

Organization Town of Champion

Board Town Board

Date and Time Monday, September 10 2007 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, September 10, 2007 at the Town Municipal Building, 10 North Broad Street, West Carthage. Present were Supervisor Buckley, Councilmen Stewart, Watkins, Buzzell, and Peck, Attorney Farley, and Highway Superintendent Sech.

Supervisor Buckley called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. The meeting was opened for public comment. Gerald Snyder, President of the Copenhagen VFD, stated that the department is preparing a budget to submit to the Town. He did submit information relative to the department’s expenditures year-to-date. John E. Peck inquired about the status of the new SD#2 mainline. T. Buckley stated that the mainline and laterals are complete and the electrical contract will be completed pending delivery of all the contract items. Cullen Lundy discussed his intention to file a certificate of need with the NYSDOH to provide emergency transport services locally. He requested a letter of support from the Town. Members questioned the number of ambulances that Mr. Lundy intends to operate. He stated that he will start with one and expand as needed to meet demand.

Monthly Reports

- Engineer - K. Dimmick reported that the mainline and laterals are substantially complete in SD#2.
- Councilmen - Mr. Peck informed members that the Great Bend Fire District vote is scheduled for September 11, 2007. He also shared information relative to the Farmland Protection Board. Mr. Stewart reported that he is contacting firms for specifications and prices for a generator to supply emergency power to the Town Municipal Building as requested by the Supervisor. Mr. Buzzell inquired about the tenancy of Time Warner. Supervisor Buckley responded that the tenant has removed all of their equipment. The lease expires December 31, 2007. Mr. Buzzell also questioned reopening the discussion regarding the former Twin Village Swimming facility. Supervisor Buckley reported that the discussion would be deferred pending information about water levels and beaver dams. Mr. Watkins distributed photographs of whitewater events supported by the Black River Regulatory Board.
- Highway - Mr. Sech reported on activities during the month of August. Paving on Switzer Road and North Lake Road has been completed. The new truck has been delivered to Viking-Cives for outfitting.
- Zoning Officer - Mr. Koster reported that he received and approved ten permits.
- Planning Board - Mr. LaBarge reported that the Board is reviewing applications for a wind test tower, a minor wind tower, and a church.
- Parks - Mr. Eddy reported that the summer concert series concluded with the concert held on August 26th. The final concert was attended by 125-150 persons. Mr. Eddy attended a required workshop for 2008 NYSCA funding. He made the following recommendations to improve the concert series next year: additional signage, more advertising, and holding all of the concerts on Sunday.
- Historian - Mrs. Thornton announced that Arcadia Publishing has accepted her proposal for a pictorial. Dr. Abel has completed the archeological survey in the Village Green Park.

Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Stewart to approve the minutes August 6, 2007 as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

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

General #235-258.....	\$13,072.58
Highway #195-212.....	\$92,955.38
RACOG #26-29.....	\$10,653.98
Con WD #1 O&M #53-57.....	\$3,922.62
WD#4 O&M #11-12.....	\$1,486.88
SD#2 Capital #6-7.....	\$86,120.90
SD#2 O&M #18.....	\$3,999.65

Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Supervisor’s report was read and discussed. Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Peck. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Public Hearings

Proof of notice having been furnished, the public hearing on the adoption of the Sewer District #2 Sewer Law

was called to order at 7:15pm by Supervisor Buckley. No one spoke for or against the proposed law. All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, the public hearing was closed at 7:16pm.

Mark Auclair presented a modified plan for the North Hills Community project proposed for property owned by Young-Gieselman Properties (Parcel #76.00-2-2.1) and located on the Mosher Road. The modified plan is in response to concerns expressed by members of the Town Board and the public. The modified plan eliminates construction in the northwest portion of the property and decreases the number of single family home and apartments. The total number of dwelling units proposed in the modified plan is seven hundred eight-six (786). The developer intends to construct a force main to Great Bend to transport sewerage. A daycare center has been added to the plan.

Proof of Notice having been furnished, the public hearing on an application to rezone parcel number 76.00-2-2.1 from ARD and RC to a Planned Development District (PDD) was called to order at 8:00pm by Supervisor Buckley. The following persons spoke in favor of rezoning the affected parcel: Paul Vanier, Christopher Lorence, Bernice Petzoldt, Dennis Quinn, Jim Ashcroft, Lori Elliot, Darlene Gaines, and Shelba Shew. The reasons cited by those favoring the proposal included balancing rural and suburban interests, added tax base, the urgent need for affordable housing, safe housing concerns, positioning the Town for the future, and supporting the military. The following persons spoke against rezoning the parcel: Michael Lundy, John E. Peck, Gordon Lewis, William Nier, William Nier Jr., Patricia Gagnon, and Margaret Brotherton. The reasons cited by those persons opposing the action included economic impact, the proximity of mining, opposition to "spot zoning", preservation of rural space, and the density of housing. All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, the public hearing was closed at 8:50pm. Supervisor Buckley informed those present that the Board would take no action on the issue at this time. The Board will resume the discussion at a future meeting but will take no more public comment.

New Business

Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Peck to approve the law regulating the operation of Sewer District #2. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the proposed rates for Sewer District #2. The proposed rate structure includes an annual charge of \$145.50/EDU for operations, maintenance and debt service plus a charge of \$5.29/KG for usage. Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to approve the rates for Sewer District #2 as presented.

Supervisor Buckley discussed a grant opportunity to construct a 70' x 140' salt barn. The Shared Municipal Incentive Grant program is designed to provide funding for shared services. Supervisor Buckley recommended the adoption of a resolution to construct a salt barn to be shared by the V/West Carthage and the Carthage Central School District.

Resolution offered by Councilman Watkins;
Seconded by Councilman Stewart:

Whereas, The NYS Department of State has announced the availability of up to \$200,000 of funding per municipality through the 2007-2008 Shared Municipal Services Incentive (SMSI) grant assistance program for shared highway projects; and

Whereas, The Town of Champion, Village of West Carthage and Carthage Central School District are each in need of a salt storage facility to prevent the continued loss of material and degradation of the environment due to the exposure of snow melt materials to the natural elements - i.e. wind, rain and snow; and

Whereas, The Town of Champion, Village of West Carthage and Carthage Central School District are eligible to apply for funding to construct a joint salt storage facility through the SMSI program at a cost of \$600,000; and

Whereas, The Town of Champion will serve as lead applicant and has committed \$60,000 from the Highway Fund as the 10% local cash match; and

Whereas, The Village of West Carthage and Carthage Central School District have a shared interest in constructing a shared salt storage facility based upon savings through an economies of scale and serve as co-applicant to the Town of Champion in pursuing funding through the SMSI program to construct the "Town of Champion: Joint Salt Storage Facility;" now therefore

Be It Resolved, that the Town of Champion Town Board authorizes the Town of Champion, serving as lead agent, to submit an application to the New York Department of State for funding through the 2007-2008 Shared Municipal Service Incentive Grant Program to construct the "Town of Champion: Joint Salt Storage Facility" in cooperation with the Village of West Carthage as co-applicant; and

Be It Further Resolved, that the Town of Champion Town Board authorizes the Town of Champion Supervisor, Terry Buckley, to sign all agreements, certifications and other documents required to complete the application and to accept grants and administer the programs that are to be proposed through the NYS DOS 2007-2008 Shared Municipal Service Incentive Grant Program and on behalf of the Village of West Carthage and Carthage Central School District.

Supervisor Buckley.....Aye

Councilman Watkins.....Aye
Councilman Stewart.....Aye
Councilman Buzzell.....Aye
Councilman Peck.....Aye

Resolution adopted.

Supervisor Buckley read a letter received from the 4 River Valleys Historical Society requesting permission to park on the most southerly end of the property occupied by the Town Highway Department and for a walkway to be cleared between the parking area and the Hubbard House historical property on NYS Route 126 citing safety issues. Attorney Farley advised the members that the action would require a contract between the parties. Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Stewart to authorize the Supervisor to execute an agreement between the Town of Champion and the 4 River Valleys Historical Society to allow parking on Town property pending receipt of proof of insurance with the Town of Champion named as insured. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Board considered a contract proposal from NCC Systems Inc. for security monitoring at the Municipal Building. Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Peck to approve the contract as presented for a period of twelve (12) months with a monthly fee of \$18/month. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Members reviewed the 2008 agreement proposed by DANC for the operations and maintenance of SD#2 noting that there are no changes from the 2007 agreement. Resolution offered by Councilman Stewart, seconded by Councilman Buzzell to approve the 2008 Operations and Maintenance Service Agreement for Sewer District #2 between the Town of Champion and the Development Authority of the North Country as presented and furthermore to authorize the Supervisor to execute said agreement. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the full environmental assessment for the North Hills Community Project. Kris Dimmick explained the process for identifying and evaluating the project impact and mitigating any identified impacts where possible. Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Peck to state the Town's intention to become "Lead Agency" for this action and to forward notice to the interested parties. Roll call vote: Mr. Stewart-aye, Mr. Watkins-nay, Mr. Buzzell-aye, Mr. Peck-aye, and Supervisor Buckley-aye. Motion carried.

Members discussed the presentation by Cullen Lundy in respect to a "Certificate of Need" to operate an emergency transport service. The Board considered the cost of the current ambulance contract and the additional costs incurred by the Town for Workers' Compensation claims arising from the contracted service. Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Stewart to forward a letter attesting to the need for additional emergency transport services to accommodate a growing population, to control emergency service costs, and to effect organizational improvements. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Peck to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations with the Town Highway Department. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried. Executive session began at 9:55pm.

Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Peck to return to open session. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried. Open session resumed at 10:55pm.

Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 10:55pm.

Christina Vargulick
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Town Clerk