

The Town of Champion Town Board met in regular monthly session on Monday, October 2, 2023 at the Town Municipal Building, 10 North Broad Street, West Carthage. Present were Supervisor Peck, Councilmen Stewart, McMahon, Russel and Uhlinger, and Highway Superintendent Strife.

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

Proof of notice having been furnished, the public hearing on the 2024 tentative budget was called to order at 7:01pm by Supervisor Peck. No one from the public spoke in favor or in opposition to the proposed budget. All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, the hearing was closed at 7:02pm.

Supervisor Peck opened the public forum. Kathleen LaVancha stated her concerns regarding drones flying over Dalton Estates senior housing. She explained that previously drones were operated over the adjacent vacant field but feels that operations over the housing risk accidental damage to cars or structures. Supervisor Peck advised Ms. LaVancha that since the housing is located within the V/West Carthage that she should contact Mayor Burto to discuss her concerns.

J. Schell reiterated his concerns regarding residential development of agricultural land.

Monthly Reports

- Councilmen – W. McMahon stated that he had received complaints about ATV’s operating on Jackson II Road and advised contacting law enforcement. T. Stewart reported on the installation of the new boilers at the highway garage. J. Uhlinger discussed a court decision received by the Village in regards to migrant housing and distributed a draft local law regarding changing elected town terms from four-years to three.
- Highway Superintendent – J. Strife reported that the new pad for the propane tanks is constructed and the trench for the propane line has been laid out. One plow has been harnessed. Shoulders on the North Lake Road are finished and repairs have been made on Watson Road.
- Planning Board/ZEO – The zoning officer’s written report was distributed.
- Historian – L. Thornton reported on research done for the Buck family with a connection to a local area known as Peterville.
- Circuit Rider – K. Valdez highlighted upcoming RACOG meetings and initiatives.

Motion by B. Russell, seconded by J. Uhlinger to approve the minutes of September 5, 2023 as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by W. McMahon to approve payment of the following bills as presented.

General #239-263.....	\$21,940.28
Highway #136-154.....	\$51,651.04
RACOG #25-26.....	\$50.21
Con WD#1 O&M #27-28.....	\$940.08
WD#2,4,&5 O&M #70-77.....	\$6,639.73
SD#1 O&M #5.....	\$35,760.00
SD#2 O&M #31-32.....	\$1,574.59

Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

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

New Business

- Motion by B. Russell, seconded by W. McMahon to adopt the 2024 tentative budget as the 2024 preliminary budget. Board members discussed the line item for the Chamber of Commerce in regards to events in the town. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Board members reviewed four quotes received for tank and propane service at the highway garage. W. McMahon questioned the quote from Suburban Propane. J. Strife explained that the company would own the tanks rather than the town. Motion by J. Uhlinger, seconded by B. Russell to accept the quote from Christman Fuel Service to sell and install 4-1000 gallon above ground propane storage tanks for an amount not to exceed \$18,500 and fix the propane price at \$1.39 per gallon until September 30, 2024. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Board members reviewed a furnace maintenance agreement with Hyde-Stone Mechanical Contractors for an annual fee of \$1,267 for the Town Municipal Building. Quotes were sought from two additional contractors. No response was received. Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by W. McMahon to accept the quote from Hyde-Stone. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by J. Uhlinger, seconded by B. Russell to appoint Jonathan Schell as the town representative to the Watertown-Jefferson County Area Transportation Council. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by B. Russell to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:52pm.

Christina Vargulick

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Town Clerk