

The Town of Champion Town Board met in regular monthly session on Monday, May 6, 2024 at the Town Municipal Building, 10 North Broad Street, West Carthage. Present were Supervisor Stewart, Councilmen McMahon, Russell, Sech, and Uhlinger and Highway Superintendent Sech.

Supervisor Stewart called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was opened for public comment. No one from the public addressed the Board.

Monthly Reports

- Engineer – M. Altieri proposed a meeting between the contractor and town representatives to discuss the relocation of the air handler and ceiling insulation at Champion Station 2. He reported that they are investigating the drainage around well #2 and suggest additional testing to support USDA-Rd grant applications. There has been a good response to the lead survey mailers.
- Councilmen – W. McMahon reported that he had attended a meeting of the T/Croghan addressing solar battery storage and suggested that the Town may want to update its zoning law to follow NYSERDA guidelines regarding battery storage. The Board agreed by consensus to request that the town attorney prepare a draft amendment to the zoning law.
B. Russell reported that the Carthage Chamber of Commerce can supply veteran banners for a cost of \$185 each. The Chamber has ten requests from Town residents to date.
J. Uhlinger reported on items in the adopted State budget that may affect towns.
- Highway – M. Sech reported that the department anticipates paving in late May or early June. He discussed three quotes for 3-point mowers to replace the flail mower currently used ranging in price from \$42,780 to \$85,663.05. He noted that the Diamond mower would require an upgrade to the hitch but in his opinion was a more durable mower. Motion by B. Russell, seconded by W. McMahon to authorize the purchase of the Diamond mower from Stephenson Equipment Inc. at a cost not to exceed \$46,700 and the necessary upgrades to the hitch. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Zoning Enforcement – M. Pomerville submitted his written report.
- Parks/Historian – L. Thornton reported on research she did for a family that provided the information they were seeking.
- Circuit Rider – M. Dietrich reported that the next RACOG meeting will be on May 30, 2024 at 6:00pm at the T/Wilna. Transportation representatives from Jefferson and Lewis Counties will be attending. RACOG transportation surveys were distributed to Board members to complete and submit prior to the meeting.

Motion by B. Russell, seconded by W. McMahon to approve the minutes of April 1, 2024 as presented. W. McMahon-aye, B. Russell-aye, B. Sech-aye, J. Uhlinger-abstained, T. Stewart-aye. Motion carried.

Motion by B. Sech, seconded by W. McMahon to pay the following bills as presented:

General #107-137.....	\$28,898.28
Highway #57-74.....	\$30,633.56
RACOG #9-11.....	\$611.98
Con WD#1 O&M #14-16.....	\$11,366.27
WD#2,4 &5 O&M #35-45.....	\$16,690.32
SD#2 O&M #14-19.....	\$12,209.68

Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Supervisor Stewart related a telephone call from a person asking that the Town construct sidewalks on Cole Road. The Board discussed the issue and determined that the cost of construction and maintenance of sidewalks was not the best use of taxpayer dollars.

Supervisor Stewart provided copies of an unsigned letter purporting that a number of properties on Pleasant Lake are being operated as Airbnb sites and requesting that the Town Board address the situation. Board members discussed issues with enforcement, monitoring, and safety. No action was taken.

New Business

- 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 6, 2024 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 Sech; seconded by Councilman McMahon:

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 \$7,500 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 3 and proceeding southeast to NYS Route 26, paving will continue for a distance of 1.5 miles there shall be expended not over the sum of \$162,500.00

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

(b) On Pine Drive commencing with the intersection with Jackson II Road and proceeding southwest to the dead end, paving will continue 0.2 miles there shall be expended not over the sum of \$25,000.00.

Type: Hot Top 12.5mm Width of travel surface: 21' Thickness: 1.5" compacted

Resolution adopted.

NYS Chips and other State programs: \$240,000.00

- Motion by B. Russell, seconded by W. McMahon to authorize the Supervisor to sign an engagement letter with Troutman Pepper Hamilton Sanders LLP to support a suit by the Town of Hempstead and Suffolk County challenging Bills A4282B/S3505B. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by J. Uhlinger, seconded by B. Sech to authorize the Supervisor to execute an agreement between the Town and the Development Authority of the North Country to provide technical services for the Sewer District #1 inflow and infiltration project. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF ENGINEERING PLANNING GRANT PROJECT NUMBER 131219 FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT COLLECTION AND TREATMENT SYSTEM PLANNING STUDY

WHEREAS, the Town of Champion seeks to remove inflow and infiltration from the Town sewer collection system to reduce high wet-weather flows, reduce system operation and maintenance costs, and restore capacity for future growth of residential and commercial development; and

WHEREAS, the New York State DEC and Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) Wastewater Infrastructure Engineering Planning Grant (i.e. EPG) program is as an eligible funding source for this project; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Champion submitted a 2023 New York State Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) to perform an engineering study for a Town municipal wastewater system; and

WHEREAS, the Town has been selected to receive up to \$50,000 from the EPG to fund the study for a Town municipal wastewater system.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town authorizes and appropriates a minimum 20% local match as required by the Engineering Planning Grant Program for the Town's wastewater treatment collection and treatment system study. Under the EPG program, this local match must be at least \$ 10,000. The source of the local match, and any amount in excess of the required match, shall be provided by the Town with either in kind services or Town sewer funds. The maximum local match shall not exceed \$10,000 based upon a total estimated maximum project cost of \$60,000. The Supervisor may increase this local match through the use of in-kind services without prior approval from the Town.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Supervisor or his assigned designee, is hereby authorized to act as the projects "Authorized Representative", and to enter into any necessary contracts to administer said grants.

Supervisor Stewart	aye
Councilman McMahon	aye
Councilman Russell	aye
Councilman Sech	aye
Councilman Uhlinger	aye

Resolution adopted..

- Motion by B. Sech, seconded by B. Russell to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:09pm.

Christina Vargulick

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Town Clerk