

**A Town Board Workshop was held August 21, 2012, at 6:30PM at Town Hall, 18 Russell Avenue, Ravena, New York**

**PRESENT:** Stephen D. Flach, Supervisor  
Dawn Rogers, Councilwoman  
Thomas A. Boehm, Councilman  
Peter E. Masti, Councilman  
Thomas E. Dolan, Councilman

**ALSO PRESENT:** Diane L. Millious, Town Clerk  
Greg Darlington, Chief of Police.

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Supervisor Flach opened the Town Board Workshop and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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## **AGENDA**

- Proposed “Sign” Law
- Drug Testing Policy
- Housing Choice Voucher Program
- Ambulance Districting
- Police Issues
  - Colvin Avenue Parking
  - New Police Car
  - Police Repeater
  - Asset Forfeiture Accounts
- Executive Session
  - Personnel Issues

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## **DISCUSSIONS**

### **Police Issues**

- Parking on Colvin Avenue

Chief Darlington stated that he had previously sent an e-mail concerning parking on Colvin Avenue and the signage and wants to discuss with the Board what their pleasure is with it.

Discussion ensued amongst the Town Board and Chief Darlington relative to the Highway Department moving the “No Parking Sign” and their authority to do so under Highway Law, which creates a problem because then the Police Department cannot enforce it unless there is a law on the books.

Collectively it was decided that they should address all the parking problems in the Town of Coeymans and come up with a law so the Police Department can enforce the law and that Chief Darlington should submit a formal request to the Town Board for further action.

- **Asset Forfeiture Accounts**

Chief Darlington stated that the Police Department will be receiving some funds from the Federal Government in regard to some joint investigations that they have done and the Asset Forfeiture Account that they have is for Federal Funds and they have to set one up for State Funds and then a checking account, which have to be kept separate.

Discussion ensued amongst the Town Board and Chief Darlington relative to the amount that will be received and what has to be done before they receive the money.

Collectively it was decided that Chief Darlington should meet with Supervisor Flach to discuss a resolution for a budget amendment to create the accounts.

- **Police Repeater**

Chief Darlington stated that he had budgeted \$10,000.00 for a police repeater that under FCC mandates, has to be Narrowband by January 1, 2013 and he had put in a purchase order for it a few days ago.

Discussion ensued amongst the Town Board and Chief Darlington relative to the cost, where the funds will come from for the purchase of a repeater.

Collectively it was decided that they would review the purchase order and discuss doing a resolution for the purchase.

- **Police Car**

Chief Darlington stated that they had previously discussed a new police car and how they were going to fund it and added that it is his understanding that they have started receiving FEMA money and he was wondering if he can move forward with it.

Discussion ensued amongst Chief Darlington and the Town Board relative to the type of car, cost, timeline from order to delivery and the current fleet.

Collectively it was decided that they would take a look at the FEMA money coming in and money that they have and they will discuss it at the next Town Board Meeting.

### **Ambulance Districting**

Supervisor Flach stated that Councilman Boehm and Councilman Masti have been involved in seeing what the best options are for the Town and Ravena Rescue Squad.

Emergency Management Coordinator Bruno gave a brief update of a meeting held by the Ambulance District Committee relative to their discussion about the Rescue Squad's financial status, budget and needs. He continued by giving an update of a meeting when they met with Brian Wood from Albany County who discussed what they are doing at a County level.

Discussion ensued amongst the Town Board, Bill Bruno, Ginny Pearson, Marvin Powell Alex Bettke and Chief Darlington relative to the options that are before the Town Board with how to go forward in funding the Rescue Squad, the current financial status of the Ravena Rescue Squad, the process of how the Rescue Squad gets funded, what they need from the Town for next years budget, whether or not an Ambulance District would be owned by the Town of Coeymans and solely for Town residents, how the Town of New Baltimore would fit in the equation, mutual aid, Workman's Compensation for volunteers vs. paid on call employees and what they need to do to move forward in creating an Ambulance District.

Mr. Bettke stated that he would prepare a plan & report along with a district map and have it for the next Town Board Meeting for discussion of options.

Collectively it was decided that maybe they should have a contract with Ravena Rescue Squad for next year so they do not have to rush on the district with budget season coming up and in turn negotiate a contract and prepare a resolution for a Town Board Meeting and then continue with the process for an Ambulance District, which would be effective for January 2014.

**Proposed “Sign Law”**

Supervisor Flach stated that the reason for a Proposed Sign Law is because the current laws/ordinances are within the zoning and they are in the process of looking at changing the zoning and one of the things that they need to do is to get the sign part out of it and have it be a stand alone law.

Discussion ensued about the possibility of everyone being exempt from fees as well taking into consideration temporary vs. permanent signs and the actual size.

Collectively they decided that the Town Board will look at the Proposed Law and they will schedule a Public Hearing for September 10<sup>th</sup> at the next Town Board Meeting and authorize publication for Notice of Public Hearing.

**Drug Testing Policy**

Supervisor Flach stated that there are a couple of options for drug testing for all employees and that there should be zero tolerance.

Discussion ensued amongst the Town Board and Chief Darlington about the possibility of those to be tested, to go directly to the facility instead of having it done in Town Hall as well as exactly who should be tested.

Collectively it was decided that the Town Board should review the proposal and in turn discuss it at the next Town Board Meeting.

**Housing Choice Voucher Program**

Supervisor Flach stated that Mr. Mastrianni had indicated a desire to open up the Housing Choice Voucher Program to everyone and not just seniors and/or disabled.

Discussion ensued amongst the Town Board relative to their desire to keep it seniors and/or disabled as well as not wanting to support people who are living outside the Town of Coeymans.

Collectively it was decided that there would be a motion offered at the next Town Board Meeting to advise Mr. Mastrianni that they would be keeping it limited to seniors and/or disabled.

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**ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Supervisor Flach asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting to Executive Session.

**MOTION**

On motion of Councilman Boehm, seconded by Councilwoman Rogers, the Town Board Workshop was adjourned to Executive Session.

VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

Time – 7:35PM

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION & ADJOURNMENT**

Executive Session convened in the Supervisor’s Office immediately following the Town Board Workshop, the entire Town Board was present as well as Michael A. Richardson, Labor Relations Consultant to discuss personnel issues. No decisions were made. The Workshop was adjourned from Executive Session.

**MINUTES BOOK\*\*TOWN OF COEYMANS  
August 21, 2012 – TOWN BOARD WORKSHOP – 6:30PM**

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*Respectfully Submitted,*

**APPROVED –**

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*Diane L. Millious, Town Clerk*