TOWN OF STANFORD TOWN BOARD

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 8TH, 2012 MEETING

The Town of Stanford Town Board convened for their monthly meeting on Thursday, November 8th, 2012 at the Stanford Town Hall. Supervisor Virginia Stern called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, and asked for a moment of silence to reflect on the hardships and losses from Hurricane Sandy.

Roll Call: Virginia Stern – present

Johanna Shafer – present

Joseph Norton – present

Thomas Dewhirst – present

Mark D’Agostino - present

Attorney William Bogle, Jr. was also in attendance.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Neil Dennehy, 453 Jameson Hill Road, along with neighbor Bob Truro, read sections of a letter from another neighbor, Markham Roberts, regarding the Kading mine, and their hope that the Board would prepare a local law for a mining moratorium. Discussion followed between the Board and the residents.

Mike Shafer, Decker Road, spoke of campaign signs being found in culverts and hoped this would not happen next year.

Mel Eiger, Attlebury Hill Road, addressed the Board regarding the Board’s insults to each other, the budget’s paper format and the bookkeeper’s salary.

PUBLIC HEARING:

2013 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

A motion was made by Virginia Stern, seconded by Johanna Shafer, to close the regular meeting and go into the scheduled Public Hearing for the 2013 Preliminary Budget. Motion carried with a roll call vote as follows: Virginia Stern – yes; Johanna Shafer – yes; Joseph Norton – yes; Thomas Dewhirst – yes; Mark D’Agostino – yes.

Councilman D’Agostino stated that $6,000 had been taken from the fund balance to offset the costs for a new Town Hall copier.

Dave Robertson, Serenity Way – asked if the Budget could be explained to him.

Karen Mosher, Route 82 – asked about street lighting.

Councilwoman Shafer asked about the changes between the tentative budget to the preliminary budget.

Councilman D’Agostino replied that he would add Budget Discussion to the agenda after the Public Hearing.

Mike Shafer, Decker Road – spoke of the Town Clerk’s budget: no line for a deputy and no raise for the Town Clerk.

Karen Mosher – had questions about the input and information in the budget.

Dave Robertson – asked about the steps for a budget’s adoption.

Councilwoman Shafer – this has been adopted as the preliminary; could then be adopted as the final budget.

Councilman D’Agostino – added that a legal notice had to be placed and had no problem going over the budget.

Councilwoman Shafer – added that she had no time to review the preliminary budget; it was presented then voted upon without consultation with the Supervisor or anyone else.

Dave Robertson – will there be more time for comments?

Councilman D’Agostino – there are certain timeframes from a legal standpoint.

Carol Hanlon, Hobbs Lane – The tentative and preliminary budgets should be on the website; better for the public to see.

Councilwoman Norton read the law regarding budget adoption, and made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Thomas Dewhirst. Supervisor Stern suggested that the public hearing be kept open for another week. Roll call vote as follows: Virginia Stern – no; Johanna Shafer – no; Joseph Norton – yes; Thomas Dewhirst – yes; Mark D’Agostino – yes. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

LIAISON REPORTS:

Councilman Tom Dewhirst said that the ZBA would be meeting next week.

Councilman Mark D’Agostino had no Recreation Commission report and that the Master Plan’s next steps were on the agenda.

Councilman Norton stated that the CAC was closing down for the winter. There was no Farm & Ag meeting.

Councilwoman Shafer reported from the Fire Commissioners’ meeting and the Planning Board meeting.

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT: Supervisor Stern mentioned the following items: decisions had been made by the Board at the previous workshop – resolutions opposing the reduction in County sales tax and the snow and ice operations by the County DPW; the Historian’s railroad presentation on 11/18, an approved waiver for the Coyote Café’s liquor license and the website administrator’s putting the Town Board approved Minutes on the website. She added that the Holiday of Lights parade and community party would be on Dec. 1st.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT: Hwy. Supt. Myers was not in attendance.

COUNTY LEGISLATORS’ REPORTS: The County Legislators had not yet arrived.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA: A motion was made by Mark D’Agostino, seconded by Joseph Norton, to accept the agenda with the following changes: Old Business, add as #1 – Preliminary Budget; New Business, #1 to be Community Foundation – Health Center Building, #2 - Whitlock fund transfer, #3 – paid time off for part-time employees and last, the MVP presentation.

Roll Call Vote: Virginia Stern – no; Johanna Shafer – no; Councilman Joseph Norton –

yes; Councilman Tom Dewhirst – yes; Councilman Mark D’Agostino – yes. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. PRELIMINARY BUDGET: Mark D’Agostino made a motion to have the Assessor’s exemption report filed with the Preliminary budget since it was supposed to have been filed with the supervisors tentative budget but was not., seconded by Joseph Norton. Motion carried with a roll call vote as follows: Virginia Stern – yes; Johanna Shafer – yes; Joseph Norton – yes; Thomas Dewhirst – yes; Mark D’Agostino – yes. Councilman D’Agostino continued to go over the Preliminary Budget: a 2% tax cut with input from the departments in the Town Hall that also meets their needs; added funding for the Highway Department to plow the roads this winter, funding to complete the Master Plan and zoning, repair and maintain Sparc Park, and corrections made to errors in the Tentative Budget: the MTA tax, Social Security rate and revenue from the County snow and ice program. It also includes raises for Town employees, a new wood chipper, a copier and scanner for the Town Hall. Lengthy discussion followed. Motion made by Mark D’Agostino, seconded by Joseph Norton to accept the Preliminary Budget as the Final Budget. A second motion was made as an amendment by Johanna Shafer, seconded by Virginia Stern, to include $6,000 for the deputy Town Clerk. As per Town Attorney, William Bogle, this motion was determined to be invalid and was withdrawn. The amendment was not accepted. Roll call vote as follows: Virginia Stern – no; Johanna Shafer – no; Joseph Norton – yes; Thomas Dewhirst – yes; Mark D’Agostino – yes. Motion carried and Budget adopted.

2. MASTER PLAN SEQR REVIEW: The Board agreed to seek estimates for professional services to prepare the SEQR Environmental Assessment long form for the Master Plan.

3. LAND DONATION ~ S. ANSON ROAD: A motion was made by Johanna Shafer, seconded by Virginia Stern, to accept this offer from the Jacobs family for future potential use to the Town as a rail trail, amended to include a free and clear deed to the property. The motion was seconded by Virginia Stern. Discussion followed. Roll call vote as follows: Virginia Stern – yes; Johanna Shafer – yes; Joseph Norton – yes; Thomas Dewhirst – yes; Mark D’Agostino – abstained. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. COMMUNITY FOUNDATION – HEALTH CENTER BUILDING: Discussion followed between members of the Stanford Lions Club, part owner of the now-vacant Health Center building and the Board, as well as the Community Foundation’s interest in the property. After discussion, the Board would discuss this matter at the next meeting.

2. TRANSFER FUNDS FOR WHITLOCK PRESERVE: A motion was made by Virginia Stern, seconded by Mark D’Agostino, to transfer $479.05 from the CLASS account to cover the 2012 expenses incurred at the Whitlock Preserve. Motion carried with a roll call vote as follows: Virginia Stern – yes; Johanna Shafer – yes; Joseph Norton – yes; Thomas Dewhirst – yes; Mark D’Agostino – yes.

3. VACATION FOR PART-TIME EMPLOYEES: A motion was made by Mark D’Agostino, seconded by Joseph Norton, to approve the paid time-off schedule for employees adding that this would not cover new employees. Motion carried with a roll call vote as follows: Virginia Stern – yes; Johanna Shafer – yes; Joseph Norton – yes; Thomas Dewhirst – yes; Mark D’Agostino – yes.

4. GENERAL FUND BUDGET RESOLUTION:

**RESOLUTION #52 OF 2012**

**GENERAL FUND BUDGET RESOLUTION**

Motion made by Supervisor Virginia Stern

Seconded by Councilman Mark D’Agostino

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Stanford has expenditures for the adopted 2012 General Fund budget line items that will exceed the amount available in the below mentioned lines, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Stanford has funds available in other budget lines and needs to transfer funds to provide for expenses incurred,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Stanford hereby amends and transfers from and to the following budget lines for the adopted 2012 General Fund budget:

Account Increase Decrease

00-01-1450-40 – Elections; contractual $ 61.00 \_\_\_\_\_\_

00-01-1620-10 – Whitlock: labor $ 445.01

00-01-1990-40 – Contingency \_\_ $ 61.00

00-06-7140-10 – Recreation-Playground salaries $ 1,670.00 \_\_\_\_\_\_

00-07-8020-10 – Planning Board salary $ 1,670.00

00-08-9030-80 – Social Security (Whitlock) \_\_ $ 34.04

**TOTAL: $ 2,210.05 $ 1,731.00**

Revenues

00-2705 Whitlock transfer $ 479.05

**TOTAL: $ 479.05**

Roll call vote as follows: Virginia Stern – yes; Johanna Shafer – yes; Joseph Norton – yes; Thomas Dewhirst – yes; Mark D’Agostino – yes.

Budget Resolution #52 of 2012 unanimously approved by the Town Board of the Town of Stanford and certified this 8th day of November 2012.

5. HIGHWAY FUND BUDGET RESOLUTION:

**RESOLUTION # 53 OF 2012**

**HIGHWAY FUND BUDGET RESOLUTION**

Motion made by Supervisor Virginia Stern

Seconded by Councilman Mark D’Agostino

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Stanford has expenditures for the adopted 2012 Highway Fund budget line items that will exceed the amount available in the below mentioned lines, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Stanford has funds available in other budget lines and needs to transfer funds to provide for expenses incurred,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Stanford hereby amends and transfers from and to the following budget lines for the adopted 2012 Highway Fund budget:

Account Increase Decrease

01-04-5110-10 – General Repairs-salaries $ 20,000.00

01-04-5120-10 – Bridges- salaries $ 10,000.00

01-04-5140-10 – Brush & Weeds-salaries $ 5,000.00

01-04-5142-10 – Snow-salaries $ 5,000.00

**TOTAL: $ 20,000.00 $ 20,000.00**

Roll call vote as follows: Virginia Stern – yes; Johanna Shafer – yes; Joseph Norton – yes; Thomas Dewhirst – yes; Mark D’Agostino – yes.

Budget Resolution #53 of 2012 unanimously approved by the Town Board of Town of Stanford and certified this 8th day of November 2012.

6. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 2012 ABSTRACTS:

The November 2012 Abstract of Claims and the Planning Board Escrow Abstract were approved for payment as follows on a motion made by Virginia Stern, seconded by Mark D’Agostino: General Fund check numbers 23124-23170 {JC Fund, check # 223123} in the amount of $28,473.44; Highway Fund, check numbers 23171-23184, in the amount of $38,574.02; and Stanfordville/Bangall Light District, check #23185, in the amount of $704.98. Total of Abstract #11 for November of 2012: $ 67,752.44

Planning Board Escrow Abstract #11P, check numbers 825-826, in the amount of $523.20.

Roll Call Vote as follows: Supervisor Virginia Stern – yes; Councilwoman Johanna Shafer – abstained; Councilman Joseph Norton – abstained; Councilman Tom Dewhirst – yes; Councilman Mark D’Agostino – yes. Motion carried.

7. APPROVE NYS RETIREMENT INVOICE: When received, the Board approved the payment of the invoice from the NYS Retirement System on a motion made by Virginia Stern, seconded by Joseph Norton. Motion carried with a roll call vote as follows: Virginia Stern – yes; Johanna Shafer – yes; Joseph Norton – yes; Thomas Dewhirst – yes; Mark D’Agostino – yes.

8. VACANCY ON BOARD OF ETHICS: A motion to appoint Ann Collins to the vacancy on the Board of Ethics was made by Joseph Norton, seconded by Johanna Shafer. Motion carried with a roll call vote as follows: Virginia Stern – yes; Johanna Shafer – yes; Joseph Norton – yes; Thomas Dewhirst – yes; Mark D’Agostino – yes.

9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Minutes of the October 16th, October 23rd and November 1st Special Meetings were approved as written on a motion made by Mark D’Agostino, seconded by Joseph Norton. Motion carried with a roll call vote as follows: Virginia Stern – no; Johanna Shafer – no; Joseph Norton – yes; Thomas Dewhirst – yes; Mark D’Agostino – yes.

10. PRESENTATION OF THE NEW MVP HEALTH PLAN: Brad Palmiter from Marshall & Sterling presented information about the new health plan to the Town Board. Mention was made that this plan had already been presented to the Highway Dept. employees. After discussion, a motion was made by Virginia Stern, seconded by Joseph Norton, to approve CDPHP Health Plan Option 2. Motion carried with a roll call vote as follows: Virginia Stern – yes; Johanna Shafer – yes; Joseph Norton – yes; Thomas Dewhirst – yes; Mark D’Agostino – yes. The Supervisor will speak with Mr. Hickey, the Union’s representative, to prepare a memo of understanding.

COUNTY LEGISLATOR’S REPORT: County Legislator Mike Kelsey was in attendance and spoke of the following County matters: capping the sales tax, several early retirements with seven layoffs, shared services with Ulster for attorneys, the D.C. Jail and two local laws – item pricing and gas station prices.

Supervisor Stern questioned the matter of elected officials’ salaries as stated in the Budget public hearing notice. To change these, a local law subject to a permissive referendum would need to be done.

A motion to adjourn at 10:20 PM was made by Joseph Norton, seconded by Mark D’Agostino. Motion carried with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Ritamary Bell

Town Clerk