

Organization Town of Champion

Board Town Board

Date and Time Monday, June 3 2013 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, June 3, 2013 at the Town Municipal Building, 10 North Broad Street, West Carthage. Present were Supervisor Buckley, Councilmen Stewart, Watkins, Buzzell, and Ferguson, 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 addressed the Board.

Monthly Reports

- Councilman - Mr. Ferguson reported on his attendance at the first meeting of the Housing Rehabilitation committee. The program has received forty (40) applications to date.
- Highway Superintendent - Mr. Sech reported on activities during the previous month including: roadside mowing; pipe replacement on Whitaker Road; drawing sand; equipment repair completed and pending; work done to assist the Village; hydro-seeding; and building maintenance. Mr. Sech presented a quote from Overhead Door Company of Watertown to purchase and install two (2) bottom section door panels with weather strips at a cost not to exceed \$1,702.00. Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to authorize the purchase and installation of two (2) bottom section door panels with weather strips at a cost not to exceed \$1,702.00. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Assessor - Mr. Vargulick reported that the Board of Assessment Review handled a small number of property assessment complaints on grievance day. The Town's equalization rate has been certified by the State at 100%. Mr. Vargulick recommended to the Board that they authorize a property revaluation for the 2014 tax roll. Mr. Vargulick stated he recommends a revaluation on a regular basis to maintain an accurate inventory and property records and to adjust values as necessary based on a number of factors including condition. Board members asked a number of questions to clarify the intent and impact of a town wide revaluation.

Resolution offered by Councilman Watkins; seconded by Councilman Buzzell:

RESOLVED, that the Town of Champion Town Board hereby acknowledges and supports a town wide reassessment project to maintain current assessment inventory and valuation data and to reappraise each property using standard appraisal methods, and;

FURTHER RESOLVE, that the Town Supervisor and Assessor are authorized to execute a Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Champion and the NYS Office of Real Property Tax Services.

Supervisor Buckley.....aye
 Councilman Stewart.....aye
 Councilman Watkins.....aye
 Councilman Buzzell.....aye
 Councilman Ferguson.....aye

- Justice - Mr. Quinn informed the Board that the State Legislature has approved a bill that increases the number of points to five (5) for convictions involving the use of a cellphone while operating a motor vehicle.
- Planning/ZEO - Mr. LaBarge reported that the Planning Board is reviewing a site plan for a small commercial business. The ZEO issued eleven (11) zoning permits and three (3) violations during the previous month.
- Parks/Historian - Mrs. Thornton reported that the flowers have been planted in the park.
- Circuit Rider - Ms. Amyot discussed efforts to schedule a meeting with Steve Botsford to give municipalities an opportunity to get more information regarding their responsibilities for stormwater management.

Proof of notice having been furnished, the public hearing on amending the Town Sewer Use Law was called to order at 7:40pm by Supervisor Buckley. No one spoke for or against the amendment. All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, the hearing was closed at 7:41pm.

Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Stewart to approve the minutes of May 6 and May 15, 2013 as presented. Ayes-4, Nays-0, Abstained-Mr. Watkins. Motion carried.

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

General #128-164.....\$101,685.67
 Highway #85-99.....\$20,725.32

RACOG #13-14.....	\$574.90
Con WD #1 & 3 O&M #15-17.....	\$5,092.19
Con WD #2,4& 5 O&M #32-35.....	\$3,233.81
SD#1 O&M.#3-4.....	\$6,216.87
SD#2 O&M #13-15.....	\$10,373.54
WD#5 Capital #16.....	\$1,098.08
SD#2 Capital #3-4.....	\$3,649.23

Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

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

New Business

- Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Stewart to adopt Local Law #2 for 2013 – Amendment to the Town Sewer Use Law to add 0.5 EDU for a vacant lot to the table of equivalent dwelling units. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Resolution offered by Councilman Stewart, seconded by Councilman Ferguson:
RESOLVED, that the Town of Champion Town Board authorizes the submittal of a Rural Business Enterprise Grant in an amount not to exceed \$99,000, and;
FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor is authorized to execute all documents relative to the application and Rural Business Enterprise Grant.

Supervisor Buckley.....aye
 Councilman Stewart.....aye
 Councilman Watkins.....aye
 Councilman Buzzell.....aye
 Councilman Ferguson.....aye

Resolution adopted.

- The Board discussed “best value” purchasing. Attorney Farley advised the Board that advertising for offers is still required but that the new standard allows municipalities the flexibility to consider other factors including quality and efficiency of responsible offerers. The scope of the standard is limited to purchase contracts and contracts for “service work”. The Board would need to base a decision not made on cost, on objective, quantifiable analysis. Mr. Ferguson pointed out that the Town’s procurement policy would need to be updated if the practice was adopted. Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Ferguson to schedule a public hearing for July 1, 2013 at 7:15pm on Local Law #3 for 2013 – A local law authorizing “best value” as a basis for awarding a purchase or service work contracts. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Board members reviewed a new zoning map prepared by the Jefferson County Planning Department. The zoning districts are color coded for ease of identification. Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Ferguson to adopt the map prepared by the Jefferson County Planning Department as the official Town Zoning Map. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- The Board reviewed information relative to General Municipal Law §53 regarding the Uniform Notice of Claims certificate.

Resolution offered by Councilman Watkins, seconded by Councilman Stewart:

WHEREAS, General Municipal Law §53 requires towns to file a certificate with the Secretary of State designating the Secretary of State as an agent for service of notice of claim, and;
 WHEREAS, General Municipal Law §53 requires the certificate to include the applicable time limit for filing the notice of claim and the name, post office address and electronic address, if available, of an officer for the transmittal of notices of claim served upon the Secretary as the town’s agent, and;
 WHEREAS, pursuant to General Municipal Law §50-e(1)(a), the applicable time limit for the filing of a notice of claim upon a town is 90 days after the claim arises, or in the case of a wrongful death action, 90 days from the appointment of a representative of the decedent’s estate.
 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Champion, County of Jefferson designates Christina M. Vargulick, in her capacity as Town Clerk, to receive notices of claims served upon the Secretary of State by mail at 10 North Broad Street, Carthage, NY 13619 and email at chris@racog.org

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby directs the Town Clerk to file the required certification with the Secretary of State informing him of the Town’s designation and applicable time limitation for filing a notice of claim with the town on or before July 14, 2013.

Supervisor Buckley.....aye
Councilman Stewart.....aye
Councilman Watkins.....aye
Councilman Buzzell.....aye
Councilman Ferguson.....aye

Resolution adopted.

- Supervisor Buckley informed the Board that Stephen Eddy, Planning Board member has submitted his letter of resignation from the Planning Board. Due to time constraints, Mr. Eddy felt that he could not fulfill his duties. Letters of interest will be sought for an appointment at a later date.
- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Ferguson to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel and negotiations. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried. Executive session began at 8:17pm.
- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to return to open session. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried. Open session resumed at 9:27pm.
- Motion by Mr. Ferguson, seconded by Mr. Stewart to authorize Bernier, Carr & Associates to proceed with the design of the SD#2 transmission line from NYS Route 26 to the wastewater treatment facility. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Ferguson to authorize Hrabchak, Gebo, & Langone, PC, town bond counsel, to prepare a bond resolution in an amount not to exceed \$750,000. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Ferguson to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:33pm

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Christina Vargulick
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Town Clerk