

**TOWN OF DEERPARK  
TOWN BOARD MEETING  
MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2009**

Meeting was held at Town Hall, 420 Route 209, Huguenot, New York 12746

**Attendance:**

**Supervisor:** Gary Flieger

**Councilmember's:** Liam O'Neill, Viola Sinsabaugh, and Karl Brabenec (late)

**Call to Order 7:10PM**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Motion to open meeting 7:10PM**

Motion made by Gary Flieger, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Viola Sinsabaugh, to open the meeting

**VOTE: 3 AYES: Liam O'Neill, Viola Sinsabaugh and Gary Flieger**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Motion to enter Executive Session 7:13PM**

Motion made by Gary Flieger, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Viola Sinsabaugh, to enter Executive Session for the purpose of interviewing candidates for the vacant Town Board Seat; the list of applicants will be attached to the minutes.

**VOTE: 3 AYES: Liam O'Neill, Viola Sinsabaugh and Gary Flieger**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Motion to end Executive Session 10:20PM**

Motion made by Gary Flieger, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Karl Brabenec, to end Executive Session.

**VOTE: 4 AYES: Liam O'Neill, Karl Brabenec, Viola Sinsabaugh and Gary Flieger**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Motion to enter Regular Session 10:21PM**

Motion made by Gary Flieger, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Viola Sinsabaugh, to enter Regular Session.

**VOTE: 4 AYES: Liam O'Neill, Karl Brabenec, Viola Sinsabaugh and Gary Flieger**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Gary Flieger: We had many interviews tonight, after the discussion following the interviews the board has decided that we'd like to wait until our next meeting to vote on that. The next issue we have is the Association of Towns school in New York City; Mr. Bavoso has written us a letter and Flo has put together a cost proposal for us, I have called Association of Towns and I have talked to a couple of other people; Mr. Emerson, last year, was able to pick up almost thirty credits, he needs twenty four, he picked up almost thirty locally, our Planning Board I believe needs six credits, they didn't get them last year, but last year Mr. Plotsky volunteered to give them the course to do it, the course is also given in New Paltz for \$60.00 a head, that would get them through; and all these other, Flo has her Town Clerk's Meetings where she gets updates from, and I will have to admit that the Association of Towns School would be an asset, there's a lot of people that you would meet, and get a lot of information from, but I think at this time the cost of going is just too expensive for our budget, I just don't think we can do that. An individual going to this meeting, according to Flo's records, costs \$758.00, if we have two people go and they share a room the cost is \$555.00 per person, and this does not reflect the hospitality suite which is there which would give them a couple of free meals, we did not pay that this year, and that's \$260.00 for us to join that, so it would be a little bit more added to that. Liam O'Neill: Okay wait, if two people go and share a room the cost per person is \$555.00.

Flo Santini: For the three days. Liam O'Neill: For three days, excluding, you would have to make up for the couple of meals that you would have gotten if you were able to go to the hospitality suite. Alright, so we would say probably \$600.00 per person if we have to pay for the extra meals without the hospitality suite. Gary Flieger: And I'll tell you right now that Flo did a lot of work on this thing here, and just to give you an idea of the cost increase, if you go back to page three in her packet she showed us where they went down in 2006, in 2009 she was very lean in doing things and she's around \$555.00 - \$575.00, she got away with \$418.00 and did a lot more. Flo Santini: Well don't forget that you're probably talking about the rooms that are probably more money now. Gary Flieger: It's just unbelievable how much it's gone up in 2 years. Parking is \$37.00 back then and its... Flo Santini: But like I said Jane and I have always shared and that's why it would be half of whatever the cost is; and that's why a cap should have been put on this for years, and I've always said that; and you can see where Mr. House went for a \$125.00 plate dinner, that came back and charged the town which was not right.

Viola Sinsabaugh: When you go to the City everything costs more there than it does up here. Flo Santini: It's unbelievable how expensive it is down there, no doubt about it, but you also got the letter from Bill that it is the Town Law that if we go to school the Town pays for it, you cannot stop us from going to school. It's in my budget to go.

Gary Flieger: But your budget line was consumed with the other... Flo Santini: No it was consumed with school because we all said that we did not do anything last year and we were going to do it this year; I'm not talking for anybody else, I'm talking for me, \$5,000 was put in my budget, \$5,000 consumes school, supplies, and anything else I need, and don't forget

I'm three departments in the one office, Registrar, Town Clerk, Vital Statistics, and if you look at what they said that these things are going to be, one of the things that they're going to talk about is the Registrar's condensing to the County, and it's

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preservation of town registrar's and vital statistics, and this is the stuff that you should have somebody go to; and it's funny the book from the Association of Towns has a very good article about how you should not have us not go down there, we should go. Gary Flieger: It's a very big asset but I also understand that it's, by doing the research that we could still get our credits and still get what's there, she also mentioned that a lot of the programs that will be given there, especially the power point programs by the Comptroller's Office will be put on the computer. Flo Santini: I can't talk about Bob, I can't talk about anybody else, I'm talking about me, it's in my budget, Town Law says you could put a price cap on me, but the Town is responsible for me if I want to go to school. Liam O'Neill: What about the credits that you will receive there? Flo Santini: I don't per say get credits, it's just learning for me. Liam O'Neill: Okay, what about that information? Flo Santini: Well you're talking Ag. and Markets, you're talking Registrar, you're talking anything that has to do with my office, and you know that I always come back with something, and it's always a learning experience, the open meetings law, we always have a class on that. What I do monthly, they have people who come, and I always invite you to our monthly meetings, but it's very secluded just Orange and Sullivan Town Clerk's where we're ten or fifteen, down there you could have 100 Town Clerk's in one room and that knowledge and that expertise; my parking permits, they do knew stuff with those, I'm only talking about me; and like you said Bob Emerson could go in three days and get sixteen credits or he can go in four months and get sixteen credits and take 20 half days out of work to get his credits, so he either gets sixteen in two days down there or sixteen in 20 half days of going to class or whatever. Now you say planning board, yes, you're supposed to have somebody here, planning and zoning is law that they have to have these credits and they haven't done it in two years. Gary Flieger: That's going by you thinking that this is the only resource that they have, it's the most expensive resource that they have. Flo Santini: Listen, I've got a Town Clerk's Association school three days up in Syracuse, that if I have enough money in my budget I could go to that too, it's an all inclusive thing with just Town Clerk's. Gary Flieger: Can you explain something to me; you had about \$5,000 in your budget last year...Flo Santini: \$4,000. Gary Flieger: Okay and you spent \$4,700.00 without going to school, this same budget line that you're talking about using for going to school you have \$5,000 this year, that's probably \$160.00 more than what you spent last year, so if you spent close to \$5,000 last year, without going to school, to run your office, now you're saying that you have the money to go to school. Flo Santini: Yes because you left \$2,000 in my other points that I have, so literally my office has \$7,000 in it, my records management has \$2,000 in the .4, last year you stripped me and only gave me \$4,000, nothing in the other lines, this year I have the \$2,000. Liam O'Neill: I recall last week making a motion, my intention was to have people who wanted to go to this meeting to submit something by today so that we could vote on it, and I think it was also suggested that you contact people... Flo Santini: I did that. Liam O'Neill: But yet this is all we have. Flo Santini: I can't speak for anybody else. Liam O'Neill: But they were contacted? Flo Santini: Yes I sent everybody a memo. Liam O'Neill: Including Skip Wilson? Gary Flieger: Yes Skip came in and talked to me about it. Liam O'Neill: What did he say? Gary Flieger: He said he got his training I believe in BOCES last year and it cost nothing. Last year we had Glen Plotsky volunteer to do the class, but the planning board never took the initiative to make that happen, this year I will stick with this more to see that it happens. Flo Santini: I did tell Bob and Ed that I was doing this, I showed them what I did, because it was one and two people, and like I said Bob's answer to me was that he wanted to go to the City, I told him that I did this to show what it would be for one person and what it would be for two people. Liam O'Neill: But why didn't he do this? Gary Flieger: Bob also came in my office and said that he did get his training elsewhere, he can do it elsewhere. Liam O'Neill: So Bob will do it elsewhere, and Ed what did he say? Flo Santini: Ed would like to go because he's still new, to get his training. Liam O'Neill: Well he didn't do this either, he had three days to do it. Flo Santini: Well I think for three days he was working on the RFP's that they got done tonight with the Emergency Management, and this was a short thing; this was just from last week. What I did though will show you that if anyone else wanted to go what the cost would be for one person, two people, or sharing rooms, stuff like that. I think Mr. Bavoso's letter is straight; I have \$7,000 in my budget. Karl Brabenec: I think, the Town Clerk's has the money in the budget to approve this, the problem is that we have not done this training, we didn't do it last year, we got pressure to cancel the training last year because we were hit with everything at the beginning of the year, and everybody did, everybody chipped in and did this; but the problem here is this training provides a lot of information for public officials for job duties and the thing that I'm seeing here is there are a lot of issues with protocol, a lot of issues with procedure, a lot of issues with a lot of things with the way things are run here and I think if we had this training, this is actually a good thing for our officials to attend because it's teaching them the right ways to do things in government which is a problem that's happening here currently so I'm in favor of approving this budget. Liam O'Neill: If only two people are going and the money is there then why not. Gary Flieger: I know Flo gets her updates, last year she got all her updates with her monthly town clerk meetings, and they do that and that's why they have those meetings, that you already pay for her to go to each month. Viola Sinsabaugh: Flo, did you get the information that was needed for you at these luncheons that you go to? Gary Flieger: Are they informative meetings? Flo Santini: They're very informative especially with other towns, for example the one meeting we had we went to Bethel and we had the tour of Bethel, and if somebody comes into my office asks what's in the area I can now say go to Bethel and look at what they've done, it has nothing to do with what we learned, but it's

what's in the area, and that's what we try to do. One time they had the Comptroller's Office there when I invited you, and we do have other people that we see in the City and learn all this stuff. Jane's worried that any day now that the State's going to

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say no more Tax Collector, turn it over to the County, these are the organizations, it's not just Orange and Sullivan, it's the whole State of New York. But it's different things that we learn at our monthly meetings than what we learn at the City, what we do here at Orange and Sullivan is our everyday stuff, the same as Board of Elections, we do Board of Elections for Orange County, you don't do it for the State Board of Elections which is a bigger thing when they come and do their presentation and stuff. Gary Flieger: What you're looking at is if you're sending just the two of them down and we have to throw in that \$260, you're looking at almost \$700 a piece. Liam O'Neill: But we don't have to put out that money, we just have to make sure they have something towards those two extra meals. Viola Sinsabaugh: I like the way she has this all done up, she has Flo, and she has Flo and Jane. Flo Santini: That's what I'm saying, that's why we share the room and it's in two different accounts, and if you think anybody else should go then they should share a room. Liam O'Neill: So we're looking at \$1,200 for you two to go down for two days. Flo Santini: So it would be \$600 from my budget and \$600 from Jane's budget. You know what, I didn't cause this problem, you stripped us all last year, I'm doing my work, I'm doing what I have to do, I'm asking to go to school, I'm not talking for anybody else; when there are people in this building that want something they get something without the blink of an eye, I got money in my budget, you can't deny me of going to school, I can't talk about anything else, I booked it, I set my hotel, I sent my reservation in, I'm not asking for three nights like all the other towns, I go down Sunday I come back Tuesday night after the last class, that's it.

**Motion to authorize Town Clerk and Tax Collector to attend Association of Towns School**

Motion made by Liam O'Neill, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Karl Brabenec, that Flo and Jane be authorized to go to the Association of Towns Conference/School in New York City, the Town will pay the necessary expenses, not to exceed \$1,200.00, and that no liquor/alcohol purchases will be covered by Town Funds, and with a limit of \$50.00 per dinner, and to take a Town Vehicle.

**VOTE: 3 AYES: Viola Sinsabaugh, Liam O'Neill and Karl Brabenec**

**1 NO: Gary Flieger**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Motion to adjourn 10:46PM**

Motion made by Liam O'Neill, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Karl Brabenec, to adjourn the meeting.

**VOTE: 4 AYES: Liam O'Neill, Karl Brabenec, Viola Sinsabaugh and Gary Flieger**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted by,

Florence T. Santini  
Town Clerk