

The Town of Champion Town Board met in regular monthly session on Monday, May 2, 2022 at the Town Municipal Building, 10 North Broad Street, West Carthage. Present were Supervisor Peck, Councilmen Stewart, Gump, Russell and Uhlinger and Highway Superintendent Strife.

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

Perry Golden, candidate for Jefferson County Sheriff introduced himself and summarized his background in law enforcement and business.

**Monthly Reports**

- Councilmen – Motion by M. Gump, seconded by J. Uhlinger to appoint a committee to review the town zoning law and comprehensive plan. Supervisor Peck referred to the agenda item proposal to conduct a downtown study cooperatively with the T/Wilna and the Villages of Carthage and West Carthage and recommended deferring the committee formation so that the results of the study could be considered. M. Gump rescinded his motion and J. Uhlinger concurred.  
B. Russell stated that increased patrols on Pennock Road have had an effect on the incidence of speeding.  
T. Stewart stated that a review of zoning law and comprehensive planning is a multi-year project.  
J. Uhlinger stated that he determined that local County Departments of Social Services (Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence) have housed individuals at the Pleasant Night Inn. Supervisor Peck restated his position that individuals need to be located in the area that maximizes their access to necessary resources.
- Highway – J. Strife reported that the department is preparing for the annual clean-up days. Intersections have been swept and the department has picked up several loads of illegally disposed trash and law enforcement is involved.
- Assessor – W. Vargulick discussed a stay on the assessment of solar/wind legislation effecting projects producing 1KW or more.
- Parks/Historian – L. Thornton discussed research she has done for a proposed book about the former Boy’s/Girl’s Club. Plans for Old Home Days shall include the parade, take out barbeque, a church sale and tours of the Hiram Hubbard House.
- Circuit Rider – M. Dietrich reported that the next RACOG meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 17<sup>th</sup> with more discussion regarding the CGI video and banner program. The economic summit was well attended. The BOCES graphic art students are designing a RACOG banner to use for exhibits.

Motion by B. Russell, seconded by T. Stewart to approve the minutes of April 4, 2022 as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by M. Gump to pay the following bill as presented.

|                          |             |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| General #113-130.....    | \$21,123.77 |
| Highway #50-65.....      | \$23,191.16 |
| RACOG #11.....           | \$224.00    |
| Con WD#1 O&M #8-9.....   | \$9,186.47  |
| WD#2,4&5 O&M #31-34..... | \$3,657.89  |
| SD#2 O&M #1,393.88.....  | \$1,393.88  |

Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Supervisor’s report was read and discussed. Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by M. Gump to accept the report as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

## New Business

- Supervisor Peck presented a Fund Balance Policy. He stated that an established policy will allow planning for capital expenses and avoid indebtedness and interest expenses. D. Martel discussed the position of the state regarding an evaluation of fiscal stress. Maintaining a fifteen percent (15%) fund balance is considered good. D. Martel proposes maintaining a minimum of thirty percent (30%) and a maximum of seventy percent (70%) to allow for investment in reserves and to maintain a stable tax rate. She stated that the policy is intended for the general fund but is a tool that can be used in all funds. Resolution offered by M. Gump, seconded by T. Stewart to adopt the Fund Balance Policy as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Resolution adopted.
- J. Strife recommended the agreement to spend Town highway funds (284 agreement) including general repairs and improvement to the Jackson II Road and North Lake Road as funding allows.

PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 284 OF THE HIGHWAY LAW, THE TOWN OF CHAMPION TOWN BOARD ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION AT A MEETING HELD ON MAY 2, 2022 FOR WHICH THE BOARD WAS GIVEN ADEQUATE NOTICE AS REQUIRED BY LAW AND AT WHICH A QUORUM WAS PRESENT AND VOTING.

Resolution offered by Councilman Gump; seconded by Councilman Russell:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the monies levied and collected for the repair and improvement of highways, shall be expended as follows:

GENERAL REPAIRS: The sum of \$5,000 may be expended for general repairs upon 45 miles of town highways, including sluices, culverts and bridges having a span of less than five feet and boardwalks or the renewals thereof.

IMPROVEMENTS: The following sums shall be set aside to be expended for the improvement of town highways:

(a) On Jackson II Road commencing at Intersection with NYS Route 26 and proceeding in 1.5 miles, paving will continue for a distance of 1.6 mile there shall be expended not over the sum of \$124,338.00

Type: Hot Top 12.5mm Width of travel surface: 22' Thickness: 1.5" compacted

(b) On North Lake Road commencing at Intersection with County Route 47 and proceeding in for 4/10th mile, paving will continue for a distance of 1.5 mile there shall be expended not over the sum of \$90,799.00

Type: Hot Top 12.5mm Width of travel surface: 20' Thickness: 1.5" compacted

Ayes-5, Nays-0. Resolution adopted.

- Supervisor Peck presented a request for funding from the Carthage Area Rescue Squad (CARS) to purchase a Zoll Z Vent at a total cost of \$18,342.83. Supervisor Peck proposes utilizing a portion of the ARPA funding to pay the town's share of the purchase. The V/West Carthage has approved the request. Action is pending in the T/Wilna and V/Carthage.

Resolution offered by Councilman Gump; seconded by Councilman Russell:

WHEREAS, the Town of Champion contracts with the Carthage Area Ambulance Squad to provide emergency services to residents, and;

WHEREAS, the Carthage Area Rescue Squad seeks to purchase a Zoll Z Vent at a cost not to exceed \$18,343.00 to provide a higher quality of service to the communities it serves.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Champion Town Board hereby authorizes an amount not to exceed \$4,600.00 to support the purchase of a Zoll Z vent by the Carthage Area Rescue Squad for the benefit of the residents of the Town.

Supervisor Peck .....aye  
Councilman Stewart.....aye  
Councilman Gump .....aye  
Councilman Russell.....aye  
Councilman Uhlinger.....aye

Resolution adopted.

- Supervisor Peck presented a proposal for services for an economic resiliency and recovery plan prepared by the MRB Group for consideration by the Towns of Champion and Wilna and the Villages of West Carthage and Carthage. The proposed plan would be grounded in data and involve intensive stakeholder engagement to support realistic strategies for the communities that encourage appropriate development. The Town's share is \$5,000 which would be paid from the economic development account. The V/West Carthage has approved the plan. Action is pending in the T/Wilna and V/Carthage. Resolution offered by B. Russell, seconded by M. Gump to approve the Town's participation in the downtown study as presented at a cost not to exceed \$5,000.00. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Resolution adopted.

*Christina Vargulick*  
Christina Vargulick  
Town Clerk