

Sennett Town Board Meeting

Thursday, November 19th, 2020 – 7:00 pm

Roll call:

Board Members: Ed Rizzo
Mike Adrian
Tom Gray
James Jeffers
Rick Gagliardi
Rich Andino

Others in attendance: Tom Blair
Carol Oster
Matt Napierala
Jeremy Bacon – Planning Board Chairman
Kris LaPointe – Highway Superintendent
Ron Schalck – Water and Sewer Superintendent

Agenda:

- I. Pledge of Allegiance – A moment of silence requested by Supervisor Gray on behalf of the recent passing of Councilman Jerry Eades and past Board of Assessor's member, Delores Montross.
- II. The public be heard – Motion for the public be heard by Jim Jeffers, seconded by Ed Rizzo. – Motion to close by Jim Jeffers, seconded by Tom Gray.
- III. Approval of Board minutes from 10/15 Town Board and Public Budget Hearing meetings – request that these be reviewed and approved at the end of this board meeting by Tom Gray.
- IV. Old Business:
 - a. Cornerstone Group Presentation of 60-Unit Senior Housing Project: (Gray) - As discussed in last month's town board meeting, we heard the presentation from the Cornerstone Group regarding the proposed 60-Unit Senior Housing Project. Tonight, we hope to refer it to the Planning Board – for them to work up the arrangements and agreements and what they can work on so it can be returned to the Town Board for final approval, based on their recommendations. Tom Blair wishes to speak very briefly on this, see if we have any questions and then move on.

(Blair): My name is Tom Blair, and I am here as the Development Municipal attorney and I am here to re-introduce the project briefly. I am here tonight with Senior Development V.P. of Cornerstone, Carol Oster – who is sitting at the back at the round table along with Engineer, Matt Napierala. The owner of the company, Roger Brandt, could not make it tonight. Last month, you saw Matt make a presentation regarding PDD application for review from this board, and we're asking if it be referred over to the Planning Board for review and recommendation, so it can back to the Town Board. It's a 32-acre parcel – it's Don Casper's parcel. It has had previous approval for apartment buildings. He had all of the approvals done. I have been working with Roger and Carol and introduced them to the property, because I thought it would appropriate for the town. Because it is a senior facility, there is funding from New York State. Time is of the essence with a deadline of January 15th, for us to submit our application to the State.

We're hoping to expedite the process with the review and recommendations for the Planning Board to be sent to the Town Board before this deadline approaches. We're hoping for a December vote on the zone change. Legally speaking we're asking for a zone change – we're asking for the entire 32-acres. Legally speaking there is a public hearing and seeker requirement. At the end of the day, I don't think there's anything here that is super complicated.

(Bacon): I want to mention something here in the timeline. What is the next day, the third Thursday in December? That would be the soonest we would be able to introduce the legislation. As you know, there will be a county referral requirement with at least 30 days for them to respond back. Lead agencies as well, 30 days. The 13th may be a little tight, but we'll see what we can do on the schedule. I wanted to point that out to the board, there are a couple timing requirements, to a certain extent, are out of the board's control. Certain, special meetings could be conducted to expedite that. The board can take that under advisement.

(Napierala): Provided an updated overview of the changes to this proposal with emphasis on requesting a PDD for the entire 32-acre parcel.

A lengthy question and answer session between Bacon and Jeffers continued due to changes that now propose from the original PDD request for 10 of the 32-acre parcel, *to now include the entire 32-acre parcel of land.*

(Gray): Do I have a resolution before the board, someone to propose it?

(Adrian): I make a motion to forward it on.

(Gray): Okay, thank you Michael. Second?

(Rizzo): I'll second.

(Gray): Any discussion? Roll call vote: Tom? Yes. Rich? (Gagliardi): "Yes" Mike? (Adrian): "Yes" Jim?

(Jeffers): "No" Ed? (Rizzo): "Yes."

(Gray): Okay, it is referred now to the Planning Board, Jeremy is the person you'll be working with and a meeting on December 3rd, 2020.

- b. Park Grant – (Gray): I sent my monthly report to the agency in Albany. It's still in committee. The committee still has not met. They are all still working from home. I requested again they pay the \$68,000.00 we've already spent. It will eventually come.
- c. Update Water 1 and 3 Projects – (Gray): Paul Chatfield sent the report, and I sent the email with the second part. Rich, do you have anything to add? We're going to talk about easements in executive session as we need legal advice on this. (Andino): Nothing to report.
- d. Easement Updates – (Gray): Easement update will be in executive session. I know Ron has been working on the letters. He's waiting for the maps to come in and he will go around to the eleven or twelve people and get them to sign off
- e. CCWSA Committee Meeting – (Jeffers) (Gray): Jimmy, did they have a second meeting yet? (Jeffers): No. She sent me an email. I hadn't heard from her, so I sent her an e-mail questioning what was going on. She responded that they were scheduling one, but due to the uptick in COVID, they weren't going to be having any more meetings. She was supposed to send out meeting minutes for review. I haven't received those yet and my gut feeling is that is going to be a dead issue for a long time. I would encourage all of you to go on their website and read their minutes.

V. New Business:

- a. Owasco Lake Watershed Management Resolution – (Lake Friendly Pledge) – We joined the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Group – we’re part of a very small watershed on Town Hall Road. They’ve got a Lake Friendly Pledge that they wanted to Board to adopt – I see these signs around Skaneateles, these round disks that say they are a “Lake Friendly Community”. They are going to be sending out these signs to us. I sent the resolution out. We all get our water from the city of Auburn, except the town of Owasco. The city of Auburn drinking supply is drawn from Owasco Lake. Owasco Lake has experienced widespread algae and such. They are trying to get everybody to do the right thing. I’d like to make a proposal that we, the Board, accept this resolution. Do I have anyone who would make a motion? That we pledge to do our part. (Jeffers): I’ll make a motion. (Gray): Second? (Rizzo): I’ll second. All in favor? All. I will submit this back to them, and we’ll go from there.
- b. Photocopier Proposal – (Gray) – We were approached back in January by Xerox. Our photocopier is eleven years old. It still runs and they still supply all the maintenance, cartridges, etc. Back in January, Xerox made a proposal for a lease of a new machine. I put the specs of the new machine on the back. It would include all the cartridges, services, everything for a five-year lease. When they first brought this out in January, they wanted \$123.00 a month. COVID hit and I didn’t bring it up. I spelled this out. It’s a 60-month lease at \$93.35 a month. The cost of a black and white copy will be three quarters of a cent. The cost of a color copy will be 5.5 cents per copy. Do we have any questions on it? I think it’s cost effective, but it is up to the will of the Board. (Adrian): So, we have a service agreement on our current copier? (Gray): Yes, they call each month to see what, if anything, we need – cartridges, etc. and they supply the services. It’s the same company/group. (Jeffers): I make a motion that we go with the new 5-year lease agreement with Xerox. (Gray): Do I have a second? (Adrian): Yes, I’ll second it.
- c. Motion to approve October Board minutes: (Jeffers): Motion made. Seconded by Councilman Rizzo and all voted in favor.
- d. Committee Reports: (LaPointe): No report was submitted as there really is nothing going on at this time. (Gray): Thank you Kris. Ron, water and sewer? (Schalck): Monthly report has been delivered and I’ll keep you apprised of any updates as they come along. I have just one question, Kris brought up last month regarding insurance with the Bronze plan the cheaper cost, I was wondering whether or not you’ve had an opportunity to look into that? (Gray): No, I haven’t, and I apologize for that. (Schalck): If we can save the town \$20,000. I’d really like to see you look into it and save everybody money on it. (Gray): Okay, this month, as I announced I wasn’t here last month as I was quarantining two meetings ago. Tompkins Insurance - this month there’s been no charge due to COVID, so that saved a lot of money. That \$13,000.00 bill was zero this month. The only stipulation was the during the month of December, the bill came in for – we can’t charge the 6% on the employees. Not just the town, but all employees and that includes Ithaca. Cheri is all set to remove that.
- e. Reopening of the Public be heard: (Gray): Jim’s asked that we reopen the Public be heard. Second? (Gagliardi): I’ll second. (Gray): All in favor? (Jeffers): Anything from the public? (LaPointe): I would like to add to what Ron said there. If we could sit down sometime, because at the end of the year, we have to sit down and change the policy before the end of the year. I think we should sit down, get together, look at the numbers, and like he said, it’s \$20,000.00 for the town. It’s just as good coverage, a lot of towns have it, it’s what we had before, and everyone was happy with it. So, if you can look at this so we can decide, I’d appreciate it. (Gray): Okay. (Adrian): Can I ask why it was changed in the first place? (Gray): I wasn’t here. Ed? (Rizzo): I think we did it as right now we go to a system where they’re

contributing with a co-pay and we're spending more money, but with the Bronze plan, we pay less, (we're on the Platinum plan now), but the deductible is a lot higher. So, it was like a trade-off. So, rather than take a risk and pay a higher deductible, especially in case if somebody got sick, it could be quite a bit from what I understand. (Gray): Just to give you an example, under our current program, the family deductible is \$26,000.00 – on the Bronze Plan. (Schalck): No, it's not. It's \$13,100.00. (Rizzo): We'll sit down and talk about it. (Adrian): Please bring me up to speed real quick, and I apologize but...so the employees were happier and it cost the town less on the other plan. (Rizzo): Yes, it did. (Adrian): I think we should fix that. (Jeffers): But the previous supervisor had a different agenda. (Adrian): It's a different board. (Rizzo): We'll figure out what the deductible is and everything and go from there. (LaPointe): I just don't want this to go for another year because...and the \$20,000.00 is a minimum. If nobody gets sick, it's a lot more than that. (Gray): We're paying \$13,000.00 a month for six of them. Three families and three individuals. (Rizzo): We'll sit down and try to figure this out. (LaPointe): Appreciate it. (Gray): Okay. (Jeffers): Anything else? (Gray): Motion to come out of the Public be heard? (Jeffers): I make a motion that we close the Public be heard. (Gray): I'll second it. All in favor?

- f. Pay bills: (Gray): I'd like to make a motion that we pay all the abstracts that need to have three or more signatures. (Rizzo): I'll second that. (Gray): Ed? (Rizzo): Yes. (Gray): Mike? (Adrian): Yes. (Gray): Rich? (Gagliardi): Yes. (Gray): Jim? (Jeffers): Yes. (Gray): Tom, yes. Thank you.
- g. Motion to go into Executive Session made by Gray to seek advice of counsel relative to the Water Project. (Gray): Do I have a second? (Rizzo): I'll second that. (Gray): All in favor? All were in favor.

CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION: Gray

NEXT MEETING: 12/17/20
ADJOURNMENT: 7:53 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by AnnMarie Clarke
12/10/20