

DATE OF MEETING: July 18, 2016

PLACE OF MEETING: Village Hall, Pawling, New York

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Robert Liffland
Trustee Stan Mersand
Trustee John Burweger
Trustee Dan Peters
Trustee Earl Slocum

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for the police officers that gave their lives and for the turmoil in the world.

There was discussion on amending Local Law No. 1 of 2006 regarding Bed & Breakfasts. Mayor Liffland said he was in favor of allowing a manager to run the B&B and not requiring it to be owner occupied. He said that the B&B brings a lot of business into the village and that having a manager run the business would be no different than a manager running any other business within the village. Trustee Peters agreed with the Mayor and said that there was the option of a trial period and the change would have to be for all B&Bs within the village. Trustee Slocum said he had no objection but he wanted a trial period provision included in any amendment and if the property was sold the trial provision should begin again with the new owner. Trustee Slocum said he thought whoever purchased the property should have to live within the Village or Town of Pawling. Trustee Burweger did not agree with the residency requirement because there are many businesses within the village that are not owner occupied or restricted to being owned by someone who lives within the village or town. Mayor Liffland said there are homes being rented out as AirBNBs and the Board had no control over those. Mayor Liffland opened the topic up to the public.

Mrs. Rosalinda Weiner, a resident of the Town of Pawling, stated she was very interested in buying the Bed & Breakfast on West Main Street. She said she was in love with it and was coming before the Board to ask that the owner occupation clause be amended. She said she would be very hands on with the running however she loves the house she lives in on Whaley Lake and could not move into the B&B. She said when she was not on site she would have a manager on site. Trustee Mersand said he was happy to learn that she was a town resident interested in buying and running the B&B because she already had an investment in the community. He said he was in favor of taking whatever steps would be necessary to make their buying the B&B happen.

Mr. Taren Tanner, a realtor who helped the original owners of the B&B buy and apply for a special use permit, said one of the main spirits of the B&B when it went in was all about how critical it was to the economic development of the community. He said there was discussion on how integrated it could be with the other businesses in the village and the Board could see how well that worked over the years. He said he supported the amendment of the owner occupation clause because he did not see it being a big change.

Ms. Nancy Tanner, a village resident, said the B&B was prioritized years ago as a need for the village. She said she endorsed the amendment.

Ms. Claudia Jiskra, a realtor from Berkshire Hathaway, said Debra DeWinter (the current owner of the B&B) was unable to attend the meeting and sent a letter to the Board endorsing the change. She said they had been trying to sell the B&B for a while but it was difficult because of the special use permit and they were at the point that it might be sold to someone who would change it to a 1 family house and/or use it as an AirBNB. She said she would love for the Weiner's to purchase the property for a B&B.

Trustee Mersand said he would like to incorporate the trial period clause into the approval. Trustee Peters asked the Weiner's if that would work for them. Mr. Weiner said yes but obviously when a person purchases something they would prefer not to have that restriction but he understood the Board's reasoning. Ms. Weiner said she would go further and say it was fine because she did not feel it was going to be a problem.

MOTION by Trustee John Burweger to approve that a non-resident can own a B&B on a trial period of 2 years and if there is no problem during that period of time then it would revert to an approval without the restriction. **SECONDED** by Trustee Peters. All were in favor and the motion carried.

MOTION by Trustee Peters to adopt the following resolution. **SECONDED** by Trustee Burweger.

Resolution Calling in Village of Pawling, Residents And Business Owners To Adopt The “Think Differently” Initiative to Assist Individuals With Special Needs And Their Families

WHEREAS, the “Think Differently” initiative is about promoting awareness and acceptance of all people, and advocating for the inclusion of all individuals living on the Autism Spectrum and with special needs; and

WHEREAS, our state and communities are stronger because of our diversity and differences; and

WHEREAS, according to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) over 55 million people, or approximately 19% of Americans, have a type of disability or special need; and

WHEREAS, for some people with special needs, the very things that make them unique can also keep them on the sidelines, separate from those who might not understand their differences or uniqueness; and

WHEREAS, it is important to promote and provide guidance to those with special needs on how to access publically supported services available to them in the community; and

WHEREAS, it is important to encourage and educate the community and businesses on ways they can make facilities and services more accessible and on how to train staff to welcome and support special needs customers and co-workers; and

WHEREAS, the goal of this initiative is to provide a supportive and inclusive environment for individuals of all abilities by supporting community events that expand family friendly opportunities for people with special needs and their families; and

WHEREAS, adopting the “Think Differently” initiative is an important statement that our Village officials, business owners and residents can make to show their support for the differently-abled children and adults with special needs, and their families.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Pawling, residents and business owners adopt the “Think Differently” initiative so that all are better prepared to communicate with, provide for, and support those living on the Autism Spectrum and with special needs.

Trustee Burweger asked what the resolution would entail. Trustee Mersand said it was a show of support for a concept.

All were in favor and the resolution was adopted.

MOTION by Trustee Mersand to approve the Village Green and Public Assembly Events Permit Application for the Pawling Resource Center to hold its annual Walk So They May Ride fundraiser on September 17, 2016. **SECONDED** by Trustee Peters. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

MOTION by Trustee Mersand to approve the minutes from June 6, 2016 and June 20, 2016. **SECONDED** by Trustee Peters. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

MOTION by Trustee Mersand to approve the Metro North Treasurer’s Report for June 2016. **SECONDED** by Trustee Burweger. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

MOTION by Trustee Peters to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 P.M. and go into Public Comment. **SECONDED** by Trustee Mersand. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

MOTION by Mayor Liffland to reopen the meeting at 7:21 P.M. **SECONDED** by Trustee Peters. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

Mr. Drew Nicholson, Village Historian, gave a presentation on different art display hanging systems for the meeting room.

MOTION by Trustee Burweger to authorize Mr. Nicholson to proceed with purchasing the original gallery system at a cost of \$761.00 plus shipping. **SECONDED** by Trustee Mersand. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

MOTION by Trustee Peters to close the meeting and go into Public Comment at 7:35 P.M. **SECONDED** by Trustee Burweger. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

Village Clerk

