

DATE OF MEETING: February 4, 2019

PLACE OF MEETING: Village Hall, Pawling, New York

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Robert Liffland
Trustee Dan Peters
Trustee Earl Slocum
Trustee Lauri Taylor

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION by Trustee Peters to close the regular session and open the Public Hearing on proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2019 – a Local Law to extend VP Sewer District to entire VP area at 7:01 P.M. **SECONDED** by Trustee Taylor. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

Trustee Peters said the purpose of the Public Hearing was to propose a Local Law to extend the Sewer District to be coterminous with the village boundaries. He stated we are only one of about 2 villages in the State of New York that actually has a sewer district and normally the whole village is considered the district. He said the first district that was formed in the village was basically the downtown area and it was that way for quite a long time. He stated in the 80s, during the last expansion, the boundaries were extended so that currently there are about 550 parcels in the village served by the PJSC. He said this leaves approximately 200 village residents who do not have sewer connections available. Trustee Peters said the proposal was to extend the boundary to the edges of the village and then, as what happened on Fairway Drive where he lives, they put the line in and give the residents 1 year to make the connection. He said there were no fees or charges until such time as the PJSC has the money to put the lines in the street. He said he believes this is a positive thing for the village and that all services provided are provided to the whole village, like garbage and police protection. Trustee Peters asked for any public comment.

Mr. Glenn Carey thanked the Board for making the change and not charging debt service charges to people not hooked up.

Mr. Eric Gordon, counsel from Keane & Bean representing Castagna and Jucca properties, said he sent a letter prior to the meeting and asked the Board if he should comment on that. He asked if the Board was going to vote on the proposed Local Law that evening. Trustee Peters said the Public Hearing would be held open and was only to discuss the extension of the sewer district. Mr. Gordon said their concern was with Exhibit 7 within the IMA which includes town users and sets up Phase I and Phase II. Trustee Peters said Phase I and Phase II is already in existence. Mr. Gordon said he would be interested in understanding how Phase I and Phase II are already in effect? Trustee Peters said the proposed billing system is making very little changes and the Board feels that those changes are for the better. He said the existing billing system has Phase I and Phase II users. Mr. Gordon asked if those were based on the thresholds within the village's IMA. Trustee Peters said it was similar - they do exist because there are currently Phase I and Phase II customers. He said when Castagna first started there was a very small Phase II payment they were paying that went away because the debt went away but as the debt comes back the Phase II users part comes back. He said the PJSC thought the formula created would be a better formula, but with that being said the PJSC consultants would be at the PJSC meeting on February 13th to answer any and all questions

that have to do with that. Mr. Gordon said their primary concern is that the proposed rate structure and system works for everyone to create good economic quality development. He said they would rest their comments until there are further meetings.

Mr. Kevin Gardiner asked if the school sewer bill could be discussed at the February 13th meeting. Trustee Peters said it could and the proposed rate structure change was not really changing much of anything except that it was a little broader and fairer to everyone. Mr. Gardiner said obviously if they spent \$13 million for the sewer plant, \$2 million state money and the rest was borrowed money, it would have to be paid back so someone's bill was going to go up which would impact the schools in a big way. Trustee Peters said the Public Hearing was for the expansion of the sewer district and if Mr. Gardiner would like to discuss other things he was welcome to attend the February 13th PJSC meeting. Trustee Peters said this had been a process discussed in open meetings for over 3 years.

Shel asked if someone was on a septic system and did not want to hook up would that be their choice or would they be forced? Trustee Peters said that could be a discussion but when the line came down his road they had no choice, they had to hook up within a year or they would pay anyway. He said currently if the line is put on your street you have to hook up within a year. Shel asked if there would be a charge for the installation to the resident. Trustee Peters said the resident has to pay for the line from the street to their house and the PJSC pays for the line in the street. Mr. Gardiner asked if Trustee Peters knew the cost per household. Trustee Peters said that would be determined later. Mr. Carey said there was always a cost to every household that had to hook up and each household would be different based on their location and property situation but in the long run it was much cheaper than replacing a whole septic system. Trustee Peters said it also increases the property value. There was discussion on different hook up options.

Ms. Janet Couch asked if there would be a monthly charge. Trustee Peters said it would be a quarterly charge. She asked what if a resident could not afford it. Trustee Peters said it would be something to be discussed later.

Mr. Gardiner said Trustee Peters was made to hook up. He asked if there was a way not to hook up if you could not afford it or were on a fixed income. Trustee Peters said that was not an option. Trustee Taylor said it would be a large cost to have to replace a septic system and hopefully people were putting money away in case of that.

Mr. Drew Montgomery said it was conceivable with the small pipe pumping system, that you could have to do both; if they come in and hook up a homeowner and their septic is on its way out they would have to replace the septic and hook up to the system. Trustee Peters said those determinations would be made on a case by case basis. There was discussion about septic tanks.

Mr. Michael Keupp said it was a project long overdue and it was being done in the right direction and the right way.

The Board decided to keep the Public Hearing open.

MOTION by Trustee Slocum to return to regular session. **SECONDED** by Trustee Taylor. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

Mr. Brian Morgan, an attorney for the village, said the request from Downtown Pawling from December 17th regards a number of mainly parking related improvements on the public space with the consent of the Board. He said that the sidewalks, parking areas and roadways which are the subject of Downtown Pawling's request are owned by the village. Any action taken or not taken by the Board in response to Downtown Pawling's request is at the discretion of the Board. Thus, the Board is not required to formally act on Pawling Downtown's request. He said it is the discretion of the Board as to what they choose to legislate.

Mayor Liffland thanked the Fire Department and the Village Crew for the job they did with the water issue on Fairway Drive.

Mayor Liffland appointed Dan Peters as voting representative and Joe Zarecki as alternate voting member for the Dutchess County MS4 Coordination Committee.

There was a discussion on renewable energy options.

Mayor Liffland appointed Lou Musella and Robert Pfister Jr. to the Planning Board.

MOTION by Trustee Peters to approve the Metro North Treasurer's Report for December 2018. **SECONDED** by Trustee Taylor. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

MOTION by Trustee Peters to pay the January bills in the amount of \$94,163.21. **SECONDED** by Trustee Taylor. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

MOTION by Trustee Taylor to approve the Metro North bills in the amount of \$13,431.03. **SECONDED** by Trustee Slocum. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

MOTION by Trustee Peters to adjourn the meeting and go into Public Comment at 7:28 P.M. **SECONDED** by Trustee Taylor. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

Village Clerk