

**Organization Town of Champion**

**Board Town Board**

**Date and Time Monday, December 7 2009 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, December 7, 2009 at the Town Municipal Building, 10 North Broad Street, West Carthage. Present were Supervisor Buckley, Councilmen Stewart, Watkins, Buzzell, and Peck (7:08), Highway Superintendent Sech, and Attorney Farley.

Supervisor Buckley called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and opened the meeting for public comment. No one from the public spoke.

**Monthly Reports**

- Councilmen - Mr. Peck reported on the slate of nominees for positions on the Great Bend Fire District Board of Commissioners. Mr. Peck questioned whether the Town transfer site accepts farm plastics. Supervisor Buckley will check with Jefferson County recycling to ask if they accept the materials. Mr. Buzzell questioned if the Champion Fire Department siren has been repaired. The Board directed Attorney Farley to forward a written inquiry to the fire department.
- Highway Superintendent - Mr. Sech reported on the status of trucks and equipment. The new sanders have been installed and calibrated. Two highway employees have requested permanent assignment to the night shift. The union has agreed by consensus. The department will begin drawing salt from the stored pile as weather permits. Mr. Sech reported that cars parked along Pine Drive are obstructing the plow. The Board directed Mr. Sech to contact the NYS State Police for assistance. The Board will consider adopting legislation to prohibit parking along town roads, if necessary. Councilman Stewart requested that NYSDOT erect permanent "stoplight ahead" signs to advise drivers about the traffic control device at the intersection of NYS Route 26 and Cole Road. Mr. Sech will contact NYSDOT regarding the request.
- Assessor - Mr. Vargulick recommended that the Board increase the maximum eligible income for the Partial Tax Exemption for Real Property of Senior Citizens to \$19,500. Mr. Vargulick explained that some seniors either are eliminated from the program, or see a reduction in their exemption, due to small increases in Social Security at the exemptions current eligible income. Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to schedule a public hearing to amend Local Law #6 for 2005, to increase the maximum eligible income for the Partial Tax Exemption for Real Property of Senior Citizens to \$19,500. Members discussed the proposed action and determined that the maximum eligible income should be raised to \$20,500. Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to amend the previous motion to increase the maximum eligible income for the Partial Tax Exemption for Real Property of Senior Citizens to \$20,500. Vote on original motion to schedule a public hearing to amend Local Law #6 for 2005 to raise the maximum income to \$19,500. Ayes-5/Nays-0. Motion carried. Vote on amended motion to raise the maximum income to \$20,500. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion amendment carried. A public hearing, to consider amendments to Local Law #6 for 2005, will be held on Monday, January 4, 2010 at 7:15pm.
- Parks - Mr. Eddy reported that the 1800 Village Green Park was visited by a number of people this summer.
- Historian - Mrs. Thornton reported on numerous activities she has participated in including television appearances, school programs, historical displays, and a pending report scheduled for the Tug Hill Commission meeting.
- Circuit Rider - Mrs. Amyot reported that peter j. smith has received all of the amendments for the T/Champion Comprehensive Plan and will incorporate them and re-submit the plan for Board action.

Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Stewart to approve the minutes of November 2, 2009 as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

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

General #292-311.....	\$51,396.81
Highway #234-256.....	\$10,158.24
RACOG #39-46.....	\$1,368.50
Con WD#1 O&M #93-96.....	\$3,776.98
WD#5 O&M #13.....	\$376.64
SD#1 O&M #6.....	\$2,681.75
SD#2 O&M #30-32.....	\$2,091.64

Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Supervisor's monthly report was read and discussed. Mr. Yuhas questioned whether the State would be disbursing the anticipated funds for the NYS Snow & Ice contract in December as budgeted. Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Stewart to accept the Supervisor's report as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

**New Business**

- The Board reviewed budget transfers as recommended. Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to approve the budget transfers as recommended. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- The Board discussed appointments to both the Board of Assessment Review and the RACOG Cooperative ZBA to fill an expired term and vacancy, respectively. The Board agreed by consensus to advertise for persons interested in serving on either board.
- The Board agreed, by consensus, to meet on Wednesday, December 30, 2009 at 10:00am to pay year end bills and to conduct any other necessary business.
- Supervisor Buckley reported that negotiations with Jefferson County have resulted in a proposed 5-year snow & ice agreement. The Town would be reimbursed \$5,000/mile/year for years 2010-2011. The reimbursement would increase by the COLA, but not less than 2%, in years 2012-2014. The Town would also be reimbursed at the NYS rate for trucks for summer work and salt and fuel reimbursements would be adjusted to reflect actual cost. Supervisor Buckley requested authorization to sign the agreement as soon as it is prepared. Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Watkins to authorize the Supervisor to execute the snow and ice agreement between the Town of Champion and Jefferson County. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Peck to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:24pm.

Christina Vargulick  
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Town Clerk