

May 13, 2014

Town Board Meeting

A **Regular Meeting** of the Town Board of the Town of Cortlandt was conducted on May 13, 2014 in the Vincent F. Nyberg Meeting Room of the Cortlandt Town Hall located at One Heady Street, Cortlandt Manor, NY (10567) with the following elected official and appointed staff in attendance:

<b>LINDA D. PUGLISI</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>
<b>FRANCIS X. FARRELL</b>	<b>Councilmember</b>
<b>DEBRA COSTELLO</b>	<b>Councilmember</b>
<b>RICHARD BECKER</b>	<b>Councilmember</b>
<b>SETH FREACH</b>	<b>Councilmember</b>

Also present:

<b>JO-ANN DYCKMAN</b>	<b>Town Clerk</b>
<b>EDWARD VERGANO</b>	<b>DOTS, Director</b>
<b>GLENN CESTARO</b>	<b>Comptroller</b>
<b>CLAUDIA VAHEY</b>	<b>Human Resources Coordinator</b>
<b>CHRISTINE B. COTHREN</b>	<b>Deputy Town Clerk</b>
<b>ROSEMARY B. LASHER</b>	<b>DOTS/Asst. to Director</b>
<b>JEFFREY COLEMAN</b>	<b>Director, DES</b>

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**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Supervisor Puglisi called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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**PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

Supervisor Puglisi led all in attendance in a Pledge to the Flag.

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**SUPERVISOR'S PROCLAMATIONS AND REPORTS**

**Supervisor Puglisi** commented that it has been a busy month. She has attended many events in the community and there are many important ceremonies scheduled for Memorial Day weekend starting with the Town of Cortlandt ceremony on Friday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>. The **Supervisor** stated that this kicks off the weekend so we can get to all of the other ceremonies as well and the Town's ceremony will take place at the new Veteran's Memorial on the Hudson at the Cortlandt Waterfront Park in Verplanck. There will be 3 ceremonies, one in Peekskill, a parade by the Verplanck Fire Department, and a ceremony in Croton-on-Hudson. **Supervisor Puglisi** stated how important it is to remember the valiant men and women who have sacrificed for our country and our freedoms.

The Town of Cortlandt is only one of six communities in New York State to have won the honor of being named a Climate Smart Community. **Supervisor Puglisi** showed the poster referring to this stating they are very proud of this prestigious award.

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORTS, (cont.)**

This month the Town received an Earth Day award by Westchester County for hosting a recycling center in Cortlandt for seven municipalities in the vicinity. There was a mandate in 1992-93 to recycle so the Town of Cortlandt immediately went to work to be sure that the Town enacted this important environmental project, the results of which are evident by these awards. The Town owns the land and the other municipalities bring their recyclables at the DES headquarters. Westchester County then transports these materials to their facility in Yonkers. It is a successful true shared service.

The Town of Cortlandt held its first of many shared services meetings with the school districts and the villages to discuss and continue sharing services together with the common goal of saving the taxpayers money. The **Supervisor** stated that we have been doing this for two decades and will continue to do more. Councilmember Freach and the **Supervisor** will be reporting on this in the upcoming months.

A resolution will be passed tonight expanding the outdoor basketball court at the Town's Youth Center in order to attract more of our teens to participate. The **Supervisor** commented that they want to do this because they want to assist the young people and have a wonderful nurturing environment at the Youth Center.

The Town has been reporting the steps being used to assist our youths and families making them aware of prescription drug abuses and the heroin crisis in the community. There is a medical drop box at Town Hall and there have two important forums with the school districts with more to come.

Bids are being sought tonight for the 2014 paving list. Paving begins in early September and last year the cost was 1.4 million dollars of paving and this year will be comparable. The payment is cash and the Town does not borrow. The Town debt is the lowest it has been in decades under 10 million dollars and they are very proud of that fact. A recent 1.5 million dollar bond was recently paid off.

**Supervisor Puglisi** urged residents to "Shop and Dine" in Cortlandt and showed the free bag and coupons that can be picked up at Town Hall and libraries. There was a kickoff at "Baked by Susan" in Croton-on-Hudson.

The **Supervisor** stated that there were many things that had gone on in the Town last weekend; A 5K run, a craft fair at the gazebo in Montrose,

**Supervisor Puglisi** also went to the event sponsored by the Cortlandt Rowing Association, founded by Councilmember Farrell, congratulating him for bringing this great sport to the community. It was a wonderful event and the **Supervisor** was honored to be given a Cortlandt Rowing Association shirt by a little girl by the name of "Nora". **Supervisor Puglisi** commented that it was a great weekend and she how proud she is of our Town.

**ROLL CALL**

On a roll call attendance taken by Town Clerk Dyckman all Town Board members indicated their presence.

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**TOWN BOARD REPORTS**

**Councilmember Farrell:** Spoke about how appealing this sport of rowing can be to people of all ages. On the bag that was given to Supervisor Puglisi are the words “row hard or row home”, which seems to be the attitude that a lot of the people are embracing with this. Councilmember Farrell commented that many who rowed in college or high school seemed to materialize as this was made known in our Town and how pleased he is that the Supervisor and the Town Board for embracing the concept and allowing him to run with it because it not only will bring a great activity to the people and give something new for the kids to do, but it also will open up for the use and enjoyment of our water front in Verplanck and Lake Meahagh. There were various clubs that came down on Saturday with about 200 kids with them and a few dozen boats and they stated that this was a good setup with the site on the river. This will attract events in the Northeast region if it takes off. Councilmember Farrell also heard from the new hotel in the area who also expressed interest for the business this will bring to them. This has a lot of potential for economic development as well. At Saturday’s event, Councilmember Farrell commented that he was thrilled that Cortlandt’s participants won their race and made everyone proud which really was the capper for the day. Again, he stated he was very grateful to the Supervisor and Town Board for their support for this program. Councilmember Farrell also attended an Eagle Scout ceremony at St. Columbanus where the three recipients earned them by doing projects that benefited the Town.

**Councilmember Freach:** The Town’s Green Team organized a hike through the McAndrew’s Estate of which Councilmember Freach participated in along with his son and commented that this estate is a gem in our backyard. There is a new preservation society that has been formed who are trying to keep the structures and buildings and pieces of the old original estate intact and preserved. He thanked Wes Pomoroy of the preservation society for taking time to lead the tour for giving the history of the property which was fascinating to learn about.

Councilmember Freach stated that the DEA every year sponsors a National Drug Takeback Day and this year he is very proud that Cortlandt was able to participate in that event. On that one day, four large boxes of prescriptions were dropped off. Many more pounds have been dropped off and Councilmember Freach commented that it is a resource to make use of.

He congratulated Councilmember Farrell on the opening day for the Cortlandt Rowing Association. The weather was great and he and his son had a wonderful time stating it is a great use of the park.

**TOWN BOARD REPORTS, (cont.)**

**Councilmember Becker:** no report

**Councilmember Costello:** Thanked the Supervisor on her leadership with continuing the efforts to combat the drug overdose and heroin epidemic which is killing our children. Councilmember Costello emphasized that it is so important to get the word out and she is looking forward to Colleen Anderson spearheading our Cortlandt Coalition to find new ways to reach out to our youths and to the parents and community to inform them of the importance of doing whatever we can to prevent the addiction and overdosing. She urged the community to participate in the forums and they need everyone’s help with this.

Councilmember Costello also echoed that the craft fair in Montrose had a wonderful day and a great beginning to see all the various vendors sell their wares.

The three local firehouses had many events; Montrose had their special breakfast, Verplanck had their wing night, and Buchanan had their dinner dance. She urged residents to support their local volunteer organizations commenting how important they are to the community. Coming up next month will be many Memorial Day services and ceremonies, on the 18<sup>th</sup> Mt. Carmel will be having their event, and there is a lot coming up for this month.

Councilmember Costello stated that there is one item on the agenda tonight and she feels a little more discussion is needed and that there are other openings in the Town which need to be filled first and have been open for a longer period of time. Councilmember Costello stated that she will be voting down that and she wanted to let everyone know why.

On May 21<sup>st</sup> the Veteran’s Association in Montrose will have a 2K Walk and Roll. She urged residents to join the event.

Councilmember Costello commented that the highlight for her in the last month was going to the Cortlandt Rowing Association. She told Councilmember Farrell that he did an awesome job and noted that it was very exciting to see his plan come to fruition and as a resident of Verplanck, Councilmember Costello stated that the people of Verplanck appreciated seeing Lake Meahagh being used. It is now very active and it brought a lot of excitement to Verplanck and made people who live there proud to be from Verplanck to see this new venture coming forth. She congratulated him and his whole team for putting it together. She stated that it will become successful.

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**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Councilmember Costello moved that the minutes of April 22, 2014 be approved as presented by Town Clerk Dyckman. Councilmember Becker seconded the motion.

All voted **AYE**

May 13, 2014

Town Board Meeting

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**PUBLIC HEARINGS**  
**NONE**

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**HEARING OF CITIZENS, (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)**

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Councilmember Becker moved that the following reports be received and ordered filed.  
Councilmember Freach seconded the motion

**BID REPORTS**

1. Receive and File Bids opened on May 9, 2014 with respect to Water Main Replacement on Jerome and Rita Drive; and Award same.

**RESOLUTION NO. 135-14 RE: Award Water Main Replacement Bid on Jerome and Rita Drive.**

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**REPORTS**

For the month of April, 2014 from the Office for the Aging, Purchasing Department, the Receiver of Taxes and the Town Clerk.

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**OLD BUSINESS**

**Receive and File the Following:**

1. Quarterly Report from Westchester County with respect to the Sprout Brook Ash Pit.
2. The 2013/2014 Annual Stormwater Report as required by NYSDEC.
3. Environmental Report from the Town's consultant, LBG, with respect to the Tall property.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Receive and File the Following:**

- 1. Letter and Petition from residents of Forest Avenue requesting a stop sign and/or speed hump; and refer to DES and the Traffic Safety Committee.
- 2. The Proposed 2014 Paving List; and Authorize DOTS to seek bids with respect to same.

**RESOLUTION NO. 136-14 RE: Authorize DOTS to seek bids with respect to the proposed 2014 Paving List.**

- 3. Letter from Zarin and Steinmetz with respect to Mohegan Manor Adult Care Facility and a sewer connection; and refer to the Legal Department and DES.
- 4. E-mail from Mr. Kazepis with respect to Scala Court; and refer to DES.

**Discussion:** Supervisor Puglisi stated that on Jerome and Rita Drive, they've been talking about doing these water main replacements for several years now and she is glad to be awarding this now.

The **Supervisor** explained the procedure of receiving and filing the petition for Forest Avenue residents, referring it for reports and will then take some action.

All voted **AYE**

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**RESOLUTIONS**

**(All resolutions adopted at this meeting are to be found attached to the end of the original document.)**

Councilmember Freach moved that the following resolutions be adopted, seconded by Councilmember Farrell.

**RESOLUTION NO. 137-14 RE: Appoint Fred Bleakley, Brian Kelly and Joe Robertine to the title Water & Sewer Maintenance Worker**

**RESOLUTION NO. 138-14 RE: Appoint James Kelly to the title Water & Sewer Maintenance Foreman in the Water Division of DES on a provisional basis.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 139-14 RE: Appoint summer seasonals for DES.**

**Discussion:** Supervisor Puglisi stated that Resolution 139-14 is "as amended".

All voted **AYE**

**RESOLUTIONS, (cont.)**

Councilmember Freach moved that the following resolutions be adopted, seconded by Councilmember Farrell

**RESOLUTION NO. 140-14 RE: Appoint summer seasonals for the Department of Recreation and Conservation.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 141-14 RE: Authorize a Family Medical Leave with respect to a DES employee.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 142-14 RE: Authorize an Intermunicipal Agreement with respect to Nor-West Services.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 143-14 RE: Request an extension of the provisions of 485(2)(e) of the real property tax law with respect to Nuclear Generation Facilities.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 144-14 RE: Authorize the settlement Tax Certioraris with respect to the Walter Realty Inc.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 145-14 RE: Authorize the settlement Tax Certioraris with respect to The Very Best IRTJ Corp.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 146-14 RE: Authorize an Agreement with Metro North and an Application with Westchester County Department of Health with respect to Family Fun Day.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 147-14 RE: Award a Contract with respect to Concrete Repair.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 148-14 RE: Authorize DOTS to issue a RFP for tree work, clearing and site preparation for future improvements around a small wetland and Clay Hole Pond located at the Cortlandt Waterfront Park as part of the \$175,000 NYS Parks Landscaping Grant; Direct DOTS to notify adjoining residents.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 149-14 RE: Direct staff to develop concept plans for a new DES facility including an appraisal for rental value on the Tall property if purchased to include dividing the parcel to allow for a private/public recreational center (indoor ice skating rink).**

**RESOLUTION NO. 150-14 RE: Resolution stating our endorsement and support participating in the NYSERDA/NYPA grant funds for various energy efficiency programs with respect to NWEAC/Sustainable Westchester.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 151-14 RE: Authorize an Agreement with the Town of Yorktown with respect to an out of district sewer connection for Mohegan Park.**

**RESOLUTIONS, (cont.)**

**RESOLUTION NO. 152-14 RE: Authorize a feasibility study with respect to the replacement of streetlights with LED fixtures.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 153-14 RE: Authorize amending a Contract with respect to termite control and prevention at the Town Hall campus.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 154-14 RE: Authorize the Purchasing Director to coordinate an on-line auction with respect to the sale of various scrap and surplus materials and vehicles.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 155-14 RE: Authorize DOTS to Award a contract with respect to a basketball court at the Youth Center.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 156-14 RE: Authorize DOTS to Award audit services for the Rt. 202/35/Lafayette/Conklin Avenue project as required by NYS DOT**

**RESOLUTION NO. 157-14 RE: Authorize DOTS to Award a professional service contract for the Verplanck Master Plan through grant funds.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 158-14 RE: Authorize DOTS to design a water tank expansion for the existing tank at Croton Park Colony; and to retain drafting and survey services with respect to same.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 159-14 RE: Appoint two (2) consultants with respect to assisting DOTS with monitoring major planning approvals and projects.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 160-14 RE: Authorize the acceptance of security in the amount of \$75,000 with respect to Hillside Estates subdivision located on Locust Avenue.**

**Discussion:** Tom Wood, Town Attorney, explained about the two Tax Certioraris, one will result in a refund of about \$700 and the other about \$3000. He also stated that regarding the Section 485 extension, that the State Assembly has passed the bill and that the Town's resolution is needed for the Senate to encourage them to do it. The **Supervisor** stated that they will send the resolution will be sent.

The **Supervisor** stated that Cortlandt Family Fun Day is not far away and will the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Fun Day. There will be fireworks at the event.

Councilmember Farrell clarified that they plan to notify the adjoining residents for the tree clearing and they consider and address any concerns that they might hear.

The **Supervisor** also asked that the residents also be notified regarding the tank expansion at Croton Park Colony.

**RESOLUTIONS, (cont.)**

Councilmember Freach then discussed the authorizing of the LED lights. He pointed out that this is very apropos to what the **Supervisor** mentioned in opening remarks regarding green initiatives. He thanked Jeff Coleman for doing this because LEDs are green and will last a long time, uses less electricity, and prevents light pollution because they direct the beams down. The **Supervisor** also mentioned Dani Glaser, the consultant who works on these important subjects.

All Voted **AYE**

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**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Councilmember Costello moved that the following be received and filed and the following resolutions be adopted. Councilmember Becker seconded the motion.

**Receive and File:**

- 1. Letter from Paul Ar-abb of 2 Cynthia Road requesting to be re-instated into the Peekskill Sanitary Sewer District; and refer to DOTS.

**RESOLUTION NO. 161-14 RE: Authorize request to have a parcel located within the Town included in the Peekskill Sanitary Sewer District and forward same to Westchester County for Consideration.**

- 2. Letter from Theresa F. Gucciardo-Perry of 41 Edgewood Road requesting to be reinstated into the Peekskill Sanitary Sewer District; and refer to DOTS.

**RESOLUTION NO. 162-14 RE: Authorize request to have a parcel located within the town included in the Peekskill Sanitary sewer District and forward same to Westchester County for Consideration.**

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**RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 163-14 RE: Amend the Temporary Service List**

**RESOLUTION NO. 164-14 RE: Adopt the Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution with respect to the NYS Retirement System.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 165-14 RE: Authorize a Fireworks Permit with respect to a display at Monteverde on June 7, 2014.**

All voted **AYE**

**ADDITIONS to the AGENDA, (cont.)**

A motion to poll the board for the following resolution was made by Councilmember Farrell, seconded by Councilmember Freach

**RESOLUTION NO. 166-14 RE: Amend the Temporary Service List with respect to temporary work in the Town Clerk's Office.**

**POLL:**

- Councilmember Costello: No**
- Councilmember Becker: Yes**
- Supervisor Puglisi: Yes**
- Councilmember Freach: Yes**
- Councilmember Farrell: Yes**

The motion passed.

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**BUDGET TRANSFERS**

NONE

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**REPORTS FROM VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS**

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**REPORTS FROM STANDING & SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

**Rosemary Boyle**, speaking as a member of the West Point Partners Inspector and Task Force. She thanked the **Supervisor** and Town Board for their attendance at the well attended April 30<sup>th</sup> Public Service Commission Public Hearing at the Murial Morabito Center. Many attended and spoke against the project. Ms. Boyle also thanked Councilmember Freach for doing an outreach to find more information that is accurate. She stated that there are a lot of things going on in Verplanck which are positive and would like to see that continued but she does not think that is possible with a giant building buzzing 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**Supervisor Puglisi** added that residents can go on the Town's website to see the video of the hearings or view them on Channel 78. She stated we need to fight this which we see would be the destruction of our community.

Councilmember Costello thanked Ms. Boyle and the task force committee for all they do and getting the information out to the residents.

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May 13, 2014

Town Board Meeting

**SECOND HEARING OF CITIZENS**

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**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. on a motion by Councilmember Freach, seconded by Councilmember Farrell.

All voted **AYE**

Respectfully submitted,

**JO-ANN DYCKMAN**  
Town Clerk