

**Town of Ancram
Town Board
Workshop Meeting
May 4, 2009**

Present: Councilwoman Donna Hoyt
Councilman John MacArthur
Town Clerk Monica Cleveland
Councilman James Miller
Councilman Robert Mayhew

The regular workshop was called to order by Deputy Supervisor Donna Hoyt with a salute to the flag.

Mrs. Hoyt stated that Supervisor Dias is ill and could not make the meeting. She stated that she will proceed to go through the already composed packet.

Mrs. Hoyt drew the boards attention to the proposed changes to the ethics law and asked that they read through them.

Mrs. Hoyt stated that the Concera appraisal came back at \$300,000.00 to \$350,000.00. She stated that this was the company hired by the town board to do the appraisal of the Mathew's property. Mrs. Hoyt stated that Lee McEnroe will be giving Mr. Dias a quote for doing an appraisal. Councilman Miller questioned how many appraisals the town is going to continue to pay for. Councilman Mayhew stated that they are needed for the town record. Mrs. Hoyt stated that this will not make the ballot for the November election. Mr. Avery Dietter asked if there was an estimate for the second appraisal. Mrs. Hoyt said that there was not but that this same person is appraising her home and that she is being charged \$350.00.

Mrs. Hoyt stated that there is a proposal from Coon to put a 80x108x16 pole barn on the present location. It will have steal siding, a wood frame and metal roofing at a cost of \$150,000.00. A cement floor will be an additional \$49,500.00 There is no plumbing and no heating included. A question was raised about the purchasing the adjoining property. Mrs. Hoyt stated that the appraisal of that property went down to \$90,000.00. She stated that a price was never placed on the property and that she felt if the town board approached him, he would come down on his price. Mr. Brant stated that there is only a dug well on the property.

Mrs. Hoyt stated that the American Home Mortgage issue was a company that the town had money in to protect the towns bank accounts through Kinderhook Bank.

Mrs. Hoyt stated that the Town has received a letter from Charter stating that they are reorganizing.

Mr. James MacArthur stated that the town will receive \$108,294.00 in CHIPS money.

Mr. James MacArthur explained the FEMA money that the town will be receiving. He stated that FEMA is paying for the cleanup following the ice storm. They figured on four days of salt and sand to begin with. Then they decided to pay for December 11, 2008 to December 31, 2008 for salt and sand, overtime and equipment. They are paying \$73,907.92.

Mrs. Hoyt asked about the \$19,000.00 bill from Ben Funk. He stated that the truck that needed to be fixed was estimated at \$13,000.00 but came in between \$16,000 and \$17,000.00. The balance was for other items that needed to be done for the trucks to pass inspection.

Mr. Avery Dietter addressed the board about a water issue on his property. He stated that by blocking the water on Town Road and building a berm, the owners have backed the water onto his property. He stated that Town Road also floods frequently. He has called the Corp Engineers and is expecting a return call. Mr. Mayhew asked about the possibility to put a pipe down Town Road and drain the water behind the Town Board. He asked if there was permission for the berm to be put in. Mrs. Dietter stated that it had been built in August of last year. Mrs. Hoyt stated that the Town Board will contact the Corp of Engineers. Mr. James MacArthur stated that he did price a pipe down Town Road and that at the time it was around \$20,000.00. He doubted that the price has changed much.

Town Assessor Mr. Ken Legget addressed the board concerning the Cold War exemptions. He stated that the board will have to pass a local law regarding allowing the exemptions. Mr. Legget asked how the town wants to word the proposed new reval. Do they want quotes from an outside company; have it done from scratch or using the towns records. He stated that the last option is the cheapest. Mr. Legget stated that he feels that the records are not out of shape at this point. Mrs. Hoyt stated that she felt that the larger properties are under assessed. Mr. Legget stated that this will not be straitened out by a revaluation. A revaluation will raise everyone. Mrs. Hoyt asked if the under assessed could be raised. Mr. Legget stated that this would make the roll "lopsided". He stated that the land table cannot be changed. Mrs. Hoyt asked if the revaluation can be handled by him. Mr. Legget stated that this was not feasible. Mrs. Hoyt asked if she can work to help him. Mr. Legget stated that he would not have time until after May.

The board decided to have a public hearing for the proposed Local Law #2 of 2009, Cold War Exemptions on May 21, 2009 at 6:30pm followed by the regular town board meeting.

Mrs. Hoyt stated that Mr. Terry Boyles has received his CO and was not hit with the extra fees. Councilman MacArthur stated that he has not received his CO on some work done on his property when Mr. Florio was the building inspector. Mr. MacArthur stated that anything left as this from the previous building department should have consideration made to the outcome. Councilman Mayhew stated that the inspection for the CO would have to be done and if everything was fine, no fine given. Councilman MacArthur stated

that the inspector should have to go by the building codes from when the original CO was to be awarded, not the codes as they are now. Mrs. Hoyt suggested that anyone who needs a CO from the past would have to pay a set price.

Councilman Miller gave an update on the Town Community day and invited any who wished to join the planning to come to the next meeting on May 17, 2009 at 6:00PM.

Mr. Miller stated that the town will receive in stimulus money funding towards solar panels for the town hall, a handicapped ramp for the Ancramdale Church and money towards town revitalization.

A motion was made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilman MacArthur to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Monica Cleveland
Town Clerk