

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting Held on March 1, 2005 at 7:00PM at the Town Hall in Slaterville Springs, NY

Board Members Present:      Supv. Don Barber  
   Clm. Ed Cope  
   Clm. Barry Goodrich  
   Clm. Todd Schmit  
   Clm. Tim Seely

Board Members Absent:      None

Visitors:                              1

Public Hearing   Housing Rehabilitation Grant Application

Stacy Crawford came to explain about the HUD Federal Program, including how much money there is available and what it can be used for. The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) provides funding for decent housing and suitable living environment, typically for persons of low and moderate incomes and also is for community development for expanding economic opportunities. This program is about 30 years old. In 2000, the Governor's Office for Small Cities (GOSC) of New York State assumed responsibility for the Small Cities component of the CDGB Program.

Consistent with these objectives, communities may apply for "single Purpose" projects in one of the following areas:

- |                                |                         |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1) Housing Rehabilitation      | 4) Public Facilities    |
| 2) Direct Homeownership        | 5) Micro-enterprise     |
| 3) New Construction of housing | 6) Economic Development |

Communities may also apply for "comprehensive" programs that combine two or more of these activities in a coordinated manner.

Approximately \$52 million of CDGB funds are available for Program Year 2005. About 60% is for the competitive round, which is the grant round that is going on now. The application deadline is April 4, 2005. (See Attached)

Supv. Barber would like the TB to make some kind of prioritization of what is the most important; housing need versus income, or both. Stacy Crawford will attend the next Town Board Meeting.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:28 PM by Supv. Barber.

Committee Reports

The Town Board has needed to select a town attorney. Clm. Goodrich has been checking on different ones. The Town Board will be considering either someone from Thayler and Thayler

or our present attorney. Someone from the Firm of Thayler and Thayler will be asked to attend next week's Meeting.

Clm. Seely was not able to attend the Caroline Youth Commission Meeting.

Website Update- Clm. Seely met with Marty and they are still working on the Town Website. Supv. Barber attended the Association of Towns Annual Meeting, and he brought back a lot of CDs on Cyber Security.

Clm. Cope wasn't able to attend the last Town Board Meeting when the Planning Board gave their Comprehensive Plan Update. Clm. Seely stated that the TB gave the Planning Board the direction to have the Comp. Draft states the goals and vision first and not specify any implementation. There was a discussion with them about how they were to send out the entire document, or just sending a partial document. It was decided that they should speak to Crystal Buck about that decision. It was also stated that it would be best to engage the public on a regular basis to be part of the implementation process. Clm. Cope asked if the implementation part would involve another document later and Supv. Barber stated yes because this is a separate process.

Rec. Partnership- Clm. Schmit gave a report on the 2005 Budget Revisions. The IYB provided an amended budget to account for updated staff salaries, based on negotiated union contracts and adjustments in fee projects, they need to cover an additional \$9,122. Their proposal absorbs that amount and more to ensure that our budget comes within the approved municipal contribution of \$190,552. Clm. Schmit stated that this is important since they had to utilize reserve funds to make up the gap in 2004 levels and to provide a conservative budget estimate to reduce the chances of that happening again in the future. Participation numbers are now more conservative to reduce that probability. They have recommended amendments (see attached).

Annual Meeting with Municipal Officials- The RP is planning to conduct an annual meeting later this spring to discuss proposals made by the RP in terms of requests by the Municipal Officials Association and other groups. Clm. Schmit suggested that they set this date next month. The next meeting is March 22, 2005.

Tompkins County Water Resources Council- Clm. Schmit stated that the Council is planning to have a panel of Cornell University personnel attending the WRC meeting for a question and answer session on the proposal to reduce the number of monitoring points associated with Lake Source Cooling. The Meeting will be on March 21, 2005.

Caroline Watershed Committee- Phase II Stormwater Update: Clm. Schmit stated that Craig reported that he has not received the contract yet for the Stormwater Grant. He also reported that the Town of Ithaca and the City of Ithaca are stepping up great in getting the outfalls and discharges mapped for the entire Ithaca Urbanized area, some funds are included in the Stormwater grant for this.

Barille Project Update: Clm. Schmit reported that with some great assistance from Clm. Goodrich, the easements and related forms are nearly finalized and signed by all landowners. This paves the way for the City's preliminary design surveying, scheduled for March.

Clm. Schmit stated that the 2004 Annual Report for the Six-Mile Creek Volunteer Monitoring Program should be distributed real soon, along with the 2005 Program Proposal to the municipalities.

Clm. Schmit is preparing a grant application to reduce municipal costs for that program through the Great Lakes Habitat and American Fund.

Clm. Schmit stated there will be an Erosion and Sediment Control Workshop on March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Clm. Schmit noted that he has revised the Barille Project Budget to cover some potential cost overruns on some areas that maybe a little tight i.e. equipment, supplies and purchases. This funding is not in the 2005 Budget, however the funding (\$70,000) is coming from the Community Capital Assistance Fund. Clm. Schmit stated that there will be bids for rock purchases and water equipment. Clm. Goodrich will be developing a timeline from the start of this Project to the finish of this Project.

#### Supervisor's Report

Supv. Barber attended the Annual Association of Towns Meeting and what was the biggest item that had the most attendance was health insurance for retirees. Supv. Barber asked Michael Richardson to meet with him to make a proposal to figure out what our health insurance liability would be for current employees as they retire. Whatever is found out from this meeting may be added into the Bargaining Unit Contract. This was a long discussion.

Supv. Barber stated that there may be a need to work with other towns about road patrol and law enforcement needs in Caroline. If any of the Town Board Members have any input about this issue, let it be known by March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Supv. Barber stated that at the Association of Towns passed all other resolutions except for election machines.

Supv. Barber received the Application for Quality Communities Grant for a cooperative adventure between the County, Danby, Caroline and Dryden for forest management for private lands. They also want to involve DEC and their forest management plans, as well. This is 90% funded by a grant and 10% funded by in-kind work.

Supv. Barber stated that Kevin Crawford (Association of Towns) is the legal authority to ask on towns collecting land and county taxes. He stated that it is the town's responsibility to collect the taxes. The only way that it could not be is if all the towns pass a referendum.

Next week the Town has a contract with Cooperative Extension, but Supv. Barber is waiting to receive the contract with the right numbers on it.

Supt. Whittaker would like to buy a loader for less than \$10,000. The Town can purchase it without going to State Bid.

AGENDA

- 1) Selection of Attorney for Town
- 2) Approval of Capital Assistance Fund Application
- 3) NYS Legislature: Collateral Source Legislation Endorsement
- 4) Contract with CCETC for Youth Services
- 5) Approval of Quality Community Grant Application
- 6) Law Enforcement Needs of Caroline

The Meeting was Adjourned at 8:40 PM by Clm. Goodrich, Seconded By Clm. Seely, Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Clark Walls  
Deputy Town Clerk