

Bovina Town Board  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
February 10, 2009

**RESOLUTIONS: 2009 – 26 – 32**

**Board Members Present:** Tina Molé, Supervisor; Charles McIntosh, Kenneth Brown, Councilmen; Evelyn Stewart, Mary Joan Robson, Councilwomen; Catherine Hewitt, Town Clerk; Robert Burgin, Highway Superintendent

**Others Present:** Mark Rossley; Matthew Perry, Catskill Mountain News; Chris Ingvorsen; Peg Ellsworth, Executive Director of the M-ARK Project

Supervisor Molé opened the meeting at 6:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Molé welcomed Peg Ellsworth, the Executive Director of the M-ARK Project. Ellsworth said that the M-ARK Board has received a very generous donation from a Bovina resident. This donation was not earmarked but the donor did ask to use it for a matching donation. Ellsworth would like this donation to be used in Bovina. The M-ARK Project has applied for a grant to do a feasibility study to better utilize Russell's Store to showcase local growers, maple syrup producers, craft people, and local grown or made products. M-ARK will do contact with the local vendors, they will hold public information sessions, and make sure all the t's are crossed and the i's dotted. Ellsworth also told the Board that a couple of years ago, the folks in Roxbury heard that there was interest in a vintage baseball team in Bovina. She has found out that there is a lot of interest here and she would like to see Delaware County become the hub of the American pastime. M-ARK is open to help whatever way they can in Bovina. Ellsworth asked the Board to put feelers out in the community of local interests. Molé asked when M-ARK will hear about the matching grant. Ellsworth said she hopes by early March. Councilman McIntosh said that as a member of the M-ARK Board and the Bovina Town Board he thinks it's great to have M-ARK come into Bovina. He said that M-ARK is in its 31<sup>st</sup> year and it has expanded and made tremendous strides in the communities in the area. He thinks this will be a great thing for the local crafters. Ellsworth told the Board that they can contact her at any time if they have ideas or suggestions. Molé thanked Ellsworth for coming and speaking to the Board.

**2009-26** The minutes of the Organizational Meeting of January 13, 2009 were approved as written. Moved by Brown, seconded by McIntosh. All in favor, 5 ayes, 0 nay's.

**2009-27** The minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of January 13, 2009 were approved as written. Moved by Stewart, seconded by Robson. All in favor, 5 ayes, 0 nay's.

**2009-28** The GENERAL bills (10-31) were audited prior to the meeting and approval for payment was moved by Stewart, seconded by Brown. All in favor, 5 ayes, 0 nay's.

**2009-29** The HIGHWAY bills (1-13) were audited prior to the meeting and approval for payment was moved by McIntosh, seconded by Stewart. All in favor, 5 ayes, 0 nay's.

**2009-30** The SEPTIC bills (4-5) were audited prior to the meeting and approval for payment was moved by Robson, seconded by Brown. All in favor, 5 ayes, 0 nay's.

**2009-31** The WATER bills (4-7) were audited prior to the meeting and approval for payment was moved by Stewart, seconded by Brown. All in favor, 5 ayes, 0 nay's.

Supervisor Molé told the Board that she doesn't have the figures at this time but does have the resolution written up regarding the water rents. She said that the last increase was in 2003. This issue will be discussed at the March meeting. She said that the water budget was about \$3,500 short in 2008. The repair of the hydrants was a large expense.

Supervisor Molé said that there are sixteen things that the Department of Health wants corrected in the water department. Councilman McIntosh asked if there is something like Small Cities or a grant that could cover some of the cost of the DOH repairs. Molé said that there aren't grants for operation and maintenance. McIntosh asked if it's something outside operation and maintenance is there a grant. Molé isn't aware of anything but she will do her best to look into it. McIntosh said that the Board can raise the water rates but that still might not be enough. He also said that the problem with the hydrants was because of stones in the pipeline which damaged the seal. Molé said they will come back to this in March with a better idea of how they should handle this.

Supervisor Molé said that there won't be a workshop this month. There is a lot going on, she has just found out that the Town is being sued on a Planning Board issue and work is ongoing on the highway garage. The Board is getting a second quote from another engineering firm. She would like the garage committee to meet with this firm to clear up any questions.

Supervisor Molé has submitted a proposal for a Federal Stimulus package. This will be for the new Highway Garage and was submitted to CWC. She said that Bovina fits all of the criteria.

**2009-32 BE IT RESOLVED** that Dr. Michael Freeman be appointed as Health Officer for the year 2009 at a cost of \$200.00. Moved by Robson, seconded by McIntosh. All in favor, 5 ayes, 0 nay's.

#### HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

Councilwoman Stewart reported that the committee met and the highway crew has had a normal winter month. They did have to put a rear end in one of the trucks so there was a large expense for that this month.

#### PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Councilman Brown feels that there is a problem with too many keys in the community again for the Community Hall. Councilwoman Stewart asked if there was something in the policy about not duplicating keys. Brown will look into that. Brown also said that there is a problem with garbage being left in the foyer after an event. It was suggested that there needs to be better monitoring of usage.

Councilwoman Robson asked about putting the lawn maintenance RFP's out earlier than they have been done in the past. She also said that checking the playground needs to be added to the RFP and the extra lawn at the Maynard Schoolhouse. Councilwoman Stewart said that the Town spent about \$3,000 in 2008 to have OET mow the three historical cemeteries in Town once a month. She doesn't feel that they were done that often. She would like to see them added to the lawn RFP's but separately to see if it can be done cheaper. Supervisor Molé said that she will need the names of the cemeteries to add them to the RFP. Councilman McIntosh asked that the Community Hall lawn be added to the RFP as well. The RFP's will go out in March and be awarded in April.

#### HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Highway Superintendent Burgin said that he put a breakdown of sand and salt use in his report. He's hoping February will ease up some. Councilman Brown asked if the sand pile could be

tarped to alleviate freeze up of the pile. Burgin said that adding salt to the pile helps some. Supervisor Molé asked how salt usage for this year compares to 2008. Burgin said they have used about the same amount of salt as last year. He also said that the cost of salt has increased from 2007. The highway report shows that the men have been called in early for plowing and sanding roads, they have repaired the 88 International rear end (work was done at LaFever's shop), cut brush and limbs where needed, and thawing things where necessary. Burgin handed the Board a copy of a memo regarding complaints for the Highway Department (attached). Councilwoman Stewart asked Burgin if he gets a personnel complaint, how would he respond. Burgin said that employee issues will be separate from road complaints. Councilman McIntosh said that the Town Board represents the public, and the Board members need to listen to them. If it's a highway problem, Burgin needs to handle the problem, he's the boss, and he's the highway superintendent. He feels that this memo is a good thing to have in place, the buck stops at Burgin. Supervisor Molé asked Burgin if someone calls him on a personnel complaint, something other than a road issue, would he bring it to the Board or handle it internally. Burgin said he would handle it internally and document it. Molé also asked Burgin what he would do if the personnel problem was something against policy. Burgin said that he would take it to the committee first and then to the Board.

Councilman McIntosh had trouble getting a letter to reach it's destination in a timely manner. He said it's not a problem with our post office or the employees, but he asked Supervisor Molé if she could ask Barry Moore if there's an electronic scale that Bovina could have from a Post Office that is closing. Molé will look into it.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Hewitt  
Town Clerk