

Minutes of April 30, 2019 Germantown Town Board workshop, held in the Germantown Town Hall, 50 Palatine Park Road, Germantown, NY, commencing at 6:30pm.

Present: Supervisor Beaury
Councilwoman DuFresne
Councilman Kukon
Councilman Sullivan

Absent: Councilman Moore

Recorded by: Town Clerk, Joyce Vale

Supervisor Beaury welcomed everyone to the Town Board workshop and Led with the Pledge to the Flag.

Supervisor Beaury opened the workshop to public comments.

Tony Albino mentioned the Town Wide Yard Sale on May 18th. They will be putting flyers in local and out of town shops.

A gentleman asked about the Ash Dump in Catskill and if Germantown will be impacted by it? Supervisor Beaury said he is waiting for the DEC & EPA reports.

Margaret DellaCioppa asked about Airbnb's and what the Town is thinking. Supervisor Beaury said the matter is split into two issues: regulation and taxation. The Town doesn't have the resources to regulate or begin taxing them. He said the County is researching the issue and he recommends the Town go with the County on this issue since they have the resources. We are likely looking at not regulating short-term rentals but taxing them is something we can consider once the County completes its work.

Supervisor Beaury explained that monitoring short-term rentals is extremely difficult and he gave an example of a resident in the sewer district that complained that his place was vacant for months and he wondered why didn't the Town catch this when they did the annual inspection? Supervisor Beaury explained that the Town doesn't do annual inspections to determine if someone lives there and that this example ties into the difficulty the Town would have regulating Airbnb's and Commercial Events.

Margaret DellaCioppa said that people are buying houses for Airbnb's and that young people could be buying these houses instead. Councilwoman DuFresne agreed with Margaret.

Tracey said there is a meeting in Hudson on May 18th.

Another person asked again about the Ash Dump. Supervisor Beaury said he is waiting to hear what the EPA and DEC have to say about it.

Supervisor Beaury said that the NRI will be adopted by the Town Board at the next Town Board meeting.

Kaare Christian told of a grant with a need of completing 4 of 10 tasks in order to be eligible for this grant.

Kaare identified 5 tasks that they should be able to complete.

- 1.) Additional training for CEO.
- 2.) Solar permit process
- 3.) Conversion to LED street lighting.
- 4.) Energy usage in town buildings and areas for improvements.
- 5.) Clean fleets task- put in charging station in town. Need 2 separate grants.

There was discussion on the charging station.

Kaare Christian next spoke about the Roe Jan Watershed Community. Samples are collected monthly from May to October and tested by Bard Water Lab. Kaare said the Roe Jan is in pretty good shape.

Margaret DellaCioppa mentioned that Katrina Sullivan with the Library will be scheduling an informational meeting on the Red Jumping Worm.

Christina Bohnsack asked if the phragmites in the pond by the baseball field be cut before they get out of hand.

Councilwoman DuFresne mentioned creating a newsletter to help with getting information around town to the public. A for instance is what the Town Board is working on and what they have accomplished. Discussion on different ways to get information to the residents.

Workshop closed at 7:43pm.

Respectfully submitted,