

TOWN OF MURRAY, TOWN BOARD MEETING

October 10, 2017

Present: Supervisor John Morriss, Councilmen Ed Bower, Lloyd Christ, Paul Hendel and Bob Miller, Town Clerk Cindy Oliver, Highway and Water Superintendent Ed Morgan, Attorney Jeff Martin, Assessor Lynn Wood, Code Enforcement Officer Ron Vendetti, Louise Passarell, Stan Kemp, Elaine Berg, Neil Valentine, Joe Sidonio, Dave Piedmonte, Art Knabb, Gail Christ

Pledge to the flag.

Motion by Christ, Seconded by Miller to accept the September meeting minutes as presented Motion Carried

Assessor: Lynn Wood reported that all eight 'Diaz' homes have been sold. Louise and Lynn inspected them and put assessments on them. When the new assessment is set, the new owner has the right to come and contest it. The Board of Assessment Review will be here on Tuesday for this reason. Some of the new owners were under the impression that there would be no January county and town tax bill for these properties. Because the exemption is no longer in effect with the new owners, there may be a prorated school tax bill also. The law reads that once the new owner acquires the property, they are responsible.

Code Enforcement: Ron Vendetti reported that the Planning Board has completed their review of the Zoning Ordinance with the exception of a couple minor definitions they want to clear up. Once that is complete it will be sent to the Town Board for a quick review, then will be sent to County Planning. There were no huge changes, only minor edits.

Ron reported on the haunted trail on Ridge Road that is taking place again this year. The Department of Labor spoke to Ron today and they will be down to inspect the place with Ron this week. They are glad that we found a way to get the people parked off of the road but they still feel it is an unsafe place to have an event. The special permit has already been issued and the Sheriff Department will do traffic control as they have in the past.

Councilman Hendel suggested that the Town Board and the Planning Board have a joint meeting once the zoning ordinance changes are complete to go through the changes together. Councilman Hendel also thanked Ron for getting the Town of Murray welcome signs repaired and painted.

New Business:

Judge Spada is hoping to receive grant money for new chairs and robes for the Justices. He would like to submit an application for a JCAP grant as he has done in the past.

Motion by Christ, Seconded by Bower authorizing the Town of Murray Justice Court to submit JCAP application in an amount not to exceed the maximum amount available Motion Carried

A budget work meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 17th at 7:00 p.m.

A public hearing on water assessments needs to be scheduled also. This will give each property owner the amount that their water assessment will be on their January property tax bills. This public hearing will be held on October 30th at 6:00 p.m. before the preliminary budget hearing.

Attorney Jeff Martin updated all on the funding for water district 3, ext. 1. Although we were previously told that we did not get funded for the district, Dawn Kuras of Rural Development contacted us to inform with the news that three more projects ended up getting approved. The Town of Murray was one of them. This is an \$825,000 project and we've been approved for a \$369,000 grant. The remaining \$456,000 will be a 38 year loan at 2.875%. Construction will begin sometime in 2018 and it will hopefully be operational by this time next year. Everything that needs to be done thus far is in place. Jeff has been given the 35 page letter of conditions from Rural Development.

Motion by Hendel, Seconded by Bower to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, USDA has obligated the funds for the construction of Water District 3, Extension 1, consisting of a \$456,000 loan and a \$369,000 grant; and

WHEREAS, USDA requires that the Town execute RUS Bulletin 1780-12, "Water and Waste System Grant Agreement," as a condition to obtaining this funding;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS

RESOLVED, that Supervisor Morriss is hereby authorized and directed to execute RUS Bulletin 1780-12, "Water and Waste System Grant Agreement," on behalf of the Town.

Upon being put to a vote, the resolution was unanimously adopted.

As with every water project, there is much paperwork and documentation involved. Thank you to Dawn Kuras who went to bat for the Town. The fact that we ended up receiving the funding is a testament to her hard work.

We have been working with Bob Fox of EFPR on the budget and water districts analysis. EFPR's services include review history of development of each water district, conduct meetings for officials and residents explaining the pros and cons of possible consolidation of water districts. The agreement with EFPR needs to be signed. The work will not exceed 20 hours and will not exceed \$2,500. All in agreement that this is something that would be beneficial for the Town to do.

Motion by Christ, Seconded by Miller authorizing Supervisor John Morriss to sign agreement with EFPR Solutions Motion Carried

Attorney: The Zoning Board had a public hearing on September 26th for an area variance for Norman Sietmann of 16278 Ridge Road. Mr. Sietmann asked for a setback variance for a lean-to. Zoning Board granted the setback variance and it is already under construction.

The Planning Board also held a public hearing on a site plan for Teacher Geek, 16551 Ridge Road, as they are adding on a huge addition. The site plan was approved and they are moving forward with the addition as well.

Jeff briefly spoke about the Water and Waste System Grant Agreement. For everyone's information regarding operation and maintenance: One of the many requirements stated is that *the Town is required to adjust its operating cost and service charges from time to time to provide for adequate operation and maintenance, emergency repair reserves, obsolescence reserves, debt service and debt service reserves.* Jeff explained that it isn't only about debt service. There is operation and maintenance that the Town has to consider. It is a specific requirement to our funding.

Town Clerk:

September receipts totaled \$3,209.25 with \$792.70 going into the general fund.

Highway and Water Superintendent:

The Highway Department paved Creek Road which is the last road to be done. The road cut repair still needs to be done on Telegraph Road. This is a county road so is repaired in conjunction with the County. We have had to wait for plant to be available, the weather to be cooperative and wait until the County

Highway Dept. gets in our section of the county. The county said it will be possibly another week to ten days.

The Water Department has been utilizing the new technology and have found some leaks due to corrosion issues with stainless steel tap and saddles. Guard valves and hydrants have been listened to. They will now be starting to listen to the house services. Our system is broken up in two sections: north of the canal and south of the canal. The north section alone has 500 service connections. 470 hydrants and guard valves and 136 mainline valves have all physically been listened to, ruling them out as potential leaks. The new monitoring system is showing substantial water flow during the night, which is not normal. It could potentially be services that are leaking under the road or possible theft. If the flow was consistent, Superintendent Morgan would say it is definitely a leak but it is not consistent. When you think you've got a section isolated, it changes. When they shut down a valve, they are going back at midnight, listening to the valve to make sure it is shut down. Some of these valves are 30 years old but the new technology has been worth the investment.

The Telegraph Road bridge could possibly be open today. The state is doing temporary repairs to maintain a four ton limit through the winter months. They are still in the design phase for a total retrofit. The four ton limit will allow the Highway Dept. to go over it with the small truck in the winter.

Public Comments:

None

Motion by Christ, Seconded by Miller that the Town Board enters into executive session at 7:34 P.M. to discuss possible litigation Motion Carried

Motion by Christ, Seconded by Hendel that the Town Board returns to regular session at 7:56 P.M. with no action taken Motion Carried

Motion by Miller, Seconded by Bower to approve the Supervisor's financial report and that the following bills be paid: Motion Carried

General Fund	Claims 284-328	\$23,441.78
Highway Fund	Claims 115-125	\$82,577.70
Water District No. 1	Claims 19-20	\$387.75
Water District No. 2	Claims 29-32	\$4,610.50
Water District No. 3	NONE	\$0.00
Water District No. 4	Claim 12	\$27.00
Water District No. 5	Claim 11	\$77.75
Water District No. 6	Claims 43-46	\$4,032.33

Water District No. 7	Claim 15	\$27.00
Water District No. 8	NONE	\$0.00
Water District No. 9	NONE	\$0.00
Water District No. 10	Claim 20	\$2.59
Water District No. 11	Claims 45-49	\$4,835.41
Water District No. 12	NONE	\$0.00
Water District No. 13	NONE	\$0.00
Water District No. 14	NONE	\$0.00
Water District No. 15	NONE	\$0.00
Water District No. 20	Claim 7	\$150.00
Water Dist. No. 3, Ext. 1	Claim 1	\$4,116.00

Motion by Christ, Seconded by Hendel to adjourn the meeting Motion
Carried

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia Oliver