

**Organization Town of Champion****Board Town Board****Date and Time Monday, August 7 2006 at 7:00 PM****Place Town of Champion Offices Board Room (rear of building) 10 N Broad St, West Carthage NY****Contact [Chris Vargulick](#) Town Clerk Phone (315) 493-3240 Fax(315) 493-2900****Minutes**

The Town of Champion Town Board met in regular monthly session on Monday, August 7, 2006 at 7:00pm at the Town Municipal Office, 10 North Broad Street, West Carthage. Present were Supervisor Buckley, Councilmen Stewart, Watkins (7:03), Buzzell, and Peck, Attorney Farley, and Highway Superintendent Sech.

Supervisor Buckley called the meeting to order and opened the floor for comment from the public. Mark Ryan, Time Warner general manager, discussed the cable franchise's increased need for space, electrical service, and generator backup. Mr. Ryan reviewed alternatives that have been previously discussed by the Town and franchise including: remodeling the leased front space; expanding the leased back space into space currently utilized by the Town; constructing a building addition; or constructing a free standing building. Supervisor Buckley responded that the Board has supported the construction of a free standing building. Time Warner offered to assume the cost of separating the electric services, replacing a generator to provide back up power to their operation, and relocating the rear office space presently utilized by the Town. They also stated that the construction of a free standing building is cost prohibitive and would result in a disruption of service.

**Public Hearings**

- Proof of notice having been furnished the public hearing on the extension of Consolidated WD#1 on County Route 47 was called to order at 7:10pm. Patrick McKenna spoke for the proposed action. No one spoke against the proposal. All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, the hearing was closed at 7:18pm.
- Proof of notice having been furnished the public hearing on the extension of Consolidated WD#1 on NYS Route 126 was called to order at 7:18pm. Louis Waite spoke for the proposed action. No one spoke against the proposal. All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, the hearing was closed at 7:21pm.
- Proof of notice having been furnished the public hearing on the rezoning of parcel #76.00-2-2.1 to Rural Corridor (RC) in its entirety was called to order at 7:21pm. John Youngs spoke for the proposed action and summarized plans to develop approximately 950 units of single and multi-family housing. The following persons spoke against rezoning the parcel: John E. Peck, Robert Peck, Brian Peck, Reggie Purington, and Patricia Gagnon. Opponents to the proposed action cited the issues of concern including, but not limited to: compatibility with surrounding uses, traffic, drainage, pollution, spot zoning, and conservation of agricultural assets. All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, the hearing was closed at 7:39pm.

**Monthly Reports**

- Councilmen - Mr. Peck questioned if Time Warner is required to carry insurance to protect the Town against liability. Attorney Farley responded that both the Town and Time Warner are required to maintain coverage as part of the executed lease. Mr. Peck questioned how forest lands are assessed. Supervisor Buckley answered that forest lands are assessed based on a basal that considers the value of the standing timber. Mr. Peck questioned the status of the Uhlinger development. Supervisor Buckley stated that the developer has submitted completed plans to the agencies and is awaiting comment and approvals. Mr. Watkins referenced recent reports regarding wind towers proposed in surrounding communities.
- Highway Superintendent - Mr. Sech distributed and reviewed his monthly report with the Board. Mr. Sech asked if public services have been disconnected at property located at 32688 NYS Route 26.
- Zoning Officer - Mr. Koster reported that he took action on six (6) permits, nine (9) complaints, and twelve (12) inspections. In response to a query, Mr. Koster responded that he has received no response from Thomas Astafan.
- Planning Board - Chairman LaBarge reported that the Board will hold a work session with planners from the Tug Hill Commission to prepare a draft local law concerning the construction and location of wind energy facilities.
- Parks - N. Eddy reported that the T/Champion has been award a \$32,500 grant through EPF to fund improvements to the Village Green Park. Pending execution of the funding contract, work will proceed for the next twelve months. Based on discussions at the committee level, the 4 River Valleys Historical Society and the Champion Grange will be asked to support an application to have the Hubbard House and the Grange placed on the National Historic Registry. Pending their support, the committee will request that the Town Board consider the designation for the Village Green Park. Mr. Eddy informed the Board that the committee would like to apply for up to \$5000 in funding through the Council of Arts Decentralization program for three (3) events to be held at the Park.
- Historian - Mrs. Thornton presented the completed West Carthage Walking Tour brochure and thanked Chris Lorence and Brad Good for design assistance and Westside Printery for the attractive finished results. Those in attendance recognized Mrs. Thornton's efforts with a round of applause.

- Circuit Rider – Ms. Amyot echoed Mr. Eddy’s remarks regarding the historic building/site designations. She informed the Board that a mandatory information session will be held on August 9<sup>th</sup> for any group intending to request funding through the Council of the Arts. The application deadline is September 1<sup>st</sup>. Nelson Eddy agreed to attend the mandatory session. Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Watkins to authorize the Supervisor to sign and submit the funding application through the Council of the Arts Decentralization program. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Assessor – Mr. Vargulick asked for an executive session to discuss pending litigation.

Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Peck to approve the minutes of July 10, 2006 as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to approve payment of the following bills:

General #222-242.....	\$21,752.73
Highway #161-187.....	\$44,638.26
RACOG #30-31.....	\$88.18
Con WD#1 O&M #44-49.....	\$6,438.67
WD#4 O&M #11.....	\$2,767.74
SD#2 O&M #1-2.....	\$2054.63

Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Supervisor’s monthly report was read and discussed. It was noted that interest rates are very favorable. Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Stewart to approve the report as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

**New Business**

- The Board discussed and responded to the long form SEQR in regards to the extension of Consolidated WD#1 on County Route 47. Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to make declaration of negative environmental impact. Roll call vote: Mr. Buzzell-aye, Mr. Watkins-aye, Mr. Stewart-aye, Mr. Peck-aye, and Supervisor Buckley-aye. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Peck that whereas the extension of Consolidated WD#1 to include parcel no. 93.00-2-14.23 is a benefit to those within the extension and in the best interest of the citizens of the district that an order to extend the district by approved. Roll call vote: Mr. Buzzell-aye, Mr. Watkins-aye, Mr. Stewart-aye, Mr. Peck-aye, and Supervisor Buckley-aye. Motion carried.
- The Board discussed and responded to the long form SEQR in regards to the extension of Consolidated WD#1 on NYS Route 126. Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Stewart to make declaration of negative environmental impact. Roll call vote: Mr. Buzzell-aye, Mr. Watkins-aye, Mr. Stewart-aye, Mr. Peck-aye, and Supervisor Buckley-aye. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell that whereas the extension of Consolidated WD#1 to include parcel no. 86.00-1-39.1 is a benefit to those within the extension and in the best interest of the citizens of the district that an order to extend the district by approved. Roll call vote: Mr. Buzzell-aye, Mr. Watkins-aye, Mr. Stewart-aye, Mr. Peck-aye, and Supervisor Buckley-aye. Motion carried.
- Attorney Farley recommended that the matter of rezoning parcel no. 76.00-2-2.1 be referred to County Planning and the Town Planning Board for comment. Supervisor Buckley will contact the County Farmland Protection Board to assure compliance with Agricultural District regulations. No action was taken on the application at this time.
- The Board reviewed the lump sum contract between the Town and the State of New York for snow and ice removal. An adjustment has been made to offset fuel costs. Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Peck to authorize the Supervisor to execute the agreement as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- The Board took formal action to purchase a replacement dump box. Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Stewart to authorize the purchase of a 14’ x 42” x 48” dump body from Viking Cives for an amount not to exceed \$16,019. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Supervisor Buckley reviewed correspondence, for information only, including a letter from the town insurer and the Association of Towns regarding alleged liability issues relative to all-terrain vehicles and an opinion from Attorney Farley. The Board also received copies of the CARS financial statement.
- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Peck to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried. Executive session began at 8:49pm.
- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to resume open session. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried. Open session resumed at 9:21pm.
- The Board toured the municipal building in consideration of Time Warner’s request to relocate their leased space.
- Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Stewart to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:58pm.

Christina Vargulick  
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 Town Clerk