

AUGUST 24, 2011

**TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING
TOWN HALL, MAHOPAC, N.Y.**

A Special Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Carmel was called to order by Supervisor Kenneth Schmitt on the 24th day of August, 2011 at 7:32 p.m. at Town Hall, 60 McAlpin Avenue, Mahopac, New York. Members of the Town Board present by roll call were: Councilman Ravallo, Councilman Lombardi, Councilwoman McDonough, and Supervisor Schmitt.

DONATION OF ACCRUED SICK TIME TO EMPLOYEE #2297 - ACCEPTED AND APPROVED

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Carmel hereby accepts and approves the donation of accrued sick time to Employee #2297 from the following Town of Carmel Employees:

EMPLOYEE I.D. #	SICK TIME DONATED
1544	1 DAY
1975	1 DAY
1980	1 DAY
1545	1 DAY
1597	2 DAYS
1366	2 DAYS

Resolution

Offered by: Councilman Lombardi
Seconded by: Councilwoman McDonough

<u>Roll Call Vote</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
Robert Ravallo	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Frank Lombardi	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Suzanne McDonough	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Kenneth Schmitt	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 21, 2011 ON ARTICLE 95 OF TOWN CODE ENTITLED "GARBAGE, RUBBISH AND REFUSE" – AUTHORIZED

RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Carmel hereby authorizes the scheduling of a Public Hearing at the Town Hall, 60 McAlpin Avenue, Mahopac, New York 10541 on Wednesday, September 21, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter that evening as possible on a Local Law amending Article 95 of the Town Code of the Town of Carmel, entitled "GARBAGE, RUBBISH AND REFUSE" ; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk Ann Garris is hereby authorized and instructed to publish and post the necessary notices in the official newspaper of the Town and on the Town bulletin board regarding this Public Hearing.

Resolution

Offered by: Councilman Ravallo
Seconded by: Councilman Lombardi

<u>Roll Call Vote</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
Robert Ravallo	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Frank Lombardi	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Suzanne McDonough	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Kenneth Schmitt	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>

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USER FEE SCHEDULE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011 - AMENDED

RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Carmel hereby amends, effective immediately, the Town of Carmel User Fee Schedule for Fiscal Year 2011, with the addition of the following fee(s):

License for Collecting, Hauling or Transporting of Refuse and Garbage:

New License Application: \$2,000 annually plus \$100 per truck inspection annually

Renewal of Existing License: \$1,500 annually plus \$100 per truck inspection annually

Resolution

Offered by: Councilwoman McDonough

Seconded by: Councilman Ravallo

<u>Roll Call Vote</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
Robert Ravallo	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Frank Lombardi	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Suzanne McDonough	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Kenneth Schmitt	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>

Prior to the roll call vote a brief discussion was held regarding the wording of the resolution. The original wording of "... plus \$100 per annual truck inspection" was amended to "... plus \$100 per truck inspection annually".

ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR TOWN COMPUTER NETWORK HARDWARE UPGRADES AND / OR REPLACEMENTS FOR ALL TOWN HALL DEPARTMENTS AND FACILITIES – AUTHORIZED

RESOLVED that, pursuant to the request of Town Comptroller MaryAnn Maxwell, Town Clerk Ann Garris is hereby authorized to advertise for bids for Town computer network hardware upgrades and/or replacements for all Town Hall Departments and facilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Comptroller is to furnish detailed specifications for the above to the Town Clerk to be used in conjunction with the Town's general bid conditions and specifications.

Resolution

Offered by: Councilman Lombardi

Seconded by: Councilwoman McDonough

<u>Roll Call Vote</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
Robert Ravallo	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Frank Lombardi	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Suzanne McDonough	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Kenneth Schmitt	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>

Prior to the roll call vote discussion was held amongst the Town Board Members in regards to the importance of upgrading the computer system in the Town Hall. The consensus was that this was a "must do" project and was money well spent.

Supervisor Schmitt explained that the expense would be handled as a capital project and would be bonded. After the final report is received from Sullivan Data Management the job would go out to bid.

2011 MAXIMUM RATES FOR HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE AND REFUSE PICKUP - ESTABLISHED

RESOLVED that Town Board of the Town of Carmel, pursuant to §95-31 of the Town Code, hereby establishes the following maximum rates permitted to be charged for household garbage and refuse pickup within the Town of Carmel for year 2011:

- For once-per-week collection/pickup of up to 96 (ninety-six) gallons of household refuse/garbage in quantity or less, the maximum monthly rate charged shall not exceed \$29.00 (twenty-nine dollars).
- For twice-per-week collection/pickup of up to an aggregate of 192 (one hundred ninety-two) gallons of household refuse/garbage in quantity or less, the maximum monthly rate shall not exceed \$34.50 (thirty-four dollars and fifty cents).

Resolution

Offered by: Councilman Ravallo
Seconded by: Councilman Lombardi

<u>Roll Call Vote</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
Robert Ravallo	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Frank Lombardi	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Suzanne McDonough	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Kenneth Schmitt	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>

Prior to the roll call vote Supervisor Schmitt explained that the dollar amounts in the resolution were Councilman Ravallo's numbers.

Councilman Ravallo indicated that he had spoken with each of the Town Board members and members of the public regarding the figures saying that he did not work in a vacuum in coming up with the numbers.

Councilman Lombardi pointed out that comparisons with neighboring towns were made and their findings were that they were paying more then the maximum rate that is being proposed. He also reminded the public that they can go to the carter of their choice.

Councilman Ravallo explained that by setting the rates and letting people contract for their own garbage pick-up they know exactly what they are paying as there are no hidden costs. He went on to state that he felt this was the right thing for the Town of Carmel.

Councilwoman McDonough stated that after discussing the issue for almost 2 years and getting input from the public and the carters, she felt it was time for it to be decided on. Additionally, she felt that the number was fair for both the residents and the carters.

Councilman Ravallo agreed that the process should not have taken as long as it has.

Councilwoman McDonough reminded the senior citizens that they are entitled to a 10% discount as per the town law.

Supervisor Schmitt indicated that he had spent a lot of time examining and analyzing information regarding the rates and that now it is time to set the rates and move forward. He pointed out that it is time to work on the budget which will require a lot of concentration. He further stated that he concurs with the rates for 2011 that Councilman Ravallo included in the resolution and that the 2012 rates will be set next year.

RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC

John Lupinacci, resident of Mahopac, remarked that he is both happy and sad in regards to the setting of the garbage rates. He explained he felt sad because the whole process was not professional. He said that not once was the public informed which neighboring towns have garbage districts and that it is important that the public be educated and informed especially as we go into the budget process. He stated that after two years of work the rates were still the same.

Councilman Lombardi stated that he looked at his own garbage pick-up bill prior to the start of the Town Board discussions and then again after the discussions and he noted a decrease in his bill which he felt was due to the discussions. He concluded that the residents are better off and will benefit.

Michael Barile, resident of Mahopac, was upset that the Town Board would take credit for the rates going down. He stated that the Town Board discussions did not have any effect on the rates. He also stated that it is time to have leadership on the Town Board and the Town Board members owe an apology to the residents.

Peter Creegan, resident of Mahopac, suggested to the Town Board that the information they gathered be put in writing for future reference.

John Molloy, resident of Carmel, questioned why if Councilman Lombardi is paying only \$25 per month for his garbage pick-up the Town Board is setting the rate at \$29 per month.

Mr. Barile commented that it was never about the rates, it was about how the Town of Carmel picks up garbage.

RECOGNITION OF TOWN BOARD MEMBERS

Councilman Ravallo stated that the Town Board should not take credit for bringing the rates down as competition is what brought down the rates. He mentioned that a new company offered lower rates, bulk pick-up and other benefits. He explained that in the past the Town Board approved the rates but did not set them. He said that he didn't think it was a good idea to set the rates.

Councilman Ravallo also said that he did not think that the garbage districts that were discussed in the past were in the best interest of the Town of Carmel. He also commented on the tremendous amount of information that was given during the public hearings.

Councilman Ravallo stated that the Town Board did what they thought was the right thing. He believed the general consensus among the residents was that they did not want garbage districts in the Town of Carmel. He went on to say that the tax rate would have more of an impact on the residents than the garbage rates.

Supervisor Schmitt reported that the residents in the Town of Yorktown, which have garbage districts, pay \$525.00 per year which comes out to \$43.75 per month.

Councilwoman McDonough expressed her feelings that the garbage pick-up issue is a thorn in everybody's side and that too much time has been spent on the entire process. She stated that the Town Board had to make a tough decision, they did it, and now they had to deal with other pressing issues such as the budget and people's jobs.

Councilman Lombardi spoke about the children returning back to school and their need for school supplies. He announced that there would be a collection at Town Hall for donations of school supplies which would be distributed to children in need. He also mentioned that the local food pantries were running low and asked residents to make donations if they were able.

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Councilwoman McDonough announced that there would be a performance at the Chamber Park on August 25, 2011 at 7:00 PM which had been previously canceled due to inclement weather.

Councilman Ravallo spoke about the severe weather that was forecast and asked the residents to make sure that they were prepared with staples such as food, water and batteries.

Supervisor Schmitt announced that the Lee Pompei Car Show that has been rescheduled for September 4, 2011 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department. He stated that admission was free and there would be music, raffles, food, drinks and awards benefiting Hospice Care of Westchester/Putnam. He also thanked Hospice for their meaningful work in the community.

All agenda items having been addressed, on motion by Councilman Lombardi, seconded by Councilman Ravallo, with all members present and in agreement, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. to Executive Session to consider a retirement incentive for certain Town Highway IBTA employees.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Bourges, Deputy Town Clerk