

LUMBERLAND TOWN BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING
March 1, 2017

The Town of Lumberland Town Board held a monthly Workshop Meeting on Wednesday, March 1, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building in Glen Spey, N.Y. Supervisor Jenny Mellan noted that she had oral surgery the day before and would be having Deputy Supervisor Leigh Sherman run the meeting. Deputy Supervisor Leigh Sherman opened the meeting at 7 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those members present were: Supervisor Jenny Mellan
Councilman/Deputy Supervisor Leigh Sherman
Councilman Joseph Carr
Councilman James Akt
Councilwoman Zoriana Gingold

Also present were Town Clerk Virginia Horn, Deputy Town Clerk Michele Myslinski, Constable Robert Maas, Rose Carr, Bruce Ferguson, Caroline Akt and Highway Superintendent Don Hunt, Jr.

Deputy Supervisor Leigh Sherman reported that they had a guest speaker present. Bruce Ferguson stated he represents the Community Choice Aggregation which is a program that is used to combine communities in an effort to provide options for better utility rates. Ferguson reported it is a self-funding program and the reason to go forward with this is it is a cost savings to the customers. Ferguson noted that the 1st of its' kind in New York State is in Westchester County where a group formed and made a deal to price out electricity which sold a fixed rate to their constituents. Ferguson stated that the existing utility companies offer a teaser rate and once you are established with them they raise the rates. Ferguson stated that the #1 reason to do this is it is a not for profit and not paying shareholders and #2 is that if you buy electricity for many people you can get a better rate. Ferguson reported that the individual municipalities have to pass a Local Law and either administer it yourself or put out a RFP for an administrator, noting he would recommend staying away from an administrator. Ferguson stated that NYSERTA is in support of this program which creates a competitive market. Ferguson reported he would like representatives from Westchester County to come and discuss this program that they have entered into. Ferguson stated the County cannot form a CCA, it has to be the individual towns and villages or even towns in another County who use O&R. Supervisor Mellan noted some residents in our area use NYSEG.

Supervisor Mellan reported the former Town Board was looking into solar energy usage. Ferguson reported that commercial solar is coming to Sullivan County. Councilman Akt reported the Tusten Highway Garage has solar installed. Ferguson noted that is a municipal

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system not a commercial system. Ferguson reported that, once they organize a public forum, they will send out invitations to the Town to attend. Supervisor Mellan questioned if anything was going on in Orange County? Ferguson was unsure but stated he will be looking into it. Supervisor Mellan thanked Ferguson for coming to the Town Board and presenting the information.

Deputy Supervisor Sherman reviewed the Agenda with the Board members. The Board reviewed the Meeting Minutes, the Communications and Monthly Reports. The Town Clerk reported she will be drawing up an additional Resolution for next week to advertise for the River Corridor Trash Pickup bid, noting she just received the info today.

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that people are already calling to see if we have a date set for our annual Spring Cleanup Day. The Highway Superintendent stated they usually have to wait for the County to approve it but usually it is scheduled around the 3rd Saturday in May. The Town Clerk noted that they have been doing the Resolution in April contingent on the final approval of the County Legislature which gives us time to advertise.

The Highway Superintendent reported that he did not get a chance to take the pictures of the surplus office equipment to be auctioned due to the storm this last weekend. Supervisor Mellan noted the Code Enforcement Officer has a laptop he is not using which can be cleaned and surplus. Councilman Sherman stated that the Court just got a new printer and their old one can be surplus.

The Town Clerk questioned if the burning ban was still in place from March to May? The Fire Dept. Chief, Don Hunt, Jr. stated as far as he knows it is still in place.

The Highway Superintendent reported the new pickup truck that has been ordered will be the new safety yellow color and they should be taking delivery of it next week. The Highway Superintendent also reported that there is a problem with the proposed new tandem truck because the contract price will be changing since it has been some time since the first quote. Councilman Akt questioned if that truck will also be the new safety yellow color? The Highway Superintendent stated he would find out.

Councilwoman Gingold made a motion to adjourn at 7:42 p.m., seconded by Councilman Carr, all in favor, so carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia V. Horn, Town Clerk