

Minutes of March 1, 2022, Germantown Town Board workshop, held in the Germantown Town Hall, 50 Palatine Park Road, Germantown, NY and via Zoom, commencing at 7:00pm.

Present: Supervisor Helsley
Councilman Sullivan
Councilman Kukon
Councilmember Suarez
Councilman Christian

Present via Zoom: Town Attorney, Corinne Smith

Recorded by: Town Clerk, Joyce Vale

Supervisor Helsley opened the workshop with a motion from Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember Suarez, with all in favor and none opposed.

Supervisor Helsley explained ARPA (America Recovery Plan) is to help offset costs associated with the Coronavirus and the Town Board is going to discuss ways to disperse the money tonight at this workshop. The town has received \$93,211 plus an additional \$380.97. Supervisor Helsley said usage for these are funds are water, sewer, infrastructure, safety related HVAC, offsetting losses for the community of town.

Councilmember Suarez said the town had received \$93,211 and an additional \$380.97 this past summer and will be receiving \$93,692 this summer for a total of \$187,384. Councilmember Suarez said the community should benefit from these funds and she would like to have the community involved in how to use these funds. Councilmember Suarez suggested starting a community survey. Councilmember Suarez also mentioned upgrading the Kellner Activity Building for emergency preparedness and the EOP needs to be updated.

The Town Board discussed making a survey to send out to the community and at the beginning of the survey would state what the funds can be used for.

Supervisor Helsley opened up the workshop to public comments.

Tony Albino suggested someone going to talk to Pastor Dave Tipple from the Reformed Church, the parish families have been under great stress and the Pastor needs some support.

Karen Targove would like to see 2 or 3 impact things and how much each would cost. Karen said infrastructure would benefit the entire community.

Councilmember Suarez start an internal document. Corinne said which is fine because it will being it was going out to the public.

Town Board discussion on Earth Day. It was decided the Town Board will prepare some kind of a suggestion box for Earth Day.

Patty Hinkein would like to see the expansion of the sewer district on Maple Avenue. Patty said there are 5 houses that would like to connect to the sewer and these properties already border the sewer district.

There was more discussion on the sewer expansion study.

Councilman Christian would like the Kellner Building made more usable for emergency purposes.

The Town Board discussed what steps to take to make the Kellner Building more useful. The Town Board agreed this is a good project.

Supervisor Helsley will set up a meeting with EMO, Red Cross and Delaware Engineering. Councilman Christian would like to be present.

Councilman Kukon is in agreement with Tony that someone should reach out to Dave Tipple, Councilmember Suarez said she would do that.

Laura Sink asked the Town Board for guidance for her business Gatherwild and there is no farm stay in our town code. Laura said her business brings in revenue to the other town businesses and people want them to stay. Supervisor Helsley has no advice for Laura that they are waiting on the final resolution from the ZBA. Corinne said the ZBA has a special meeting tomorrow night. More discussion was held.

Motion to close the workshop made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Workshop closed at 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Vale