

Organization Town of Champion

Board Town Board

Date and Time Monday, October 3 2005 at 7:00 PM

Place Town of Champion Offices Board Room (rear of building) 10 N Broad St, West Carthage NY

Contact [Chris Vargulick](#) Town Clerk Phone (315) 493-3240 Fax(315) 493-2900

Minutes

The Town of Champion Town Board met in regular session on Monday, October 3, 2005 at 7pm at the Town Municipal Building. Present were Supervisor Buckley, Councilmen Stewart, Watkins, Buzzell, and Peck, Attorney Farley, and Highway Superintendent Sech.

Supervisor Buckley called the meeting to order and opened the meeting for public comment. Terry Emerson, Great Bend, commented that Great Bend needs more recreation opportunities for youth. Mr. Emerson also commended the highway department and suggested that department salaries should be increased to retain highly qualified personnel. He also suggested that the Board consider contracting out responsibilities for highway maintenance and construction.

Monthly Reports

- Councilmen - Mr. Watkins reminded residents that Jefferson County will hold a hazardous waste collection on October 8th.
- Highway - Mr. Sech distributed the monthly highway report and commented on the completion of the Farney Pit Road construction. T. Stewart commented on the quality and appearance of the new roadway.
- Historian - Lynn Thornton reported on the APHNY conference that she and Mrs. Wiley attended in Alexandria Bay. In recognition of National Archives Week, Mrs. Thornton displayed a framed map and photographs of Pine Camp (now known as Fort Drum). The display will be placed in the foyer of the Municipal offices for public viewing.
- Planning - Mr. LaBarge was present to comment on pending planning board recommendations.
- Circuit Rider - Ms. Amyot reminded the Board of upcoming meetings and reported on her attendance at a conference discussing assets management as it relates to GASBY 34.

Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Stewart to approve the minutes for September 6, 2005 as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to approve payment of the following bills as presented:

General #263-295.....	\$18,019.94
Highway #197-218.....	\$79,654.08
RACOG #29-36.....	\$10,827.18
Con WD#1 O&M #59-62.....	\$2,574.76
WD#4 O&M #12-13.....	\$3,369.28
SD#1 O&M #1.....	\$35,760.00

Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Supervisor’s monthly report was read and discussed. Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Peck to approve the report as written. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried. Supervisor Buckley reported that he had received several calls regarding suspected and confirmed rabid wildlife. Supervisor Buckley also emphasized the need for the Zoning Officer to issue violations to residents who are storing inoperable and/or unregistered vehicles within the Town. The problem is most evident in the Hamlet of Great Bend. Supervisor Buckley reviewed monthly correspondence, reports and minutes of various meetings.

New Business

- Board members discussed an amendment to the senior citizens tax exemption increasing the sliding scale income eligibility range for property tax exemption for persons 65 years of age or over. Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Stewart to schedule a public hearing on Local Law #6 for 2005-Increasing the Sliding Scale Income Eligibility Range for Property Tax Exemption for Persons 65 years of age or over, amending Local Law #6 for 1997-Amendments to Senior Tax Exemption, for November 7, 2005 at 7:30pm. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Board members reviewed a proposed local law to provide a property tax exemption for eligible volunteer firemen and ambulance workers. The Board discussed the level of exemption and eligibility requirements. Highway Superintendent Sech commented that he appreciated the intention of the proposed law but that fire and ambulance department members serve to improve and protect their community and its residents. Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to schedule a public hearing on Local Law #7 for 2005-Volunteer

Firefighters/Volunteer Ambulance Workers Exemption for November 7, 2004 at 7:35pm. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

- Supervisor Buckley reported that Pine Ridge Estates and the Town's participation were cited as a successful model at a recent FDRLO meeting discussing the housing shortage. Don Converse commented that the assistance and cooperation of the Town made the project possible. Highway Superintendent Sech stated that he has inspected Stewart Drive and Huntley Lane, in the development, and found both roadways to have been constructed in accordance with approved plans and that the roads meet or exceed the Town Highway Standards. Furthermore, he recommended that the Board accept Stewart Drive and Huntley Lane as Town roads. Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to accept Stewart Drive and Huntley Lane as Town roads pending the preparation and execution of the necessary documents. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Supervisor Buckley presented the 2006 budget to the Board and filed the same with the Town Clerk. The budget has no increase in the tax rate. Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Peck to schedule a public hearing on the 2006 preliminary budget for November 7, 2005 at 7:15pm. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Stewart to reappoint Stephen Eisel to the Board of Assessment Review with a term ending 9/30/2010. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Supervisor Buckley read a letter from the Planning Board recommending an amendment to Section 410-Area Regulation Schedule, to allow for a reduced lot size of one-half (.5) acre where public water and/or sewer exist in all zoning districts. Mr. LaBarge explained that large parcels of land under consideration for development straddle more than one adopted zoning district. The agricultural resource district (AR) does not allow for a smaller minimum lot size when water and/or sewer exist. Mr. Watkins questioned why rezoning wasn't suggested. Mr. LaBarge stated that spot zoning is undesirable and would also require numerous changes and reprints of the Town Zoning Map. Robert Peck questioned the purpose of the AR district. Motion by Mr. Stewart to schedule a public hearing to amend the zoning law. The motion received no second.
- Supervisor Buckley read a letter from the Planning Board recommending a change in the collection of fees for site plan review. Currently, a fee of \$50 is charged for the preliminary review followed by \$50 for the final review. The Board recommends a single fee payment of \$100 for a site plan review. Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Peck to set the fee for site plan review at \$100 payable upon submission of the application. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Supervisor Buckley read a letter from Scott and Michelle Britton requesting an extension of Water District #4 to include tax parcel #85.08-1-21 in its entirety. The letter explained their intention to build a new home for themselves and to later subdivide lots, fronting the Farney Pit Road, for development. Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Peck to schedule a public hearing on an order to extend the boundaries of Water District #4 for November 7, 2005 at 7:40pm. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Mr. Peck questioned if the development of an inter-municipal pool, in conjunction with the school district, is still under consideration. Supervisor Buckley responded that there were no overtures from the school following RACOG's joint participation in a request for proposals.
- Supervisor Buckley informed the Board that he has received copies of three (3) permanent easements to benefit the Carthage Central School District in connection with their sewer line. The easements were executed the 4th day of October, 1962.

Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Stewart to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:42pm.

Christina Vargulick
Town Clerk