

The Town of Champion Town Board met in regular monthly session on Monday, April 7, 2025 at the Town Municipal Building, 10 North Broad Street, West Carthage. Present were Supervisor Peck, Councilmen McMahon, Russell, Sech, and Uhlinger and Highway Superintendent Sech.

Supervisor Peck called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence to mark the passing of Gerald A. Shattuck, a longtime highway employee of the town.

Supervisor Peck opened the meeting for public comment. Debbie Atkins, executive director of the Carthage Area Chamber of Commerce, introduced herself and highlighted events scheduled by the Chamber.

Chuck Robertson, Adirondack Techs, provided information to the Board regarding a plan to install fiber optic broadband on a portion of South Lake Road and along some private drives. Mr. Robertson was advised by Highway Superintendent Sech that construction on South Lake Road shall be on existing poles and not buried in the town right-of-way.

Eldon Glick asked for information regarding sewer ad valorem charges and water rates on property owned on NYS Route 3. He was directed to meet with the Town Clerk to discuss his concerns.

Mark Pomerville reported that his children have been harassed by dogs on Maiden Lane creating an unsafe environment. Mr. Pomerville reported the issue to Jefferson County dog control and felt that the County was unresponsive. Supervisor Peck will make inquiries.

### **Monthly Reports**

- Councilmen – W. McMahon reported that he participated in the inspection at the Lewis Loop water plant. B. Russell questioned the County's responsibilities outlined in the dog control agreement. B. Sech asked about repairs to the fire hydrant at Champion Station 2. J. Uhlinger reported that the State has not approved a budget to date.
- Highway Superintendent – M. Sech reported on the following: equipment has been serviced for the construction season; temporary repairs made to address a wash out on Eddy Road; and presented three quotes to replace the highway pickup truck. Quotes were received from Empire – \$59,555, Joe Basil Chevrolet - \$61,296, and Maquire Ford - \$62,669.43. All quotes included a Fisher plow. B. Russell questioned if a diesel truck should be considered stating that the retention value is greater. B. Sech stated that the general maintenance is less expensive with gas and there are not the emission concerns associated with diesel. M. Sech reported that he estimates the resale value of the current truck at \$30,000 which is greater than the trade-in value.  
Resolution offered by J. Uhlinger, seconded by B. Russell to authorize the purchase of a 2025 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD at a cost not to exceed \$61,296 citing transmission durability and resale value. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Resolution adopted.  
Board members agreed to schedule the annual road tour for April 16, 2025. Time to be announced.
- Assessor – W. Vargulick submitted his letter of resignation effective September 29, 2025.
- Zoning Officer – M. Pomerville reported no permits issued in March and on a number of violations still out of compliance with the zoning law.
- Circuit Rider – M. Dietrich read his monthly report and reminded members that the Economic Summit is April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Motion by B. Russell, seconded by W. McMahon to approve the minutes from March 3, 2025 as presented. Ayes-4, Nays-0, Abstained-1 (J. Uhlinger). Motion carried.

Motion by B. Sech, seconded by B. Russell to approve payment of the following bills as presented:

General #82-117.....	\$42,804.50
Highway #40-64.....	\$51,564.72
RACOG #12.....	\$197.64
ConWD#1 O&M #11-14.....	\$4,012.20
WD#2,4&5 O&M #32-41.....	\$14,581.64
SD#1 O&M #5.....	\$100.00
SD#2 O&M #12-14.....	\$1,798.77

Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

**New Business**

- Resolution offered by B. Sech, seconded by B. Russell to adjust the overage charge in Consolidated WD#1 to \$5.50/KG in response to the announced rates from the Development Authority of the North Country. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Resolution adopted.
- Resolution offered by B. Sech, seconded by J. Uhlinger to authorize the Supervisor to sign Amendment No. 1 to the Technical Service Agreement between the Town and the Development Authority of the North Country. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Resolution adopted.
- Resolution offered by B. Russell, seconded by W. McMahon to approve the standard work day and reporting resolution for John Peck at 3.81 days. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Resolution adopted.
- Motion by J. Uhlinger, seconded by W. McMahon to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:18pm.

*Christina Vargulick*

Christina Vargulick  
Town Clerk