at 7:00 P.M.
The following were

PRESENT:

Stuart Yetter, Supervisor
Donald Thomas, Councilman
Ronald Graham, Councilman
Dan Cheresnowski, Councilman
Joe Tomazin, Councilman

Also Present: Hans Peeters, Planning Board Chairman and Charlie Morgan.

Supervisor Yetter called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m.

Supervisor Yetter led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Cable Agreement

Supervisor Yetter reported that he had forwarded the old agreement and other items requested by Kevin Lewis, Attorney for the Town, and that Mr. Lewis had provided comments via email, a copy of which is on file in the clerk's office.

Supervisor Yetter also reported that he had emailed Dave Whalen from TimeWarner Cable that the Town Board would be discussing the cable agreement at this meeting and invited him to attend.

Supervisor Yetter and the Board members agreed on the following points:

- o length of the agreement should be 10 years rather than the proposed 15 years
- o free service should be provided as in the prior agreement
- o line extension should be considered at the 10 or 20 dwellings level
- o provisions regarding sale of the franchise should be considered, but are not crucial
- o rates being subject to Board approval had not been exercised in the prior contract

Councilman Tomazin stated that the Town should go with Mr. Lewis's recommendations.
Supervisor Yetter concurred with this.

Mr. Peeters inquired whether there was a map of the cable company's service area.

Supervisor Yetter agreed that he would request such a map from TimeWarner.

There was a general discussion of the revenue from the rates, and the refund of property tax to the cable company.

Councilman Cheresnowski agreed that the Town should go with Mr. Lewis's recommendations.

Councilman Thomas inquired if the Town would have to or be able to renegotiate the agreement if the franchise were to be sold.

Supervisor Yetter stated that he would respond to Mr. Whalen at TimeWarner with the Town's position on the various points in the new agreement.

Trout Ponds Agreement

Supervisor Yetter reported that he had been reviewing agreements that the Town had and noted that the agreement with the Village of Newark Valley for shared maintenance on the Trout Ponds was originally written in 1993, 17 years ago. He further stated that he had requested a comparison of rates for the use of the Trout Ponds between the Village residents, the Town residents, and non-residents of either Village or Town, but has not yet received that information from the Village Clerk.

Councilman Thomas inquired as to why we pay the Village.

Supervisor Yetter responded that it is like the Library, where a feature is in the Village, but available to the residents of the Town.

The Board noted that the cost budgeted is \$2000 and agreed that the agreement would be discussed further after the rates are provided.

Department Issues

Mr. Peeters stated that one of the members of the Planning Board was concerned about issues related to junk and junkyards in the Town. These issues had been discussed with the prior attorney for the town.

Supervisor Yetter indicated when the snow clears and the Code Enforcement Officer gets a chance to see what issues exist, the Board will be able to determine if the current code resolves the issues.

Mr. Peeters stated that work on the Town's Comprehensive Plan suffered a setback because the county employee who was scheduled to assist has left the county's employment.

Items of Interest to the Board Members

Councilman Tomazin and Councilman Cheresnowski stated that they had audited the Supervisor's books, but were unable to determine if property records were maintained. Otherwise, the books were in good order.

Supervisor Yetter responded that all property cards were maintained by the Secretary, Liz Olmstead. He also said that he was pleased with the results of the audit.

Supervisor Yetter reported that work was progressing on the Town's website with the layout being designed and links for each department to post pertinent information for the residents. There was a brief discussion of the technology available either in the office or at the school.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m., offered by Councilman Thomas and seconded by Councilman Graham.

The next meeting is March 16, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane S Locacio
Deputy Town Clerk