

# Town of Richland

## Town Board Minutes TBM06252018

*Joint Meeting with Village of Pulaski Village Board*

June 25, 2018

The Town of Richland Town Board held a "special meeting" with the Village of Pulaski's Village Board. This meeting was held in the Floyd Carpenter Board Room at the Snow Memorial Building. This meeting was brought to order by Mayor Rodriquez at 6:34 p.m...

Pulaski Village Board members in attendance included Trustee Jan Tighe, Trustee Robin Ford, Trustee Alan Engelbrekt, and Mayor Angel L. Rodriquez. Absent from this meeting was Village Trustee Robert Dye.

Town of Richland Board Members in attendance included Councilwomen Sue Haynes and Donna Gilson, Councilman Allen Goodsell, Councilman Kern Yerdon and Town Supervisor Dan Krupke. Retired Town Clerk Robert North acted as clerk/minute taker for this meeting.

No residents from the Village or the Town attended this open meeting.

Town Supervisor Krupke gave a brief synopsis of the of the Town's proposed DPW Facility and Garage. Mr. Krupke asked the Village Board to advise the Town Board of the concerns that the Village Board may have regarding other services that they felt that the Town should or should not be addressing about the Haldane Center.

The next topic of discussion was the Haldane Center and the J.B. Snow Memorial Complex located off Maple Avenue in the Village of Pulaski, N.Y...

Mayor Rodriquez recognized all the work, finances and support that the Town has given to the maintenance of the complex. After recognitions given the Town, the Mayor advised the consortium that he speaks for the entire village board when he says that "The Village is not willing to give up this asset which is owned by and belongs to the Village of Pulaski and allowing it to become an asset to the Town. Supervisor Krupke asked the Village Board, how they feel that this was an asset to the Village without the Town's participation. Trustee Engelbrekt answered Mr. Krupke by saying that this is a large, and attractive piece of property of considerable value, without considering its current use. Councilwoman Haynes agreed that it was a valuable piece of property and is more valuable each year. Mrs. Haynes wanted everyone to know that the value of this property has been greatly enhanced since the Town had taken over the management of this property over 20 years ago. Town Councilman Kern Yerdon said he remembers that the Village wanted to lease this property to the Town to manage and asked for Town Wide consideration in levying property taxes, so everyone could use and pay for the complex. Supervisor Krupke asked what were the standards that the Village has set for this complex. Mr. Krupke said that if the Village turned this over to the Town by deed title, specific deed restrictions could be placed on this property where it could revert to the Village (via deed) if deed restrictions were not followed. Mr. Krupke and Mr. Yerdon spoke of the amount of money that has been put into this property since taking over its management in the year 2000. Supervisor Krupke advised that he like both government entities to review this in greater lengths and consider more detailed discussions in future joint meetings. Comparison of conditions of Dunbar Field and its history was brought up.

About meetings held in the past between the Town and Village regarding the shared services considerations with the two Highway Depts., and the Haldane facility, the consensus of the Village Board members was that they were never informed or never knew what was going on or when meetings were being held to discuss the issues. Trustee Engelbrekt advised that he thought the Village should always know what was going on at the Haldane and should review any changes at this facility, since they were the property owners and it was the village's asset. All members of the Village Board told the Town of Richland that the previous Village Administration rarely informed them of meetings and consultation between the Village and Town government.

Councilwoman Haynes advised that the Haldane Advisory Committee's purpose is to keep the two government agencies informed of what was going on and what was happening at the complex. Mrs. Haynes advised that she was an Advisory Committee member and that John Fox, Highway Superintendent John Fox attends all meetings as representatives for their government entities. Mrs. Haynes advised that the construction of the Pavilion Plans (potentially with bathroom facilities) are currently being considered. Supervisor Krupke informed his audience that the Snow Foundation (matching funds) Grant request has been approved in the amount of \$20,000... Mr. Krupke informed attendees that the Town is still waiting on the Shineman Foundation grant request. Mr. Krupke agreed to keep the Village Board members updated on this request. According to Supervisor Krupke, if the Shineman Foundation grant does not come through, the pavilion will be the first and only consideration for construction. Supervisor Krupke asked if there would be any objections to this proposed action. No one from the Village or the Town voiced any objections.

Next, Mayor Rodriquez advised others at this meeting that he was not in favor the Town's proposed bargaining chip to afford the Haldane Complex to be traded for the Town's Highway Barn. The Village can not spend any extra money for any new projects. Mr. Krupke said he was under the impression that the D.E.C. has considered buying the Village Garage and surrounding land at the "Black Hole". Supervisor Krupke said it was his impression that the Village Garage was in dire need of repairs and that is one of the reasons the Village originally wanted to be part of the original Highway Garage Building project. Last year, the Village Board was all for participating in a joint facility. The Mayor at that time said the Village barn was too old and in bad shape. Trustee Tighe did comment that this is what the Mayor led them to believe. After inspection on their own, several Village Trustees commented by saying that "the Village Barn is in better shape than we were led to believe".

Supervisor Krupke was asked by Mayor Rodriquez of what the Town's plans are for improving the Town Barn. Mr. Krupke answered Mr. Rodriquez by informing him that minimum improvements to the barn will be made, along with repairing or replacing the barn roof, setting up the Salt Shed on the Co. Rt. # 41 property and possibly building a small garage to house the Town's loader. Mayor Rodriquez said he knew his board would not be interested in a joint building mainly because of the location so far out of the Village and the fact that they have no funds to invest in the structure. Trustee Robin Ford said it is just "mind-boggling" to her to think of a joint service venture with the Town. Mrs. Ford said she would be interested in seeing how much each municipality would save by consolidating the Highway Depts.

In summation to Mayor Rodriquez concerns, Supervisor Krupke stated that Highway Facility Project is a "Dead Issue" at this time. He said we will have to address this in future years. Mr. Krupke did reiterate the fact that there could be safety issues that OSHA could be addressing, DEC issues addressing the salt run-off into the Salmon River and various other concerns that could result in fines, legal actions and possible shut-downs.

Members of both boards agreed to address these issues and sit down with each other, along with other government officials to see what can be done. Those in attendance agreed to meet monthly to improve the lines of communications with each other and to investigate solutions to many of each other's concerns. Councilwoman Gilson added that we need to evaluate the many actions in dollars and cents, start pushing for assistance from other agencies and review our concerns and issues with our state, local and federal government representatives, and (PUSH from the TOP) Establish a Long-Term Benefit Plan for relationships, services and building projects.

Trustee Tighe commented by suggesting a means and method system to fine tune our expectations. To evaluate our needs, we need to establish solid data. Mrs. Tighe said we need to see the numbers in establishing our needs. Before we contact our County, State, or Federal agencies for assistance, we need to show savings and commitment to our community and our taxpayers.

Councilman Goodsell said he was sorry to hear that the prior administration kept the trustees "out of the loop". Mr. Goodsell said that he felt that the Town Barn issue and several other issues should not be put to "bed" at this time. Mr. Goodsell said he would like to see the Hwy Barn Facility project kept open along with an open dialog with the Village and Town and Village taxpayers. Goodsell advised that it is only a matter of time before the Town will have to address many of the issues discussed here tonight.

Trustee Ford commented that the Town of Webb recently consolidated some services with the Village of Old Forge. Mrs. Ford's suggestion was to get in contact with the Town of Webb to review their findings of consolidation. A comment was made at this time to "STOP THINKING SMALL TOWN".

Supervisor Krupke suggested that each of our governments should develop a joint Shared Vision Statement for a 3/5/Or 10-year plan. Mr. Krupke said he would like to see more discussion on this topic at our next joint meeting and beyond. Mr. Krupke asked his audience if we should consider a facilitator to help us to write this Vision Statement? Everyone was in agreement to this consideration.

Trustee Tighe said she would like to see our governments do more to promote growth and market our communities for growth. Mrs. Tighe said we need to bring in more younger families to our Communities. To promote residential growth, Mrs. Tighe stated that you need to establish more professional jobs into the area by bringing more businesses, both service and professional, into our communities. Councilwoman Gilson felt that we need fewer absentee landlords and more homeowner residents in our community.

Trustee Tighe referred to the Block Grants in the City of Oswego. Mrs. Tighe compared our residential inventory of run down and dilapidated homes to that of Oswego, NY. She noted they have refurbished many houses and put them on the market for sale. Trustee Tighe suggested that this is something that we should be investigating in within our communities. Mrs. Tighe wondered if the Town and Village could develop a program like this one. Supervisor Krupke also noted that the area's maximum Target Cost of a home in our area is around \$170,000.00. All in attendance agreed that we need to have some sort of incentive to have people move to the area, and to encourage younger families to build/settle in this area. It was mentioned that perhaps we should review our Zoning Laws and fine tune them so that business will want to stay and/or relocate here. New businesses will bring new and young blood and professionals to the area if it is handled in the right way. Before moving on with discussions, Trustee Tighe said "We have to Toot our own horn." As government officials, she and others felt that we did not do enough of this. Mrs. Tighe referred several times to the Renaissance Program that is currently in existence in Oswego County. Mrs. Tighe suggested that we invite their representative(s) to one of our joint meetings to learn more about the workings of this program.

Mayor Rodriguez informed the Town Board that the project of assisted living, affordable low-income housing and duplex Sr. condos have been unsuccessful in obtaining funding to date. The project builders have until August 1<sup>st</sup> to obtain funding or the project at Dunbar field or this will no longer be a viable project. Several attendees thought it would be a good idea to contact the Oswego County IDA and Mr. Treadwell to see if they/he have any ideas.

Mayor Rodriguez said he would like to invite County Administrator Phil Church to one of our meetings to see what he has to offer which could be advantageous to the Village and Town and assist us in our endeavors. Mr. Rodriguez confirmed Supervisor Krupke's observation of a new DPW dump truck that they will use for hauling. Trustee Tighe informed the audience that she is in the process of applying for a grant to build a sidewalk to the high school.

Other information learned from this meeting was that the State of New York will be paving Route #3 from Deer Creek to Mexico sometime in early July. The Mayor informed the Town Board that he will have a meeting on July 5, 2018, at 1:00 with NYS D.O.T. Regional Transportation Planner in his office. Mr. Rodriguez told all in attendance that they were invited to attend, if so desired.

Both governmental entities voiced their concern of unsightly "Adirondack Home" properties that are not inhabited in the Village and the Town.

Mayor Rodriguez commented that he thought this meeting produces "good" constructive dialog.

Trustee Ford, along with the Village Mayor, advised that the streets within the Village of Pulaski that are scheduled for paving/repair this year are Hill Street, Hubble Street, Maple Ave. Ext., and Hinman Road. Trustee Ford said the Village's plan for street repairs will be contingent upon their CHIPS funding, and any Funding/Grants that are available to Villages for this purpose. Trustee Tighe also commented that she and the Village are also working on a "Tree Grant Application". The Mayor informed everyone that the Village's intentions are to begin water transmission line repair beginning early next year.

Both government entities thanked each other for their amiable and friendly interactions and correspondence at this meeting.

The next joint meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the board room of the Pulaski Village Office.

This meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m...

Respectfully submitted;

Robert L. North, Acting Clerk