

**MINUTES OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TOWN
BOARD MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 12, 2014 AT 7:00 PM AT
TOWN HALL, ONE OVEROCKER ROAD, POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK**

PRESENT: Supervisor Tancredi
Councilman Carlos
Councilman Conte
Councilman Cifone
Councilman Krakower
Councilwoman Shershin
Town Attorney Nelson
Town Clerk Salvatore

ABSENT: Councilman Baisley

- **NOTE:** Attachments pertaining to a particular Town Board Meeting will be found after the final minutes of that meeting, which are kept in the official minute books, held in the Town Clerk's Office.

{ } designates corrections or amendments to

7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

SALUTE THE FLAG

Supervisor Tancredi introduced Linda Marston-Reid (Executive Director of Arts Mid-Hudson, now located at 696 Dutchess Turnpike).

11:12-COW 01 DISCUSSION

Arts Mid Hudson

Linda Marston-Reid: The Arts Mid-Hudson used to be called the Dutchess County Arts Council and they have been in existence for 50 years and actually this year we are celebrating our 50th Anniversary. I have a slide show and I will go over our history. The Arts Council tried to cultivate the arts and culture in our region. We are now located in the Canterbury Plaza. The Arts Council was founded back in 1964 to receive funding from New York State so they could give money out in a fair and equitable way to arts organizations and community organizations in Dutchess County. Over the years the work really grew. In the late 80's Dutchess County started what was called an Arts Fund and soon after, Ulster County as well. What we do is to ask for proposals from arts organizations and community organizations and they send the proposals in and all proposals are read by a panel of experts and community members in Arts and Cultures and so it gets a very good equitable decision making process of who gets the money and then the money goes back out into the community to do things like plays, experiential activities, grants, making sure arts education happens and that kids get that education in Public Schools-- like give grants to artists to go into schools and do projects. That sometimes is the only program that some schools get. Now that we are here, we get the State money and we get money from Ulster and Dutchess County and we send it back out into the community. It's not a lot of money, but a lot of times, what that money is used for is

to help grassroots organizations do things in far-flung areas that don't have a theater or a big arts presence. We make sure arts get spread fairly and equitably across the area. We also do Arts Advocacy and Community Engagement and that's a kind of bringing down the walls, not the usual places you find art and you can always go to a museum and to a symphony hall, but for community engagement, you have to go out to where the community is and that is what we are trying to do, get out there and make sure that people who don't think art is for them, but actually, come upon it by accident and then find they like it. That is a big part of what we are doing. One of the things we started doing this year for our 50th Anniversary, is we started this campaign called "50 locations and 50 weeks" and what we do is go out into the community once a week and show up and have a survey. Part of the community engagement we have been learning is that there are a lot of youth that seem to be in danger of dropping out of school and Arts is a really good way of engaging with them. One thing that we found in Poughkeepsie is that there is a huge Spoken Word Poetry team of youth. This is a positive thing when engaging with the Arts. Another thing is we have held a number of Pop Ups in the community which is allowing artists who make works, whether photography, painting, pots, etc. it gets them out there and out of their studio and gives them the ability to meet people and maybe sell a few things. Again, it's helping the local economy. Dutchess Handmade is our new initiative which is a "shop local" initiative. So, we have a gallery space in the front of our building, and we put a call out for local artists to bring their wares and you will find things that Artists have made by hand, etc. The money that is spent by people here in Poughkeepsie is actually going right back into our economy again and so we are proud of that. Our business hours are 9:30-5:30, Monday thru Friday and 12:00-5:00 on Saturdays. Saturdays we are staffed by the Artists that have work in the shop. We welcome all to come by. Thank you again for letting me come and talk about the Arts. To learn about all of our programs, go to our web page, which is www.artsmidhudson.org. You'll find out things about our grants programs, our Folk Arts programs and on and on and there are Artist's opportunities there as well. Please feel free to call me or e-mail me any time you think there is an opportunity for us to get involved. One of the things we funded this year is called Art in the Market, but it was music out in the Farmer's Market in Millerton. That's the kind of thing you can just let your imagination go wild.

Councilman Conte thanked her for keeping the business and Organization in the Town of Poughkeepsie.

Councilman Krakower & Supervisor Tancredi asked about possible partnerships between Arts Mid Hudson and the Senior Center and Crown Heights Community Center, such as bringing in activities and programs, etc.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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| 1. FINANCE | Councilman Krakower: No Report |
| 2. FIRE ADVISORY | Councilman Conte: No Report |
| 3. GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS | Councilwoman Shershin: No Report |
| 4. LAND USE & PLANNING | Councilman Krakower: No Report |
| 5. PERSONNEL | Councilman Cifone: No Report |
| 6. RECREATION | Councilman Baisley: No Report per Councilman Krakower. Meeting next week. |
| 7. SENIOR CITIZENS | Councilman Baisley: No Report per Supervisor Tancredi. |
| 8. TECHNOLOGY & EQUIPMENT | Councilman Carlos: No Report |
| 9. WATER, SEWER, HIGHWAY | Councilman Carlos: They did meet, but nothing to report. |

Motion was made to suspend the rules for public comments: Councilman Krakower/M. Cifone

CARRIED: 6-0

NO SPEAKERS CAME FORWARD

Motion was made to resume the rules: Councilman Krakower/J. Conte

CARRIED: 6-0

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Poughkeepsie does hereby adjourn to Executive Session to consider the following matters, to wit:

- 1. Litigation: To discuss litigation strategy in the case known as Tilcon.**
- 2. Confidential communication between attorney and his client/Town Board based on attorney/client privileges.**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that there will be no action appropriating

money.

SO MOVED: W. Carlos/J. Conte

**ROLL CALL: Ayes: Councilmen Carlos, Conte, Cifone, Krakower,
Councilwoman Shershin and Supervisor Tancredi**

Nays: None

CARRIED: 6-0

TOWN BOARD ADJOURNED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:23 PM

**TOWN BOARD RETURNED TO THE TOWN BOARD MEETING AT 7:35 PM
NO ACTION TAKEN IN/FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

TOWN BOARD MEETING CLOSED AT 7:36 PM

FS:lkm