

TOWN BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Steven J. Walters	Supervisor
Michael Quinn	Councilman
Cheryl Potter-Juda	Councilwoman

ALSO PRESENT: Catherine A. Rybczynski, Town Clerk
Walter Rooth III, Town Attorney; Mary Dosch, Sr. Account Clerk; Christopher Hull, Director of Community Development; Luke Malecki, Financial Consultant

Supervisor Walters calls the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

Supervisor Walters comments that he talked to Drew Reilly and he asked that they discuss the proposal for the Engineering Department. His suggestion is to put out an RFP for a Town Engineer and leave the two employees Tom Lardo and Valerie Butera to handle the day to day office matters. Rick Lardo is retiring the beginning of next year, so they need to figure out what they are doing to replace him as well as what will be in the budget for 2016 for that department.

Councilman Quinn responds that he agrees with that.

Supervisor Walters comments, that way, they can adjust the manpower throughout the year as needed. The report stated that during the summer months the manpower needs go up but then in the non-construction season that need drops. To hire a full time person is not the most efficient way to do this because of the light periods. He knows that West Seneca just did this so he asks Walt Rooth to reach out to them for a copy of the RFP and then they would adjust accordingly to their needs.

Councilman Quinn comments that he was approached by someone to buy or lease the Old Senior Center. How long has it been sitting vacant?

Supervisor Walters responds about 7 months, since the end of February.

Councilman Quinn asks if they have an assessment on it.

Supervisor Walters responds that they do have an appraisal scheduled. So hopefully before the next Town Board meeting they will have that information.

Councilman Quinn questions if anyone has any thoughts on the Coastal Erosion hearing.

Supervisor Walters responds that he talked to Kurt Allen on it. Mr. Allen will talk about this at the Public Hearing this evening. He said that the DEC has changed the way that they operate to where they are essentially running the program now. However, prior to them approving the local law the boundaries need to be delineated. That would be a DEC project. Until that happens the Town is not in the position to transfer authority to them.

Councilman Quinn questions if the Town would be eligible for more grant money and if the DEC would then be responsible for Old Lakeshore Road?

Supervisor Walters comments that Mr. Allen might know if whoever is in charge has anything to do with grant money.

Councilman Quinn comments that he has been approached by someone with a new energy proposal.

The Town Board discusses new Energy proposals.

Walt Rooth comments that if they want to put this out for more companies they should do an RFP. He will look into doing that.

Supervisor Walters comments that back in 2013 the Town Board started the process of creating a townwide ESCO much like the Village of Hamburg. In his conversation with Don Witkowski he said that the program was working great and he wouldn't change it. In 2014 with the new Town Board they brought, in front of them, the final resolution to move with the final approval for the creation of the ESCO and the new Board Members asked the Town Attorney to review it. Mr. Kapsiak was looking at it from the Town's end but he has retired. Now they want to know if the Town is still interested. The Village of Hamburg has been doing this for about 10 years. This would generate some revenue for the municipality along with reducing energy prices for the individual consumer. It is non-mandatory. You would not be required to make the change but you would have the option. However, the Town Board must pass a resolution for final approval.

Walt Rooth suggests that the ESCO Company come in and make a presentation to this Town Board. He talked to the Village about it and his understanding of the program is that the Town solicits people to join the Town's ESCO program. So the Town acts as the middle man providing natural gas to those customers. They would choose from a variety of vendors and would have to have someone monitoring gas prices on a daily basis because they would be in the business of purchasing gas for all the customers. He would think they would need more information on that before deciding to move forward with it.

Supervisor Walters comments that he will contact the company to come back and give the presentation.

Don Wiess comments that there is a company called Energy Cooperative America and they buy gas but you have to be a business to join. They might want to look into it. New York State has a list of all the distributors. A lot of the businesses in the City of Buffalo are with them and he has been with them for about 20 years.

1.

On a motion of Supervisor Walters, seconded by Councilwoman Potter-Juda, the following resolution was

ADOPTED	Ayes	3	Walters, Quinn, Potter-Juda
	Noes	0	

RESOLVED, that the Town Board move into Executive Session at 6:19 pm on a contract, a union contract and a real property matter.