

Organization Town of Champion

Board Town Board

Date and Time Monday, June 1 2015 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 1, 2015 at the Town Municipal Building, 10 North Broad Street, West Carthage. Present were Supervisor Buckley, Councilmen Ferguson, Stewart, Watkins, and Buzzell, Attorney Farley and Highway Superintendent Sech.

Supervisor Buckley called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and opened the meeting for public comment. J. Waite questioned the area the Copenhagen Fire Department is contracted to cover. Supervisor Buckley declined to comment.

Monthly Reports

- Engineer – Kris Dimmick reported that bids were opened for the Sewer District #2 Improvement project. The bids were very competitive Lawman Heating & Cooling was the low bidder for Contract #1 including alternative No. 2 and No. 3 at an amount not to exceed \$1,323,599.21. Watson Electric was the low bidder for Contract #2 at an amount not to exceed \$35,000. Mr. Dimmick discussed an application for funding through the Northern Borders program. The federal program is designed to support infrastructure that adds jobs. A successful application will allow the Town to construct sewer infrastructure south of the high school to Caskinette Ford.
- Resolution offered by Councilman Buzzell; seconded by Councilman Watkins:

RESOLVED, that Terry L. Buckley, as Town Supervisor, is hereby authorized to sign, on behalf of the Town of Champion, the Northern Board Commission Grant application.

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

Resolution adopted.

- Resolution offered by Councilman Stewart; seconded by Councilman Ferguson:

WHEREAS, Caskinette Realty owns property within the boundaries of Town of Champion Sewer District No. 2, and;

WHEREAS, Caskinette Ford and Auto Spa are located on the aforementioned property, and;

WHEREAS, Caskinette Ford and Auto Spa provide employment for 70 persons, and;

WHEREAS, the private septic system is beyond full capacity, and;

WHEREAS, the excess levels of effluent shall cause the business to relocate or reduce employment unless a connection can be made to the public sewer system.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Champion recognizes and acknowledges Caskinette Ford as a progressive and responsible member of the Town’s business community and supports the construction of a connection to Town of Champion’s Sewer District No. 2 to sustain and expand their business operation.

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

Resolution adopted.

- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to award SD#2 Improvement project Contract No. 1 to Lawman Heating and Cooling in an amount not to exceed \$1,323,599.21. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

- Motion by Mr. Ferguson, seconded by Mr. Stewart to award SD#2 Improvement project Contract No. 2 to Watson Electric in an amount not to exceed \$35,000. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Resolution offered by Councilman Stewart; seconded by Councilman Ferguson:

RESOLVED, that the revised Legal and Bonding items on the Sewer District #2 Improvement project Form E, dated 5/29/2015, reflect the “not to exceed” figures.

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

Resolution adopted.

- Councilmen – Mr. Ferguson informed members that Sarah Bulloch has been hired to replace John McHugh by the CIDC.
- Highway Superintendent – Mr. Sech reported the following activities: roads graded and rolled; pipes ordered in preparation for paving; grinder in place by mid-June; equipment maintenance including a new fuel tank on the International and a new seat on the Case loader; roadside mowing will begin as weather permits; the screen is set-up in the gravel pit; and assistance in the Village.
- Assessor – Mr. Vargulick reported that the Board of Assessment Review received eight (8) complaints for their consideration.
- Planning Board/ZEO – Mr. LaBarge reported that the Planning Board is continuing their review of a number of site plans. Permits were issued for construction.
- Parks/Historian – Mrs. Thornton reported that the park has welcomed its first visitors and that flowers have been planted. Supervisor Buckley thanked the Highway Department for mulching the beds and maintaining the park. A book signing for *Stone Houses of Jefferson County* will be held at the Hiram Hubbard House on June 18th followed by a potluck dinner and presentation about the writing of the book at the Champion Grange. Mrs. Thornton discussed the annual 4th of July parade. Mrs. Thornton encouraged persons to enter vintage vehicles and farm equipment. The parade will be followed by the traditional Champion Grange chicken barbeque and the ringing of the General Henry Champion bell at 2:00pm in remembrance of President John F. Kennedy’s proclamation that “freedom ring”.
- Circuit Rider – Ms. Amyot informed the Board that the summer swim program will open on July 1, 2015.

Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Stewart to approve the minutes of May 4, 2015 as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

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

General #131-158.....	\$25,810.21
Highway #85-110.....	\$32,363.57
RACOG #10.....	\$74.90
Con WD#1 O&M #17-20.....	\$5,196.70
WD#2,4&5 O&M #31-37.....	\$4,681.64
SD#1 O&M #3.....	\$5,988.62
SD#2 O&M #16-19.....	\$6,091.62
SD#2 Capital #5-6.....	\$28,786.79

Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

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

New Business

- Board members reviewed a letter from Randy Harris requesting that the Board lower the speed limit on Martin Street from 55mph to 25mph due to the road’s narrowness and pedestrian’s using the road. Mr. Buzzell noted that the road was short and felt that additional signage stating “speed zone ahead” could alleviate the concern. Mr. Sech stated that police officers cannot enforce a speed reduction without a lower speed zone. Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Stewart to refer a request to the County to lower the speed from 55mph to 30mph on Martin Street. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried. Highway Superintendent Sech was asked to speak to the Village Superintendent about additional signage.
- Motion Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Ferguson to go into executive session to discuss litigation. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried. Executive session began at 7:50pm.
- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Ferguson to return to open session. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Open session resumed at 8:07pm
- Motion by Mr. Ferguson, seconded by Mr. Stewart to authorize the Supervisor to execute an engagement letter with Robert J. Slye, Esq. to defend all claims against the Town of Champion and the Village of West

Carthage in the matter of: Champion Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. and Jennifer Waite v. Town of Champion and Village of West Carthage. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

- Motion by Mr. Ferguson, seconded by Mr. Stewart to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:09pm.

Christina Vargulick
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Town Clerk