

April 14, 2016

The Town Board of the Town of Warwick held a Public Hearing to Amend Chapter 106, a Proposed Local Law entitled "Parks". Said public hearing was held on Thursday, April 14, 2016 at the Town Hall, 132 Kings Highway, Town of Warwick. Supervisor Sweeton called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE:** Supervisor Michael Sweeton  
Councilman Floyd DeAngelo  
Councilman Russell Kowal  
Councilman James Gerstner  
Councilman Mickey Shuback

Attorney for the Town, Jay Myrow

**LEGAL NOTICE:** The Clerk read the legal notice, which was duly published in the Warwick Valley Dispatch on April 6, 2016. (Copy of this legal notice is printed at the end of these minutes.)

Supervisor Sweeton – As you may or may not know we have been busy refurbishing a building on the former prison site now called Wickham Woodlands. We christened it the Wickham Woodlands Manor and it was a facility used by the guards and friends of the guards for events and things a big hall with a kitchen. When the prison closed they stripped everything out of it and we've been working hard to get that building back into shape so we can offer it to our residents for what we think is a modest amount to use for an event. That process is 99% complete and we anticipate starting about May 1<sup>st</sup> we will allow that facility to be rented by residents and you can get applications for that from the Town Clerks Office. One of the issues is in our parks code we prohibit alcohol use in any park. This facility would let itself if you wanted to have a Christening, a birthday party or celebration party in it chances are you might have one or two people that might like some alcohol. We're revising the code by removing the section that prohibits alcohol in its entirety and have proposed after consultation with our attorney and our insurance company to handle the legal responsibility of having alcohol. We are putting a process in place for Union Corners Park Pavilion, the Pine Island Park Pavilion, Wickham Woodlands Manor House and the Town Beach at Greenwood Lake which has on occasion weddings held there. The ability to have alcohol by special permit to the Town Board so if someone was going to have an event you have to reserve the facility, apply to the Town Board for permission to have alcohol provide us with the proper insurance and the Town Board would then authorize if it was in the right form. That is what the hearing is for tonight to solicit input on that policy and do any Board Members have any comments?

Councilman Shuback – Is there information there that someone would be responsible for anyone under age not drinking?

**Supervisor Sweeton – I'll defer to the attorney but we're requiring liability insurance and there is a hold harmless as part of the application.**

**Attorney Myrow – There is a specific provision in the law that there is no under age drinking.**

**Councilman DeAngelo – I think it's a good idea.**

**Councilman Gerstner – As you said before the Quality of Life Building is what it was called and the correction officers would use it pretty much every weekend down there by a lot of local families and CO's. Also in the other parks not that we are encouraging drinking but if you would like to have that the Town is held hold harmless and it's up to you to take care of everybody and I think it will be used more.**

**Supervisor Sweeton – There will be a rental fee and then there will also be a deposit that would be returned if the buildings or facilities were left in correct or proper order.**

**Councilman DeAngelo – Are we going to ask them for a certificate of insurance?**

**Supervisor Sweeton – Yes it's in the law, they have to do that when that permit comes to us.**

**Councilman Gerstner – There are companies that do and they also do that at the firehouses. Sometimes you go through your own insurance company but there are companies that will do that for not a very steep fee that covers everybody too.**

**Supervisor Sweeton – We will take public comments for 10 days.**

**CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING: Motion Councilman Shuback, seconded Councilman Gerstner, that the public hearing be closed. Motion Carried (5 ayes, 0 nays) 7:30 p.m. 04-14-16 CP**

---

**Eileen Astorino, Town Clerk**