

The Town of Champion Town Board met in regular monthly session on Monday, April 3, 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 meeting for public comment. Sam Eddy questioned if the town could adopt a local law that would supercede New York State rules in the event that the State prohibits the use of wood and fossil fuels as sources of fuel for heat. Supervisor Peck stated that he will investigate the possibility. J. Uhlinger explained why towns have a local option in the administration of other State regulations.

Edson Reed, West Carthage Fire Assistant Chief, discussed two leaks at Champion Station. The leaks will be corrected by the highway department. Asst. Chief Reed questioned the operation of the siren but noted that it is not necessary for fire protection.

Monthly Reports

- Engineer – M. Altieri discussed delays in meeting the schedule approved by the EPA. Pilot testing the valve between V/West Carthage and the Town systems is on hold pending the delivery and installation of a new meter. M. Altieri reported that laboratory results have improved. He shared preliminary costs for alternatives connecting the Champion water system to Great Bend. A connection down NYS Route 26 is estimated at \$6-7M and down Jackson II Road is estimated at \$10M prior to any grant funding. Both alternatives would cost existing users approximately \$100-200 more per year.
- Councilmen – B. Russell stated that he has spoken to a number of property owners along NYS Route 26 to determine if they are interested in a public water system. The majority were not interested. T. Stewart reported that some quotes have been received to replace furnaces at the town municipal building and highway barn. J. Uhlinger discussed aspects of the proposed NYS budget including an increase in the minimum wage and regulations for solar/wind PILOTS.
- Highway Superintendent – J. Strife reported that repairs have been completed on the truck. The diagnostic equipment that was purchased was vital to the repairs. Members congratulated the department.
- Circuit Rider – M. Dietrich discussed a new template for monthly reports and meetings held with the Transportation Safety Board. A recommendation has been made to apply for funding to employ a transportation coordinator which would make funding available to purchase digital radar signs.

Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by J. Uhlinger to approve the minutes of March 6, 2023 as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

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

General #74-99.....	\$57,270.94
Highway #37-48.....	\$55,359.91
Con WD#1 O&M.....	\$695.63
WD#2,4&5 O&M #23-28.....	\$4,945.52
SD#2 O&M #10-13.....	\$50,271.00

Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Supervisor's monthly report was read. Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by B. Russell to approve the report as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

New Business

- Board members reviewed the 2005 local law for partial property tax exemption for volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers and New York State's volunteer firefighters' and ambulance workers' income tax credit and determined that at this time the tax credit provides a higher level of reimbursement to first responders without the requirement of property ownership.
- Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by B. Russell to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

Christina Vargulick

Christina Vargulick

Town Clerk