

*****DRAFT*****

Murray Town Board Work Meeting
May 13, 2021

Present: Supervisor Joseph Sidonio, Councilmen Randall Bower, Lloyd Christ, Paul Hendel and Michael Mele, Town Clerk Cindy Oliver, Kevin Moore, Elaine Berg, David Piedmonte

Meeting opened at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge to the American Flag.

Brief discussion regarding healthcare. To address the rising cost of healthcare, suggestions included the grandfathering in of present employees and raising employee contribution for anyone hired in the future. Another alternative would be that the Town does not contribute to new employee's HSA's. Supervisor Sidonio and Councilman Bower will work on getting a breakdown for these different options so the Board can compare and make a decision.

All had copies of the draft Affidavit of Domestic Partnership supplied by Attorney Sansone. Councilman Bower would like the language changed regarding living in one residence because an employee could have moved from one residence to another with their domestic partner. Another area discussed was children and/or step children from a domestic partnership being covered. This will have to be addressed with our Attorney to ensure the policy is not discriminatory.

Kevin Moore is able to stay on as Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer in limited capacity until a sufficient replacement is found. He will be able to issue permits, review planning and zoning applications but will not concentrate on Code Enforcement at this time and will not be Fire Marshall.

Motion by Hendel, Seconded by Mele that Kevin Moore be reappointed as Code Enforcement Officer, Part-Time and be compensated at a payrate of \$30 per hour.

After being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously adopted.

Motion by Christ, Seconded by Mele appointing David Leach to the Zoning Board of Appeals to a term expiring 12/31/2021 and appointing Gerald Rightmyer to the Zoning Board of Appeals to a term expiring 12/31/2022.

After being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously adopted.

We need a letter of resignation from Scott Harrington as alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Once received, we can appoint someone for that position also.

No response has been received from Roger Passarell regarding the letter sent to him asking if he wished to remain on the Planning Board.

Motion by Hendel, Seconded by Christ removing Roger Passarell from his position on the Town of Murray Planning Board.

After being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Mele and Kevin Moore think Amy Machamer would be a good addition to the Town Planning Board. Councilman Hendel stated it does not seem appropriate for the Supervisor's wife to be appointed to this position. The appearance of conflict of interest is too great. Councilman Mele said this does not have to be voted on tonight.

Elaine Berg informed all that the town website will be going live sometime next week. It is simplified, clean and lightyears ahead of the old website.

Discussion regarding live streaming town meetings and the Justice Court using the same technology for virtual arraignments. Justice Court would be using their own platform but sharing the equipment. Questions regarding a recent law stating there can be no photographs or video in a courtroom. This will have to be researched.

Supervisor Sidonio asked all to be thinking about a Town marijuana policy.

Brief discussion regarding the American Rescue Plan and what to use the funds for when received. An area to consider is investing in our water department; better software program and better automation management that would allow us to get more precise readings when needed.

Supervisor Sidonio informed all that John Sansone is working on a solar and wind moratorium as our present solar law needs updating.

Brief discussion regarding employee handbooks. Councilman Bower put all of the current town policies in a small folder. We can make copies and hand them out to new employees. The employees can then sign a statement that they have received the handbook. Supervisor Sidonio thinks there needs to be more added to the handbook such as rules of conduct. Councilman Bower said the civil service rules and the federal fair labor standards can be referred to as well.

Motion by Christ, Seconded by Mele that the meeting be adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

After being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia L. Oliver