

November 8, 2012

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Warwick was held on Thursday, November 8, 2012 at the Town Hall, 132 Kings Highway, Town of Warwick. Supervisor Sweeton called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

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

Town Attorney, John Hicks
Police Chief, Thomas F. McGovern, Jr.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

1. Public Hearing, 10/11/12
2. Regular Meeting, 10/11/12
3. Public Hearing, 10/25/12
4. Public Hearing, 10/25/12
5. Public Hearing, 10/25/12
6. Regular Meeting, 10/25/12

Motion Councilman DeAngelo, seconded Councilman Shuback to accept the minutes as written from the Public Hearing held on October 11, 2012, the Regular Meeting held on October 11, 2012, the Public Hearings held on October 25, 2012 and the Regular Meeting held on October 25, 2012.

Motion Carried (5 ayes, 0 nays)

CORRESPONDENCE:

NEW YORK ATLANTIC-INLAND, INC. – 997 McLean Road, Cortland, NY 13045 – Letter to the Supervisor requesting that their primary local electrical inspector, Mr. William Jacox be added to the Town’s list of qualified electrical inspection agencies.

CONNIE SARDO – Secretary, Town of Warwick Planning Department – Letter to the Town Board requesting Planning Board applicant, Mario L. Martinez-Hampton Hill be refunded the balance of his escrow in the amount of \$6,165.25.

KEVIN HAGAN – Part time Dispatcher, Town of Warwick – Letter to Tom Schweizer, Communications Supervisor stating his intention to resign his position as part time Dispatcher effective November 6, 2012.

BOARD’S DISCUSSION ON CORRESPONDENCE

VISITING ELECTED OFFICIALS

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

1. **Katie O'Reilly – Warwick Valley Central School District Liaison – Last week with Hurricane Sandy all of the schools were closed in the district. At the beginning of the school year we were given 5 snow days and we used all of them up in the past week. Assemblywoman Gunther is drafting legislation to excuse the 5 days we missed so we can get those snow days back because we are supposed to be in school for 180 days. All of this information can be found along with the draft and Dr. Bryant's response on the districts website home page. With the many seniors that lost power and were trying to fill out applications to meet early decision and early action deadlines for colleges of November 1st and November 7th many schools have pushed back their deadlines so you can still apply early. All of those dates and schools can be found on the districts website under high school and the guidance tab. The marking period was supposed to end this Friday, November 9th but due to the days lost they have extended it to November 16th.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

<u>WORK BEING DONE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>REASON FOR WORK</u>	<u>LENGTH</u>
CULVERT PIPES	254 Penaluna Rd.	Replace pipe	20 ft. 12"
	Penaluna Rd.	Replace pipe	40 ft. 36"
TREE WORK	Town wide	Hurricane Sandy	
BRUSH PICK UP	Town wide	Hurricane Sandy	
ROAD SIGNS	Town wide	As needed	

COUNCILMAN DE ANGELO REPORT

1. **For the month of October the Post Report is as follows: Greenwood Lake had 158 calls, the Town outside the Village had 777 calls, Pine Island 274 calls and the Village of Warwick had 589 calls for a total of 1,798 calls for the month of October. 2. On Friday, November 9th we are going to have a benefit from 7p.m. to 9p.m., the Warwick Valley Fine Arts show to benefit the Warwick Valley Humane Society. Local artists will donate 20% of their proceeds to the Humane Society and it will be held at the Clock Tower, 65 Main Street, Suite 300 in the Village of Warwick. Saturday, November 10th from 9a.m to 12 noon there's a shred event at Greater Hudson Bank at Mitchell's Corners for \$6 per box and a portion of the proceeds of the shred event will be donated to the Humane Society by the Metro Shred Company. Sunday, November 11th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. it's "Acupuncture For Pets" at the Humane Society by appointment only for \$20 for 20**

minutes for a session with Pam Shultz who is a doctor of veterinary medicine and you have to call 986-2473. Suzyn Barron has asked me to tell you that the 5K 4 Paws Run/Walk was a huge success; it raised close to \$3,500. They are also looking for donations again for heavy duty garbage bags, bleach, Simple Green, natural wood stove pellets for litter and canned ground cat food because they have almost 200 cats there.

COUNCILMAN KOWAL REPORT

1. There was a little bit of damage sustained at some of the parks because of Hurricane Sandy, just a few minor things that I'm sure DPW will get to it in due time. I'm sure they're busy with roads and repairing that damage but hopefully that will get cleaned up sooner or later.

COUNCILMAN GERSTNER REPORT

1. I would like to ask the Chief to please pass on to the entire department for such a fine job during the hurricane and the next storm. They were very busy and I appreciate all of their work; they did a great job and maybe Councilman Shuback can pass it onto our DPW Commissioner and all their guys that they did a great job on the storms, both storms, the snow storm and Sandy.

2. I would like to wish all our Veterans a Happy Veterans Day and I urge our residents to get out and attend some of the ceremonies being held.

COUNCILMAN SHUBACK REPORT

1. With Hurricane Sandy most of the Town employees came in for overtime but especially I want to give credit to the Commissioner and the two Deputy Commissioners for putting in overtime and not getting paid for it because they are salary. They don't get paid extra and I know they put in maybe 25 hours in the past 10 days just in overtime without being compensated for that and you've got to give them a lot of credit for that. With the storm the Commissioner and his deputies were actually cutting trees down because there were so many trees down. You couldn't move around the town for two days because the roads were blocked with trees. Yesterday they spent a lot of overtime in the evening and then back at 5 in the morning to plow snow again so they've been kept very busy.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

1. Fees Collected – Month of October, 2012 – Wickham Lake Permit Fee, Non-Resident, \$30.00; Copies of Maps, \$90.00; Certified Marriages, \$100.00; Photocopies, \$23.00; Use of Kitchen Fees, \$50.00; Interest in Checking Account, \$1.54; Dog Impoundments, \$525.00; Town Park Pavilion Fees, \$25.00; Marriage License Fees, \$140.00; Bid Spec Fees, \$50.00; Road Maps, \$3.00; Conservation Licenses, \$209.73; Dog Licenses Issued/Renewed, \$1,852.00; Use of Room Fees, \$160.00; Registrar Fees, \$750.00; Zoning Text & Map, \$30.00; Police Impound Fees, \$515.00; Town Park Deposits, \$50.00. Total Fees Collected, \$10,606.65

2. Fees Paid – Month of October, 2012 – New York State Dept. of Health for Marriage

Licenses, \$180.00; New York State Dept. of Ag & Markets for Spay/Neuter Program, \$240.00; New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation for Conservation Licenses, \$4,492.27; Village of Florida for Registrar Fees, \$120.00; Village of Greenwood Lake for Registrar Fees, \$80.00; Village of Warwick for Registrar Fees, \$890.00. Total Fees Paid to Supervisor, \$4,604.38.

3. General Election - I was not able to tabulate the townwide results like we normally do because I didn't receive all of the tally sheets from our 11 polling sites at the end of the evening, but the unofficial countywide election results are posted on the Orange County website. They are still experiencing logistical problems even though we've been through this new voting process at least 3 times before so I think they have a lot of work to do to get these bugs worked out. The voters were displeased with the polling place changes that were made by the County prior to the hurricane and unfortunately some last minute changes had to be made due to power outages at some of our sites. On top of that, voters and election inspectors were even more confused by the Executive Order issued by the Governor the evening before. Everybody was interpreting it their own way but all in all we got through it. It's going to take some time for the public to get used to the new system because a lot of people had not voted in the primaries and this was their first experience with the optical scanning method.

Supervisor Sweeton – I know you were busy even though the County is the one in charge of elections now. I know they kept you and most all the other Town Clerks in the county busy trying to put fires out for them. That will be a discussion with the county since they make us pay for the elections but they want to run them and yet they want us to solve their problems, so we will address that with them. I thank you for keeping it on track and getting the results in.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

1. Hurricane Sandy - There's not much to dwell on; we know how horrendous it was. We know that Warwick was one of the hardest hit communities in Orange County with the most power outages. As of this morning we still had 200 plus people out in the town that O&R has been working to restore. I got some updates tonight that they're working on Fawn Hill and Newport Bridge area, Kavelac Lane, some isolated spots in Pine Island, the Sterling Pines area which is on the far portion of the town over by Tuxedo and they continue to try to get those folks on. As Councilman Gerstner mentioned the storm hit pretty violently. Our Police Department including the Chief and his Lieutenants were out most of the night trying to keep order around the fallen poles, the downed lines, the trees, and keeping people from straying into safety problems. Knock on wood we had very few ambulance calls that evening which was good news. I was in the dispatch area most of the night and it was pretty crazy the phone rang constantly. The destruction was pretty devastating. We opened our senior center and I did manage to get some cots from the county finally and we had several residents for several nights in the senior center. The community helped with the Community Center and the Bruderhoff Community brought in some food. We were able to keep people warm, we were able to bring some elderly people to a more established shelter in Middletown. The Warwick Valley School District was tremendous, Ray Bryant, the Board of Ed, and the staff in accommodating places for people to shower at the school and supplying them with ice, water if needed and everyone

did come together. Some folks were out for an extended period of time; I was out for 7 days and others were out longer and we were very frustrated with the response by Orange and Rockland. We were in contact with them daily and they certainly have some after action analysis to do on how they handled it and there's certainly politicians lining up to crucify them and really I think the focus should be on making them improve their response because they had plenty of people. It was a matter of how they deployed those assets and how they managed them; I think this is where most of their failing occurred. That's not to minimize the amount of reconstruction they had to do, they lost 17 of their 21 substations which supply the power out. They lost better then 50 or 60% of their transmission lines which actually brings the power out to the distribution lines which take them to your home. For the first 48 hours they did nothing but try to restore that system and that's why we didn't see them around. I'm sure there will be a lot of discussion and finger pointing and hopefully improvement in their response so that they are better able to deal with this in the future. The lessons we learned during Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee helped us as a local municipality improve how we handled the situation and it certainly just drove home the fact that for at least 48 hours after an event of this magnitude local municipalities are pretty much on their own. You need to deal with it, you need to help people and we did that, so I'm proud of the department, the Police Department, the Emergency Workers, the Highway Department and the response that we put together.

2. Food Pantries - Because of this storm they have been stripped down and they certainly need our help to replenish especially going into the holiday season which is a big drain on them as well. There are food pantries in the town, the Warwick Ecumenical Food Pantry is located at the Methodist Church on Forester Avenue, the Greenwood Lake Food Pantry is located at the Holy Rosary Church in Greenwood Lake and the Florida Food Pantry is at the Presbyterian Church in Florida. If you can, if your able and you have the resources and your able to bring them some can goods and nonperishables it would be much appreciated.

3. I'm not going to dwell much more on the budget but as I mentioned it's a 1.63% increase in the levy which is well under the 2% cap. I'm very proud of the fact that we were able to deliver that budget and keep the cost to our taxpayers down to on average less than \$10, so we're happy about that. Again I do want to thank the CSEA Local Union here; the workers at Town Hall and Highway Department who did work with us to craft a labor agreement that was fair to the town and it's taxpayers and help us bring this budget in and I commend them for that.

4. Elections - I just want to congratulate everyone who was involved in the process whether they won or lost. It's a great process and it's heartening to see from almost when the polls opened a steady stream of people coming into the polling places to cast their votes. I want to especially thank our Assemblywoman Annie Rabbitt who is in a new district and had a tough race and we are very happy and pleased that she will represent us again. We're looking forward to working with Senator John Bonacic who is our new Senator and he's not unfamiliar with our area because he did represent us at one point in the Assembly. I do congratulate our new Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney and we look forward to bringing him here and making him aware of the rural issues that we face in Warwick. I also want to express my gratitude to Congresswoman Nan Hayworth for her service over the past couple of years and for helping us with several issues that affect our town.

5. As someone mentioned this Sunday is Veterans Day. It's important to please pause

and think of our Veterans and come out to one of the ceremonies at 11:00 a.m. There is one in the Village of Warwick at Memorial Park. I believe there will be one in Greenwood Lake at the Legion providing they have power and I believe with my conversation with O&R they should have power by this evening and I believe Florida holds one at their monument on Main Street and Pine Island I don't know if the Legion does but we can check on that. Please, our rights to vote have been secured by our Veteran's over the years and it would be good of us to come out and thank them.

6. Budget review for this month was mostly focused on putting our budget to bed for 2013. We are still under budget in our 2012 budget in most lines so we're looking pretty good in that respect.

7. Supervisors Corner is published each week in the Warwick Dispatch, with excerpts printed in the Warwick Advertiser.

8. One other note on the Sandy event, that Saturday prior to the event I got together with Mark Damia of Walling Road Technologies who is our website person and we put together a facebook page fairly quickly for the Town of Warwick. That was invaluable during the storm and this event as opposed to the one a year ago most of the cell service remained, so if you had a smart phone it was really a lot of times your only access. The phone lines went down, the cable went down and the power obviously went down. WTBQ went off the air, their generator at the tower failed even though we were able to get them a generator at their new studio, so there wasn't a lot of ways for us to communicate. We did send out a phone message a few days into the event but some of the WVT was also down at a point in time so the facebook page actually became very valuable for us to instantaneously get information out to residents. I was grateful that we were able to get that up and running and it's already at almost 800 likes so it was a good thing and we will use it more going forward as well.

Councilman Gerstner – We also had ice from the Fire Department and Ambulance Corp.

Supervisor Sweeton – Right, again beside the senior center we set up our recycling center ;we reached out and some residents donated freezers so we were able to hook up with the Warwick Fire Department who very graciously gave us as much cubed ice as we could bag on a daily basis. We made that available to residents and supplemented it with some dry ice from Orange and Rockland and that still continues at this point in the recycling center. I want to thank the Fire Department and Councilman Gerstner for helping with that.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (AGENDA ITEMS)

There were no comments or questions on the agenda items.

NEW BUSINESS:

#R2012-273 AMEND RESOLUTION #R2012-271 - CREATE POSITION WITH ORANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL – PART TIME DISPATCHER

Motion Councilman DeAngelo, seconded Councilman Shuback to adopt a resolution to amend resolution #R2012-271 to read “To adopt a resolution to authorize the Supervisor to file the necessary forms with the Orange County Department of Personnel to create the position of Part Time Dispatcher.”

Motion Carried (5 ayes, 0 nays) Supervisor declared this resolution duly adopted.

Discussion: Supervisor Sweeton stated that the previous resolution had at the end as per the CSEA Contract. Part time dispatchers are not part of the contract so we’re just correcting that.

#R2012-274 ANNUAL AUDIT OF TOWN OF WARWICK COURT RECORDS AND DOCKETS

Motion Supervisor Sweeton, seconded Councilman Gerstner to adopt a resolution acknowledging that the Town Board has conducted an annual audit of the Town of Warwick court records and dockets as per Section 2019-a of the Uniform Justice Court Act.

Motion Carried (5 ayes, 0 nays) Supervisor declared this resolution duly adopted.

Discussion: Supervisor Sweeton stated that the audit was fine, the Justice Court is in great shape and we have to report that to the Department of Criminal Justice.

#R2012-275 APPROVAL TO ADD NEW YORK ATLANTIC-INLAND, INC. TO LIST OF QUALIFIED ELECTRICAL INSPECTION AGENCIES

Motion Councilman Gerstner, seconded Councilman DeAngelo to adopt a resolution to add New York Atlantic-Inland, Inc. to the Town’s list of qualified electrical inspection agencies.

Motion Carried (5 ayes, 0 nays) Supervisor declared this resolution duly adopted.

#R2012-276 AUTHORIZATION OF ESCROW REFUND – MARIO L. MARTINEZ – HAMPTON HILL

Motion Supervisor Sweeton, seconded Councilman Gerstner to adopt a resolution to authorize a refund in the amount of \$6,165.25, the balance of the escrow for SBL# 18-1-27, to Planning Board applicant Mario L. Martinez - Hampton Hill as per the recommendation of the Planning Board Secretary; letter dated October 26, 2012.

Motion Carried (5 ayes, 0 nays) Supervisor declared this resolution duly adopted.

#R2012-277 ACCEPT RESIGNATION – KELLY RIAT

Motion Councilman Gerstner, seconded Councilman DeAngelo to adopt a resolution to accept the resignation of Kelly Riat, part time clerk for Dial-A-Bus, effective October 25, 2012.

Motion Carried (5 ayes, 0 nays) Supervisor declared this resolution duly adopted.

Discussion: Supervisor Sweeton thanked her for her service and wished her well.

#R2012-278 ACCEPT RESIGNATION – KEVIN HAGAN

Motion Councilman DeAngelo, seconded Councilman Gerstner to adopt a resolution to accept the resignation of Kevin Hagan, part time Dispatcher, effective November 6, 2012. Motion Carried (5 ayes, 0 nays) Supervisor declared this resolution duly adopted.

Discussion: Supervisor Sweeton thanked him for his service.

BILLS: Motion Councilman DeAngelo, seconded Councilman Gerstner to pay the bills as audited. Motion Carried (5 ayes, 0 nays)

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (GENERAL)

Supervisor Sweeton – Mark you had a question on the scheduling of a hearing. At this point next Thursday we would be able to entertain a motion. It's a 10 day notice because it is a zoning change so the earliest it could be scheduled would be the 3rd of December. My feeling and I haven't talked to the Board yet but my feeling would be just to schedule it now at this point prior to the meeting of the 13th but we can have further discussion by the 15th meeting. We still are waiting for an analysis from your Board in the context of its Comprehensive Plan interaction so that would give you guys more time to do that as well.

Roger Moss – Resident, Town of Warwick – I wanted to ask whether there's a group formed already of citizens who would like to be volunteers in case of emergencies because I'm interested if there isn't one in forming such a group. Finding out what services we can offer that are not institution services but just volunteers to be at the disposal of people in need of.

Supervisor Sweeton – OK, I don't believe there's any kind of formal group yet but during this event we've been taking names at the Clerks office. We've talked in the past about forming something like that so I think if you're interested in helping with that it would be wonderful so at the end of the meeting if you would give us your contact information we will definitely be in touch and welcome to Warwick. Sorry it was in the middle of a storm. When I watched the news tonight and the devastation again is just amazing south of us. We lost power and many of us were out for 10 days or so and you learn how dependant you are on it and how tough it can be but not nearly the devastation that some people suffered so we feel lucky in that regard.

**ADJOURN: Motion Councilman DeAngelo, seconded Councilman Gerstner that the regular meeting be adjourned. Motion Carried (5 ayes, 0 nays) 7:56 p.m.
11-8-12 CP.**

Marjorie Quackenbush, Town Clerk