SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 31, 2014

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Special Town Board Meeting at 12:30 P.M. on October 31, 2014. Mr. Finch, Supervisor, presided. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Town Board Members Bullock, Dumian, Francisco, Finch

ABSENT: Minoia

Town Clerk Sherrie L. Jacobs

CODE OFFICER POSITION

Mr. Finch stated that the Town received an e-mail from the Broome County Personnel Department stating that new hire Gary Lombardo does not meet the requirements for the Code Officer position. Mr. Bullock will call Mr. Lombardo to inform him of the County's determination.

Mr. Finch stated that he, Mr. Dumian, and current Code Officer Robert Jones met with Ron Lake, Town Engineer for the Town of Kirkwood, to discuss Mr. Lake assisting in the Town of Conklin Code Office until a replacement for Mr. Jones is hired. Mr. Lake's usual fee is \$120 per hour but he is willing to work for the Town of Conklin for 10 to 20 hours per week at a pay rate of \$30 per hour. Mr. Bullock stated that the Town "can't proceed as is." He suggested that the Town re-advertise for the Code Officer position with the necessary qualifications listed. Mr. Francisco, who had worked with Mr. Bullock in the interviewing process, stated that he was not aware of the qualifications list. Mr. Dumian stated that it is his understanding that both Mr. Bullock and Mr. Francisco were sent an e-mail listing the qualifications required by Broome County. He added that Mr. Lake is very qualified, noting Mr. Lake's factual response to the ongoing situation with the salt distribution facility. It was suggested that Mr. Jones work for two more weeks, going through a fire inspection with Mr. Lake and apprising him of any ongoing projects and problems, after which time Mr. Jones would be free to retire.

Mr. Bullock suggested contacting an applicant from the County's civil service list, noting that Assistant to the Supervisor Lisa Houston has this person's application.

RESO 2014-176: APPROVE HIRING/RON LAKE/TEMPORARY CODE OFFICER/PART-TIME NOT TO EXCEED 20 HOURS PER WEEK/\$30 PER HOUR

Mr. Dumian moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves the hiring of Ron Lake to the position of temporary part-time Code Officer, as needed but not to exceed 20 hours per week, at a pay rate of \$30 per hour.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

VOTE: Bullock – Yes, Dumian – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Finch – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER

Mr. Finch stated that he would like to hire Dog Control Officer Tarah Tripp, currently hired by the Town of Binghamton and covering the Town of Conklin under a shared services agreement, to be on the Town of Conklin payroll and to cover the Town of Binghamton under the shared

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services agreement. He stated that the Town could purchase the Town of Binghamton's Dog Control truck for between \$3,500 and \$3,800, so that the Town of Conklin would not pay mileage for Dog Control, but rather the Town of Binghamton would pay the mileage. He stated that the Town of Binghamton is also willing to sell its 2005 Jeep and questioned whether the Town should purchase this vehicle for the Town of Conklin Code Officer to use. Mr. Finch explained that the Town of Conklin could purchase two trucks from the Town of Binghamton for \$10,000, and it could be a credit to the Town of Binghamton for its share of the Dog Control Officer's salary. This way, he stated, the Town of Conklin would not have to provide money to purchase the trucks. It was noted that the Town budgeted \$10,000 for the Dog Control Officer's salary (the remaining \$10,000 is paid by the Town of Binghamton), and \$10,800 for its contract with the Front Street Dog Shelter. Mr. Dumian clarified that there is no money in the 2015 Budget for the additional \$10,000 for the trucks and/or additional part of the Dog Control Officer's salary. Mr. Finch stated that perhaps the Town should look at a new truck for the Code Officer after January 1, 2015.

RESO 2014-177: APPROVE HIRING/TARAH TRIPP/FULL-TIME DOG CONTROL OFFICER/SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH TOWN OF BINGHAMTON/TOTAL COMPENSATION \$28,800 INCLUDING BENEFITS AND PENSION/EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2015

Mr. Dumian moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves the hiring of Tarah Tripp to the position of full-time Dog Control Officer, with a shared services agreement with the Town of Binghamton, total compensation to be \$28,800 including benefits and pension, effective January 1, 2015.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

VOTE: Bullock – Yes, Dumian – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Finch – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

RESO 2014-178: CHARGE TOWN OF BINGHAMTON FEDERAL MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT RATE/DOG CONTROL OFFICER VEHICLE

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin will charge the Town of Binghamton the federal mileage reimbursement rate for mileage driven using the Dog Control Officer's vehicle. The current rate is \$.56 per mile.

Seconded by Mr. Dumian.

VOTE: Bullock – Yes, Dumian – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Finch – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Bullock confirmed that Howard Tarbox will still be the back-up Dog Control Officer and will be paid a rate of \$25 for each dog pick-up he must perform.

WINTER MAINTENANCE/WALKABLE COMMUNITY WALKWAY

Mr. Finch stated that he met with Broome County Public Works Commissioner Daniel Schofield and was asked if the Town of Conklin would be willing to plow and salt the new Walkable

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Community walkway. If the Town is unable or unwilling to do this, Mr. Schofield stated the County will close the walkway and post it "seasonal use only." Mr. Finch stated that the County would have to supply the salt if the Town were to consider doing this. Mr. Dumian stated that he had stressed at the October 28 Town Board meeting that he questioned this very situation. Mr. Finch stated that this maintenance could be part of the Town's "in kind service."

Mr. Bullock asked who would be responsible if someone were to slip and fall on the walkway. It was also questioned whether or not Highway Superintendent Brian Coddington would be willing for his department to assume this responsibility. It was noted that not all areas of the walkway could be plowed using a pickup truck, but that the Parks Department could use a snowblower on the narrower sections. Mr. Dumian asked for clarification on whether it would be the responsibility of the Highway Department or the Parks Department. He added that a small salt spreader would be needed. The Board stated that it wants clarification of which entity, Town or County, would provide insurance and liability, and assurance that Broome County would provide materials and a salt or sand spreader, before it will commit to maintenance of the walkway. The Board will also ask Attorney Cheryl Sacco for her input regarding this commitment. Mr. Finch stated that perhaps posting it as "seasonal use only" might be the best solution.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Dumian moved for adjournment, seconded by Mr. Finch. The meeting adjourned at 1:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherrie L. Jacobs Town Clerk