

Town Highland
Emergency Town Board Meeting
May 31, 2024 – 8:08 AM
Eldred Town Hall

Present : Supervisor John Pizzolato
Councilman Tom Migliorino
Councilwoman Laura Burrell
Councilman James Akt – Not Present
Councilwoman Kaitlin Carney – Not Present

Also, present: Attorney to the Town Steve Mogul
Town Clerk Susan Hoffman

Supervisor calls meeting to order

Flag Salute

RESOLUTIONS

Bonding Town Trucks

Supervisor discusses bonding trucks to address maintenance issues and plan for future purchases.

Supervisor explains that bonding program is necessary to get newer, safer vehicles on the road.

Motion by Councilperson Burrell on bonding \$375,000.00 with Jeff bank for two new trucks that have already been purchased, seconded by Councilman Migliorino, discussion, motion carried, all ayes.

Extend public comment in town board workshops.

Proposes opening public comment for extended periods in workshops to allow for more input on agenda items.

Town attorney questions structure of workshops, including public comment and meeting minutes publication.

Workshops should be more of a dialogue with taxpayers, but also wants to ensure consistent issues are addressed.

Minutes unlikely without motions or votes.

Motion by Councilperson Burrell to permit public comment in town board workshops, seconded by Councilman Migliorino, motion carried, all ayes.

Host informal public “town hall” meeting regarding application of 211 Mail Road property pending before ZBA.

Attorney Steve Mogel expresses concern about public opinion influencing ZBA determination.

Attorney Steve Mogel expresses concern about town endorsing public discussion of zoning application before zoning board makes determination.

Attorney Steve Mogel suggests hosting public discussion after zoning board makes determination to avoid appearing to endorse or reject town's position. Appointed board members should be cautious about comments made in public and to applicants to avoid raising questions about impartiality and objectivity. Engaging in matters informed by the application is acceptable, but direct communication with one side without the other is problematic, especially for quasi-judicial boards like the ZBA.

Call for motion by Supervisor Pizzolato for Town to host informal public "town hall" meeting regarding 211 Mail Road. No motion made or seconded.

Executive Session – 8:35 AM

Motion by Councilman Migliorino to go into executive session for purposes of personnel, seconded by Councilperson Burrell, discussion, motion carried, all ayes.

Motion by Councilperson Burrell to come out of executive session, seconded by Councilman Migliorino, discussion, motion carried, all ayes.

Public Comment

Several comments and questions were said/asked by the public.

Motion by Councilperson Burrell to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Migliorino, discussion, motion carried, all ayes.

Respectfully submitted

Susan Hoffman, Town Clerk

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