

Organization Town of Champion

Board Town Board

Date and Time Monday, March 3 2008 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 monthly session on Monday, March 3, 2008. 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 and invited public comment. No one from the public spoke.

Monthly reports

- Engineer - Kris Dimmick updated the Board on the status of WD#5. The project has met with funding setbacks due to program changes. The project may need to proceed in phases. ECWAG funding has been consolidated to provide relief to areas destroyed by tornados in the south. The consultant has submitted the 2008 HUD Income Survey report and determined that the median household income exceeds the threshold for low/moderate incomes. Therefore, WD#5 is ineligible to apply for funds through the Small Cities program. The engineer and Town continue to focus efforts on supplying water at an affordable cost as soon as possible. Mr. Dimmick and Supervisor Buckley will attend the EFC Technical Assistance Partnership Forum and promote the project with Rural Services. Board members questioned the results of the well testing. Mr. Dimmick reported that fifty-percent (50%) of the lab tests have been completed and are within expected parameters. Mr. Buzzell questioned just proceeding without additional funding. Mr. Dimmick stated that the cost would be excessive for homeowners. Supervisor Buckley, responding to queries, reported that the Village is amenable to the well field development but that the primary focus at this time is to provide potable water at an affordable rate to residents within the district. Supervisor Buckley addressed remarks directly to district residents who were in attendance regarding costs and proposed phasing.
- Councilmen - Mr. Peck reported on his attendance at a meeting to discuss farmland protection and oversight. Mr. Buzzell questioned whether Dr. Wiley could remain health officer after he gives up his practice. Supervisor Buckley responded that Dr. Wiley will continue as health officer.
- Highway Superintendent - J. Sech submitted and reviewed his monthly report with the Board.
- Assessor - W. Vargulick reported on the estimated 2008 assessment trend noting that the figures are still preliminary and subject to change.
- Zoning Officer - Mr. Koster reported that there was no activity in February.
- Historian - Mrs. Thornton invited the Board to view the latest display titled "Why you should always label your photos!" Mrs. Thornton also reported that "Around Carthage and West Carthage" will be published and available for sale June 16th.

Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Stewart to approve the minutes of February 4, 2008 as written. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Peck to pay the following bills as presented:

General #52-80.....	\$105,957.02
Highway #41-65.....	\$49,785.50
RACOG #4-6.....	\$489.00
Con WD#1 O&M #13-17.....	\$5,952.90
WD#4 O&M #7.....	\$69.00
SD#2 O&M #5-7.....	\$2,024.01

Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Supervisor's monthly report was read and discussed. Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to approve the report as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

New Business

- Board members resumed discussion regarding an extended warranty for the new International plow truck at a one time cost of \$4,026. Highway Superintendent Sech recommended the warranty based on the equipment's

- advanced electronics and the cost of service and repairs. Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Stewart to purchase the extended warranty as recommended. Vote: Mr. Stewart-aye, Mr. Watkins-nay, Mr. Buzzell-aye, Mr. Peck-aye, and Supervisor Buckley-aye. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to authorize the Highway Superintendent to post any or all town roads as he deems necessary. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
 - The Board considered a request to reauthorize the North Country HOME Consortium which requires the adoption of a resolution and Cooperation Agreement. Reauthorization is required every three years for municipalities participating in the funding program. Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to adopt the resolution as presented (see attached) and to authorize the Supervisor to execute the Cooperative Agreement. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
 - Resolution offered by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Stewart to accept the project known as "Town of Champion SD#2 Wastewater Improvement-Cole Road" as complete and to recommend final payment. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Resolution adopted.
 - Board members discussed the integration of updated provisions to the adopted Code of Ethics and the appointment of a three-person Board of Ethics. Mr. Watkins commented that the suggested updates include specific timelines that enhance the application of the Code. Attorney Farley commented that the current Code precisely followed the law at the time it was prepared. Supervisor Buckley requested that the Board members study the provisions and prepare recommendations for their integration with the current Code. Supervisor Buckley shall contact prospective appointees to ascertain their willingness to serve.
 - Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Watkins to schedule the Town-wide Clean Up Days for May 9/10 and May 16/17. Ayes-5, Nays-0.
 - Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Watkins to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing potential litigation. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried. Executive session began at 8:40pm.
 - Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Stewart to return to open session. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried. Open session resumed at 9:18pm.
 - Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:19pm.

Christina Vargulick
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Town Clerk