

**WESTERLO TOWN BOARD
WORKSHOP MEETING
OF
TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2018**

The Town of Westerlo Town Board held a workshop meeting on April 17, 2018 at the Town Hall located at 933 County Route 401, Westerlo, NY. Supervisor Rapp opened the workshop at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Attending were: Councilwoman Amie L. Burnside
Councilman Richard Filkins
Councilman Joseph J. Boone
Supervisor Richard H. Rapp
Absent were: Councilman Anthony W. Sherman

Also attending were: Planning Board Chairperson Dorothy Verch, Zoning Board member John Sefcik, Deputy Supervisor/CEO/Zoning Administrator(ZA) Edwin H. Lawson, Town Clerk Kathleen Spinnato, Deputy Town Clerk II Karla Weaver and approximately three residents.

Supervisor Rapp made a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of interviewing applicants for the vacancy on the Zoning Board of Appeals at 7:02 pm, seconded by Councilwoman Burnside, motion carried by those present.

Supervisor Rapp made a motion to close the Executive Session and enter back into the regular workshop meeting at 8:02pm, seconded by Councilman Boone, motion carried by those present.

Transfer Station

Councilman Filkins is working on three proposed ~~plans~~ **ideas*** for the transfer station to help offset City of Albany's increased costs to the Town. He indicated that currently residents do not pay a cost to bring garbage to the transfer station. Discussion followed between the Town Board and residents on the different proposed plans and options. He provided the Town Board with a copy of his ~~plans~~ **ideas*** for their review and consideration at the conclusion of the meeting. Councilman Boone recommended that input should be received from the Highway Superintendent Jody Ostrander with respect to any plans for the transfer station.

Potential Economic Committee & Multi-Year Plan

Councilman Boone reviewed that when Albany County Comptroller Mike Connors came to the April Town Board meeting he discussed his concerns about the decrease in revenue due to sales tax and how it is affecting the County and small communities such as Westerlo. He also mentioned the interest for a potential economic committee which has been discussed at previous meetings.

Councilman Boone commented on sections in the Town Law Manual that specifically state the responsibilities of the financial officer with respect to developing, assembling and presenting the Town Board with a tentative budget. Once the Supervisor provided the Town Board with a tentative budget, they would then all work together to develop the preliminary budget and hold a public hearing to give residents time to discuss their comments and concerns prior to it being adopted. He indicated that the construction of the budget is solely up to the Supervisor and the Supervisor ultimately has the final say on how the budget is achieved. Supervisor Rapp can

utilize whatever resources he sees fit and the Town Board is available to assist him along the way.

To help assist with the budget, a resident suggested that the Town Board get ideas from knowledgeable people within the Town.

Councilwoman Burnside commented that she is looking for a multi-year plan in addition to the budget. She reviewed the 2012-2013 audit which gave recommendations and she mentioned there are tools on the State website on how accomplish this. She believed having a multi-year plan will help assist with the budget and also with bringing more revenue to the Town. In discussing a plan for the town, Councilman Boone agreed that there is a need to discuss and investigate ideas for bringing in additional revenue to the Town.

Discussion followed between the Town Board and residents about a multi-year plan and ways to bring more revenue to the Town. Deputy Supervisor/CEO/ZA Edwin Lawson commented that the multi-year plan was originally brought up by a resident and it is different from an economic committee in that it has nothing to do with the budget. The multi-year plan is not a financial committee but instead is to try to generate income for the Town. He continued that the budget is based on taxes, sales tax and property in the town. The expenses fluctuate from year to year depending on the circumstances of winter for example.

Another resident commented on a five (5) year financial plan, how to bring in revenue, transfer station ideas, it all comes down to looking ahead at what the town can do to bring in more revenue.

A resident mentioned that a committee should be limited to a certain amount of volunteers along with at least one (1) Town Board member.

Town Clerk Kathleen Spinnato mentioned that she received a letter from the library director that the one of the Board of Trustee members resigned but they already held interviews and will be making a recommendation to the Town Board at the May 1st meeting. She also reminded the Town Board that she and Deputy Town Clerk II Karla Weaver would be out of the office to attend the Town Clerk's Association training from April 23-25 but that Deputy Town Clerk Gertrude Smith would be covering the office.

With there being no further business to discuss, Supervisor Rapp made a motion to adjourn the workshop meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Burnside, motion carried by those present. The meeting adjourned at 9:02pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karla Weaver
Deputy Town Clerk II

* "Plans" was voted on to be amended to "ideas" at the 5/1 TB meeting