

**Organization Town of Champion**

**Board Town Board**

**Date and Time Tuesday, September 5 2017 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, September 5, 2017 at the Town Municipal Building, 10 North Broad Street, West Carthage. Present were Supervisor Ferguson, Councilmen Stewart, Watkins, Buzzell and Waite and Highway Superintendent Sech.

Supervisor Ferguson called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Proof of notice having been furnished, the public hearing on Local Law #1 for 2017 - A Local Law to Override the Tax Levy Limit Established in General Municipal Law 3-c was called to order at 7:01pm. Diana Harris questioned the need for the tax override for multiple years. Supervisor Ferguson explained that the impact of the expanded court and sewer district construction on the 2018 budget has not been determined. If the override is unnecessary, it can be rescinded as it has been in prior years. Councilman Waite stated that the V/West Carthage should reimburse the Town for the increase in the cost to operate the court since the dissolution of the Village court is responsible for the increase. Supervisor Ferguson reminded Mr. Waite that towns are required to take over the village court activities if the village court is dissolved. Supervisor Ferguson also reminded Mr. Waite that the village is part of the Town. All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, the hearing was closed at 7:03pm.

Supervisor Ferguson opened the meeting for public comment. No one from the public addressed the Board.

**Monthly Reports**

- Engineer - Kris Dimmick reported that the design for the Highway Department fueling station and oil/water separator will be finalized for construction in 2018. Mr. Dimmick reported that the Town has withdrawn from the soil remediation project in SD#2. After removing 500T of contaminated soil, it was clearly evident that fuel had migrated far beyond the anticipated project area and removal could have a detrimental effect on building foundations. The Joint Village Pollution Board shall reevaluate the project. The final 400 feet of sewer main will be left in place and Contracts 1 and 3 shall be closed out.
- Councilmen - Mr. Waite suggested a notification policy in response to water service interruptions. Supervisor Ferguson directed Mr. Waite to prepare a recommendation for Board consideration.
- Highway- Highway Superintendent Sech reported on department activities for the prior month including: sealing an additional 8/10<sup>th</sup> mile of Lamb Road; mowing roadsides, DANC waterline and guide rails; equipment repair; assisting the village with paving; and drawing grindings. Mr. Sech recommended laying a binder course on the unpaved portion of Eddy Road. Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Stewart to authorize the Highway Superintendent to complete the paving on Eddy Road if the cost does not exceed the balance of the remaining CHIPS funds. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Planning/ZEO - Mr. LaBarge reported that the Planning Board is reviewing a minor subdivision and site plan for the Lunco offices on NYS Route 126. The applicant intends to sell the office building to Long Falls Baptist Church. Mr. LaBarge issued four (4) zoning permits in August.
- Circuit Rider - Ms. Amyot introduced Mickey Dietrich. Mr. Dietrich has been hired by the Tug Hill Commission to replace Ms. Amyot upon her retirement. Ms. Amyot discussed efforts to identify opportunities to share transportation services between Jefferson and Lewis Counties and assistance with the Town's comprehensive plan update.

Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Stewart to approve the minutes for August 7, 2017 as presented. Ayes-4, Nays-0, Abstained-1(S. Buzzell). Motion carried.

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

General #218-237.....	\$19,750.12
Highway #138-157.....	\$69,214.91
Con WD#1 O&M #19.....	\$210.83
WD#2,4&5 O&M #53-58.....	\$8,329.93
SD#1 O&M #4.....	\$49.70
SD#2 O&M #39-41.....	\$1,038.77
SD#2 Capital #6.....	\$868.91

Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

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

Supervisor Ferguson announced the resignation, effective December 31, 2017, of Jim and Mary Ann Yuhas in their roles as Assistant Clerk to the Supervisor and Clerk to the Supervisor, respectively and introduced Donna Martel, Straight Forward Accounting and Income Tax Service, who has been hired, effective January 1, 2018, to fill the financial director role.

Supervisor Ferguson reported that the Town has received a USDA-RD grant in the amount of \$33,000 for the purchase of a 2018 Mack truck and plow equipment and a low interest (3.25%) loan for the balance of the purchase cost.

Supervisor Ferguson reported that he received a letter of resignation from Terry L. Buckley from the Board of Assessment Review. Mr. Watkins requested that a letter of appreciation be sent to thank Mr. Buckley for his service on the BAR. A notice has been issued seeking letters of interest from individuals willing to serve on the BAR.

Supervisor Ferguson informed the Board that the Jefferson County Building Code office has inspected the Grange and issued a public assembly inspection report with no violations.

Supervisor Ferguson announced that the updated Town Comprehensive Plan will be presented to the Board at the October meeting.

### **New Business**

- Resolution offered by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to adopt Local Law #1 for 2017 - A Local Law to Override the Tax Levy Limit Established in General Municipal Law 3-c. Mr. Waite repeated his position that the V/West Carthage should pay the Town for taking over the village court. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Resolution adopted.
- Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Waite to contract with the V/West Carthage to provide \$500.00 for the purpose of providing fireworks in connection with the 2017 Christmas Parade for the benefit of the residents of the Town of Champion. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Stewart to authorize the Supervisor to execute an agreement for an appraisal of parcel no. 86.55-1-50.1 to respond to an assessment challenge. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Waite to authorize the Supervisor to execute the loan agreement with USDA-RD for the purchase of a 2018 Mack truck and plow equipment. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Waite, seconded by Mr. Stewart to renew the junkyard permit for Gary Chaffee. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Watkins to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:04pm.

Christina Vargulick  
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