

**Organization Town of Champion**

**Board Town Board**

**Date and Time Monday, March 1 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, March 1, 2010 at the Town Municipal Building, 10 North Broad Street, West Carthage. Present were Supervisor Buckley, Councilmen Stewart, Watkins, Buzzell, and Peck (7:05), Highway Superintendent Sech, and Attorney Farley.

Supervisor Buckley called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and welcomed Boy Scouts from Troop #54. The meeting was opened for public comment. Michael Harris, representing Champion Volunteer Fire Department, submitted a list of active and associate department members. Mr. Harris also informed the Board that the fire department has acquired a used siren that is being refurbished and will be installed within the next two weeks. Supervisor Buckley questioned if the department needed the Town to pay for the repairs to the siren and to deduct that amount from their contract. Fire Chief Waite responded that the department would be able to pay for the repair and questioned when the contract would be ready for signature. Supervisor Buckley advised Mr. Waite that the contracts would be prepared and ready for signature on Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Kathleen Phillips, representing the Wilna-Champion Transportation Association, reported that the cost of insurance had doubled. The Association sought coverage from a number of other carriers but did not receive any quotes. Ms. Philips reported that the organization solicits donations and accepts voluntary donations from their riders but has been forced to reduce service from five days/week to three days/week due to the cost of insurance and fuel. Ms. Philips requested that the Board consider additional financial support for the senior citizen transportation. Supervisor Buckley responded that he would make inquiries to determine if the Town could secure insurance coverage for the WCTA bus at a lower cost through the Town's carrier.

**Monthly Reports**

- Councilmen - Mr. Peck reported that the County has scheduled a day and location to accept agricultural plastics. Mr. Buzzell asked Assessor Vargulick about assessment increases around Pleasant Lake. Mr. Vargulick explained that during a town wide revaluation that he develops land tables that are applied to all property within the town and property values may shift due to that and several other factors.
- Highway Superintendent - Mr. Sech reported that equipment is in good repair. The department has been doing some general garage building maintenance. Cold patch will be ordered to begin some minor road repairs as the town roads thaw.
- Assessor - Mr. Vargulick reported that approximately fifteen (15) property owners have requested an appointment for the informal hearings.
- Historian/Parks - Mrs. Thornton reported that flowers have been ordered for the park. Mrs. Thornton has presented, with Laura Prievo, a virtual tour of the Twin Villages for a group of Girl Scouts. On March 24<sup>th</sup>, Mrs. Thornton will make a presentation, in conjunction with Harold Sanderson, to seniors. Mr. Peck asked if the historians have petitioned to keep local state historical sites open. Mrs. Thornton responded that they have sent letters concerning the closures recommended in the Governor's budget.
- Circuit Rider - Ms. Amyot discussed the Local Government Conference, a RACOG recreation committee meeting, and the JIMI project.

Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to approve the minutes of February 1, 2010 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 #44-66.....	\$79,051.68
Highway #31-53.....	\$59,216.35
RACOG #5-11.....	\$904.00
Con WD#1 O&M #13-22.....	\$5,127.99
WD#4 O&M #5.....	\$290.95
WD#5 O&M #4-5.....	\$547.29
SD#2 O&M #5-8.....	\$10,659.71

Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

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

**New Business**

- Supervisor Buckley reported that the well drilled on the Farney Pit Road has been pumped and tested. The well yielded approximately 21gpm and tested negative for all contaminants. A second well has been

authorized.

- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to schedule the annual Town Clean-Up Days the weekends of May 7<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> and May 14<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup>. Highway Superintendent Sech will adjust the highway schedule to allow a loader operator to be present for both weekends to assist with the collection.
- Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Stewart to authorize the Highway Superintendent to post town roads as he deems necessary and further, that all such roads shall remain posted until the signs are removed by the Highway Superintendent. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Peck to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing the employment of a particular person(s). Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried. Executive session began at 7:55pm.
- Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Stewart to return to open session. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried. Open session resumed at 9:13pm.
- Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Supervisor Buckley to not authorize the Supervisor to sign the 2010/11 NYS Snow and Ice Agreement Extension. Roll call vote: Mr. Peck-aye, Mr. Stewart-aye, Mr. Watkins-aye, Mr. Buzzell-nay and Supervisor Buckley-aye. Motion carried. A letter will be forwarded to the NYS Department of Transportation to inform them that the Town will not plow state roads during the 2010/11 winter season.
- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Peck to abolish one full-time MEO position in the highway department effective April 1, 2010. Members discussed whether the reduction in labor costs will offset the snow and ice contract. Mr. Watkins suggested that it may be necessary to consider abolishing an additional position if revenues do not meet budgeted estimates. Roll call vote: Mr. Peck-aye, Mr. Stewart-aye, Mr. Watkins-aye, Mr. Buzzell-nay, and Supervisor Buckley-aye. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Stewart to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:42pm.

Christina Vargulick  
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