

The Town of Champion Town Board met in regular monthly session on Monday, March 6, 2023 at the Town Municipal Building, 10 North Broad Street, West Carthage. Present were Supervisor Peck, Councilmen Stewart, Russell, Uhlinger, and McMahon and Highway Superintendent Strife.

Supervisor Peck called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Supervisor Peck opened the public forum. J. Schell, Eddy Road, questioned if the Town had received an accounting regarding the 2022 fire protection contract with Copenhagen. Supervisor Peck stated that the Town contracted with the V/Copenhagen. It was reported that the Village requested a forensic audit that could be available to the Town.

**Monthly Reports**

- Engineer – Supervisor Peck reported on the study of a waterline from Great Bend to Cole Road; testing the valve between the Town and V/West Carthage; and a review by NYSDOH of the water main relocation plan for the Great Bend Stewart’s.
- Councilmen – W. McMahon stated that the Great Bend Fire Department has requested the Town’s assistance in lighting the flag at the memorial located at the intersection of NYS Routes 26 and 3. He also discussed conversations with voters on Bach Road regarding fire protection and property insurance and with voters on Conroy Drive regarding construction of a sanitary sewer system. He heard concerns about hunting in connection with the Jefferson County lands that border Champion Heights. J. Uhlinger stated that those lands will be reclassified as a “bow only” area.  
T. Stewart read a list of initiatives implemented and brought to completion by the Town Board over the past twenty years. He also expressed support for tax exemptions for volunteer firemen and replacement of the obsolete heating systems in the highway garage, municipal office, and fire station. Supervisor Peck stated that replacement of the heating systems could utilize a portion of the ARPA funds. J. Uhlinger stated that gas heating systems may be disallowed by 2035.  
J. Uhlinger commended the Supervisor on his response to a news story about delays with Great Bend Stewart’s construction project.
- Highway – J. Strife discussed ongoing problems with the heating system. He reported that the fans and lighting have been replaced at the fire station and that he is still waiting for parts to complete repairs on the 2004 Mack truck. He recommended that the Board authorize a letter of intent to purchase a new truck since the anticipated waiting period is 2-3 years. Motion by B. Peck, seconded by B. Russell to authorize the Highway Superintendent to issue a letter of intent to purchase a new truck on state bid. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Assessor – W. Vargulick reported, that based on sales, the town equalization rate will drop to ninety-one percent (91%).
- Planning Board/ZEO – The zoning officer’s written report was reviewed.
- Circuit Rider – M. Dietrich stated that a transportation meeting will be held at the T/Champion on March 7, 2023 to discuss digital radar and explore grant opportunities.

Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by B. Russell to approve the minutes of February 6, 2023 as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by J. Uhlinger to pay the following bills as presented:

General #48-73.....	\$57,600.32
Highway #21-36.....	\$38,757.88
RACOG #5-10.....	\$1,200.00
Con WD#1 O&M #6-7.....	\$594.33
WD#2,4&5 O&M #16-22.....	\$4,671.08

SD#2 O&M #5-9.....\$8,510.54

Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Board members reviewed and discussed the Supervisor's monthly report. Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by W. McMahon to approve the report as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

**New Business**

- Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by B. Russell to authorize the Highway Superintendent to post town roads as he deems necessary. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by B. Russell to authorize the Supervisor to send a letter of support for the Thousand Islands Event Center. J. Uhlinger discussed the proposed plan and events that have committed to the project. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by W. McMahon to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:56pm.

*Christina Vargulick*  
Christina Vargulick  
Town Clerk