

**Organization Town of Champion**

**Board Town Board**

**Date and Time Monday, January 4 2010 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, January 4, 2010 at the Town Municipal Building, 10 N Broad St., West Carthage. Present were Supervisor Buckley, Councilmen Watkins, Buzzell, and Peck, Highway Superintendent Sech, and Attorney Farley. Councilman Stewart was excused.

Justice Quinn presided over the swearing in of the re-elected town officials. Sworn in were Supervisor Buckley, Town Clerk Vargulick, Councilmen Watkins and Peck and Highway Superintendent Sech. All re-elected officers took their oath of office and attested to the same in the register.

Supervisor Buckley called the organizational meeting to order at 7:00pm. The 2009 annual financial report from Supervisor and Town Clerk were audited and attested to by the Board members

**Organizational Resolutions**

- Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Watkins to appoint the following individuals to the position indicated:

Deputy clerk - Helen Novak  
Registrar - Christina Vargulick  
Deputy registrar - Helen Novak  
Court Clerk - Helen Novak  
Deputy Court Clerk - Christina Vargulick  
Historian - Lynn Thornton  
Deputy Historian - Suzanne Wiley  
Town Attorney - Timothy Farley  
Zoning Enforcement Officer - David Koster  
Deputy Supervisor - Thomas Stewart

Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.

- Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Watkins to make the following appointments:

Planning Board - Kathryn Smith, term 1/2010-12/2014  
Cooperative ZBA - Brian Peck, term 1/2010-12/2014  
Board of Assessment Review - Samuel Emerson, term 1/2010-9/2014  
Ayes-3, Nays-0, Abstentions-1 (Mr. Peck). Motion carried.

- Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to set salaries as presented. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Peck to re-adopt the investment and procurement policies and forms without amendment. Ayes-4. Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Peck to set the first Monday of the month at 7:00PM as the meeting date and time of the Town Board; the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30PM, as necessary, as the Planning Board meeting date and time; and the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30PM, as necessary, as the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting date and time. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to designate Key Bank, Community Bank, HSBC Bank USA, Pathfinder and J P Morgan Chase as the depositories in which the Supervisor, Town Clerk, Tax Collector, and Justices shall deposit all monies coming into their hands by virtue of their offices. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Peck authorizing officials to attend all necessary schools. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Peck to set the mileage reimbursement rate in accordance with state reimbursement rates. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Peck to designate the Carthage Republican Tribune as the official newspaper of the Town. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to authorize the Supervisor and Deputy Supervisor to sign checks. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.

- Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Watkins to designate Family Practice Associates as the firm to perform all necessary alcohol and substance testing. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to authorize the use of cellphones, paid for by the town, for town business only. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Proof of notice having been furnished, the public hearing on Local Law #1 for 2010 – A local law increasing the sliding scale income eligibility range for partial real property tax exemptions for certain individuals sixty-five years of age and over and amending Local Law #1 for 1986 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 hearing was closed at 7:17pm.

Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Peck to adopt Local Law #1 for 2010 – A local law increasing the sliding scale income eligibility range for partial real property tax exemptions for certain individuals sixty-five years of age and over and amending Local Law #1 for 1986 as presented. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Supervisor Buckley opened the meeting for public comment. No one from the public spoke.

### **Monthly Reports**

- Engineer - Supervisor Buckley reported that the engineer has recommended drilling an additional 50-60' in depth on the Farney Pit Road well. Currently the depth of the well is 167' with 30gpm. The Board agreed by consensus to continue with the drilling.
- Highway Superintendent – Mr. Sech reported that the International plow truck is at Stadium International for a warranty repair to the electrical system.
- Assessor – Mr. Vargulick reported that the 2010 revaluation is nearly complete.
- Historian – Mrs. Thornton introduced Michele Houghton who is currently interning in the historian's office. Mrs. Thornton reported on the dedication of a framed print of the former Marcus Mason home. The print is hung in the Carthage Area Professional Building. An exhibit illustrating ice harvesting is on display in the T/Champion offices foyer.
- Circuit Rider – Ms. Amyot reported that the Joint Infrastructure Management Project has received grant funding.

Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Peck to approve the minutes of December 7 and 30, 2009 as presented. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.

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

General #1-13.....	\$16,357.75
Highway #1-9.....	\$59,034.15
RACOG #1.....	\$138.00
Con WD#1 O&M #1-3.....	\$13,522.00
WD#4 O&M #1-3.....	\$16,889.00
WD#5 O&M #1-2.....	\$187.00
SD#1 O&M #1.....	\$316.00
SD#2 O&M #1-2.....	\$143.78

Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Superintendent's monthly report for December and year end was read and discussed. Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Peck to accept the report as presented. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.

### **New Business**

- Board members reviewed Local Law #2 for 2010 – a local law prohibiting parking on Town roads between November 1 and April 1 each year as prepared by Attorney Farley. Members discussed adding the Town Supervisor in Section 4 as an additional officer authorized to judge whether a vehicle presents a safety hazard to the public and empowered to have a vehicle removed by towing. Supervisor Buckley declined to be added stating that the duties inherent to the Highway Superintendent should not be infringed on by another elected or appointed official. Mr. Watkins questioned if the definition for "vehicle" should be expanded to include tractors and other heavy equipment. Attorney Farley will check on the definition of "vehicle" as defined in NYS Vehicle and Traffic Law. Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to schedule a public hearing on Local Law #2 for 2010 – a local law prohibiting parking on Town roads between November 1 and April 1 each year for February 1, 2010 at 7:15pm. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Supervisor Buckley asked for an executive session to discuss on-going litigation. Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Watkins to go into executive session. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried. Executive session began at 8:15pm.
- Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Peck to return to open session. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried. Open session resumed at 8:19pm.
- Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Christina Vargulick  
Town Clerk