

Organization Town of Champion

Board Town Board

Date and Time Monday, October 1 2007 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, October 1, 2007. Present were Supervisor Buckley, Councilmen Stewart, Watkins, Buzzell, and Peck (7:11), and Attorney Farley. Highway Superintendent Sech was excused.

Supervisor Buckley called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and invited comments from the public. Rhonda Berry, representing the Carthage Area Rescue Squad (CARS), questioned whether the Town intends to contract with CARS for ambulance service. She referred to a request from Cullen Lundy asking that the Board consider a letter of support for his application to the NYSDOH to provide emergency transportation services. Supervisor Buckley responded that the Board has included an amount in the 2008 budget for CARS but added that the Board continues to be very concerned with the number of workers' compensation claims that are filed by members of CARS against the Town. He explained that the monies budgeted for those claims is double the amount of the contract for service and is far greater than the combined claims of all other service providers in the Town. Ms. Berry stated that she was unaware of any claims. Supervisor Buckley agreed to meet with the CARS Board of Directors to discuss the issue.

Monthly Report

- Engineer - Kris Dimmick reported that the mainline and laterals are complete in SD#2. The electrical work will proceed upon delivery of the equipment.
- Councilmen - Mr. Watkins discussed additional marking in rear parking lot to increase the number of available spaces. Mr. Buzzell discussed a lack of signage at the intersection of Bach Road Ext. and County Route 47. Since the road intersects with a County highway, the responsibility for signage lies with the County. Supervisor Buckley will contact the County Highway Department to inform them about the issue.
- Highway - Sam Eddy informed the Board that the road shoulders have been completed on Switzer and North Lake Roads. Road have been graded and the department continues to haul and stockpile sand.
- Assessor - Supervisor Buckley read a letter of commendation from NYS ORPS recognizing and congratulating the assessor for "Excellence in Equity".
- Zoning Officer - Mr. Koster reported on activities for the previous month including approved permits and a stop work order.
- Planning - Mr. LaBarge requested that members review the RACOG Planning Committee recommendations for zoning amendments to special use and site plan review criteria and share any comments regarding the prepared draft.
- Parks - Mrs. Thornton reported that Dr. Tim Abel has located some foundations and artifacts in areas previously identified. All intended construction is outside the sensitive archeological area.
- Historian - Mrs. Thornton announced that she will guide a walking tour of the perimeter of the 1884 Carthage Fire on October 20, 2007 starting on the former West Carthage Elementary School. Mrs. Thornton also acknowledged Gary Woods for his donation of a set of books, complete with an index, listing local persons serving during the Civil War. Mrs. Thornton reported that Suzanne Wiley, deputy historian, will be attending the APHNYS conference in October.
- DANC - Bryon Perry attended the meeting. Supervisor Buckley requested that the levels of the wells in WD#2 be closely monitored.

Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Stewart to approve the minutes of September 10, 2007 as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to approve payment of the following bills as presented with the exception of voucher 279 to Joseph Gaffney in the amount of \$30.00.

General #259-284.....	\$10,140.45
Highway #213-228.....	\$132,841.99
RACOG #30-36.....	\$693.49
Con WD#1 O&M.....	\$3,576.04
WD#4 O&M.....	\$3,840.64
SD#1 O&M.....	\$35,760.00

Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Supervisor's monthly report was read and discussed. Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to

approve the report as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

New Business

- Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Peck to authorize the Supervisor to sign an application for funding through NYSCA for the 2008 summer concert series. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Supervisor Buckley presented the 2008 tentative budget to the Board. The budget reflects a tax rate of \$2.25/\$1,000 which is an eighteen percent (18%) decrease from the 2007 rate. Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to accept the budget as the preliminary budget and to schedule a public hearing for Monday, November 4, 2006 at 7:15pm to hear public comment regarding the budget. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Attorney Farley facilitated the environmental assessment review for the North Hills project on Mosher Road. The Board reviewed and reflected on the project sponsors responses to Part 1. The Board began a line by line review of Part 2 of the EAF considering and responding to each of the questions regarding potential environmental impact and assessing the impact threshold and mitigation where appropriate with assistance from Kris Dimmick, Town Engineer. Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to issue a declaration of positive impact based on one or more responses indicating a large and important impact and to order the preparation and submittal of a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) by the project sponsor. Roll call vote: Mr. Stewart-aye, Mr. Watkins-aye, Mr. Buzzell-aye, Mr. Peck-aye, and Supervisor Buckley-aye. Motion carried. Supervisor Buckley recommended that the project sponsor work in conjunction with a land use attorney and a professional engineer to prepare the draft EIS.
- Board members discussed the need to update the Town's comprehensive plan. Supervisor Buckley reported that he has applied for \$10,000 in funding through the Fort Drum Area Quality Communities Project to assist with the estimated update costs.
- Supervisor Buckley asked for an executive session to discuss negotiations with the highway union. Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing negotiations. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to return to open session. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried. Open session resumed at 10:12pm.
- Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Stewart to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 10:13pm.

Christina Vargulick
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