

Organization Town of Champion**Board Town Board****Date and Time Tuesday, September 7 2010 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 Tuesday, September 7, 2010 at the Town Municipal Building, 10 North Broad Street, West Carthage. Present were Supervisor Buckley, Councilmen Stewart, Watkins, Buzzell, and Peck, Highway Superintendent Sech, and Attorney Farley.

Supervisor Buckley called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and opened the meeting for public comment. Elwood Thomas advised the Board that BudLo Drive needs to have some potholes repaired. Highway Superintendent Sech noted the comment.

Monthly Reports

- Councilmen – Mr. Buzzell questioned if any members intended to attend the local government conference in Potsdam. Mr. Buzzell also mentioned that he had been advised by a property owner on Pleasant Lake that a zoning permit had been issued for the construction of a residence on the lake. The property owner expressed concerns regarding a right-of-way. Supervisor Buckley responded that the zoning officer and town clerk were aware of the concerns and it had been determined that the permit was issued in accordance with the Town zoning law. Mr. Stewart commended the highway department on the successful reconstruction of the Cole Road.
- Highway Superintendent – Mr. Sech reported that Cole Road was completed prior to the opening of school. The shoulder of the Jackson II Road near the Miller residence was rehabilitated. A culvert pipe at the intersection of Watson Road and Boni Road was replaced and mowing is almost complete. Mr. Sech reported that a hose on the air compressor developed a leak over the weekend and consequently caused the air compressor to run without shutting off. It appears that the compressor motor may have been damaged. Repairs will be made to the motor. The screener has been shut down for the year. It will be necessary to repair/replace the two inch (2”) screen before using the equipment again. NYTRIC has installed an emergency shutoff switch for the fuel pump as required by OSHA. Mr. Sech recommended that the Town take over County Route 197 as requested by the County. J. Peck questioned if the roadway had any outstanding drainage issues. Mr. Sech responded that there are no issues that he is aware of.
- Assessor – Mr. Vargulick responded to questions from the Board.
- Town Attorney – Mr. Farley approved the proposed SD#2 O&M contract between Town and DANC as to form.
- Parks/Historian – Mrs. Thornton thanked Larry Eddy for his work on the pavilion and announced that the park has been reserved for September 25th. Mrs. Thornton reported that she had received a box of documents from the desk of Noadiah Hubbard from Peter Rogers. The desk has been donated and shipped to the 4 River Valleys Historical Society.
- Circuit Rider – Mrs. Amyot reported on the following: resumption of the RACOG land use review; local leaders institute; Tug Hill Commissioners meeting; and the completion of the JIMI project inventory.

Proof of notice having been furnished, the public hearing on Local Law #3 for 2010 – a local law prohibiting the building of primary residences on qualified abandoned or seasonal use highways in the Town of Champion was called to order at 7:15pm by Supervisor Buckley.

The following person spoke in favor of the proposed local law: John F. Sech. He agreed with the Town Board's intent to build roads when fiscally feasible and necessary, for traffic and building needs to control spending.

The following persons spoke against the proposed local law: Michael Harris, Samuel Stolfus, Stephen Eisel, Vernon Scoville, Mary Jane Scoville, Mose Mast and Don Colson. Those opposed to the adoption of the law questioned the rights of property owners, the impact on property values and the Town's obligation to provide adequate infrastructure. The Scovilles' suggested considering the issue on a case by case basis.

Supervisor Buckley explained the significant cost to build and maintain highways. He noted that a primary residences' must be serviced by a year round road for emergency vehicles, school busses, etc. Town roads must be built to the Town Standards. He acknowledged the Town's obligation to preserve and maintain existing town roads and stated that the Board has a fiscal obligation to all town taxpayers. Highway Superintendent Sech stated that the estimated cost of road construction is \$300,000/mile. Supervisor Buckley suggested that Mr. Mast would be able to obtain a zoning permit to construct a home and use the Boni Road spur as a driveway if the road was reclassified abandoned or if the driveway to the home was located on the Boni Road. Board members reiterated the section of the proposed law requiring a review of all roads from time to time. Supervisor Buckley suggested that the portion of the Eddy Road that is designated as seasonal can be adjusted to accommodate construction. The Eddy Road was constructed to town standards with the exception of paving.

All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, the hearing was closed at 8:23pm.

Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Stewart to approve the minutes of August 2, 2010 as presented. Ayes-4, Nays-0, Abstained-1(Mr. Buzzell). Motion carried.

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

General #198-218.....	\$17,464.47
Highway #168-191.....	\$120,702.18
RACOG #30-32.....	\$7,362.77
Con WD#1 O&M #54-60.....	\$3,473.52
WD#5 O&M #14-16.....	\$144,556.05
WD#5 Capital #4.....	\$1,199,110.82

Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Supervisor's monthly report was read and discussed. Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Stewart to accept the report as presented. Supervisor Buckley responded to a question from Mr. Watkins regarding the loans for WD#5. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Information regarding necessary budget transfers was reviewed. Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Peck to approve the budget transfers as recommended. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

New Business

- Board members reviewed modifications to the administrative budgets for WD#5a and WD#5b. Resolution offered by Councilman Stewart, seconded by Councilman Peck; WHEREAS, the Town of Champion (Town) approved a budget for the construction of a water transportation system known as Water District No. 5a (Town Facilities), and; WHEREAS, the Town has found it necessary to modify the administrative portion of budget for the construction of the Town Facilities; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves the modifications to the administrative portion of the budget for the construction of the Town Facilities.
Supervisor Buckley.....aye
Councilman Stewart.....aye
Councilman Watkins.....aye
Councilman Buzzell..... aye
Councilman Peck.....aye
Resolution adopted.
- Resolution offered by Councilman Stewart, seconded by Councilman Peck; WHEREAS, the Town of Champion (Town) approved a budget for the construction of a water transportation system known as Water District No. 5a (Town Facilities), and; WHEREAS, the Town has found it necessary to modify the administrative portion of budget for the construction of the Town Facilities; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves the modifications to the administrative portion of the budget for the construction of the Town Facilities.
Supervisor Buckley.....aye
Councilman Stewart.....aye
Councilman Watkins.....aye
Councilman Buzzell..... aye
Councilman Peck.....aye
Resolution adopted.
- Resolution offered by Councilman Buzzell, seconded by Councilman Peck; WHEREAS, the Town of Champion (Town) operates a sewer transportation system known as Sewer District No. 2 (Town Facility) and; WHEREAS, the Town has determined that the Development Authority of the North Country (Authority) is qualified and equipped to provide Operation and Maintenance services for the Town Facility, and; WHEREAS, the Authority desires to provide Operations and Maintenance services for the Town Facility; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to enter into an agreement with the Authority for the operation and maintenance of the Town Facility for a term commencing September 1, 2010 and ending August 31, 2011.
Supervisor Buckley.....aye
Councilman Stewart.....aye
Councilman Watkins.....aye
Councilman Buzzell..... aye
Councilman Peck.....aye
Resolution adopted.
- The Board reviewed the draft park pavilion use form. Mr. Watkins questioned whether the Town should have forms for the use of other Town facilities. Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to approve the form as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Louis Waite, representing the Champion Volunteer Fire Department, presented three applications for membership from Troy Babcock, Jonathan Rhone, and Sean Rossignol for Board approval, plus an updated membership list. Supervisor Buckley asked Mr. Waite why the Board has not received a copy of an audit of the department's finances. Mr. Waite responded that the department had not received the audit to date. J. Peck questioned the number of certified interior fire fighters. Mr. Waite stated that no one in the department is certified for interior fire fighting. Supervisor Buckley reminded Mr. Waite that a number of required items that were requested at the meeting earlier this year have not been received by the Board. Supervisor Buckley advised Mr. Waite to submit the audit if the department wants to receive funding in the 2011 town budget. Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Stewart to approve the membership of Troy Babcock, Jonathan Rhone, and Sean Rossignol contingent on the pending arson report. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- The Board discussed proposed Local Law #3 for 2010. Supervisor Buckley read the law in its entirety for

informational purposes reiterating the requirement to review roads from time to time. Supervisor Buckley polled the Board regarding their opinion on the proposed law. Mr. Watkins supported further study. Mr. Stewart voiced his support for the proposed law. Mr. Peck spoke about his concerns for property rights. Supervisor Buckley stated that he favored the proposed law to protect all taxpayers in the Town. A motion by Mr. Stewart to adopt Local Law #3 for 2010 did not receive a second. Highway Superintendent Sech recommended that the Board adopt the law to be able to exercise some control over the cost of road construction and stated, that due to its improved condition, that the Eddy Road could be maintained as a year round road. Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Stewart to table the discussion pending further study. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried. Highway Superintendent Sech was directed to inspect the Eddy Road and make a formal recommendation. Supervisor Buckley recommended that Mr. Eisel discuss the disposition of the Boni Road spur with Mr. Stoltzfus and, if desired, petition the Board for reclassification of the qualified abandoned road.

- Motion by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Stewart to schedule a public hearing to extend WD#5 to include parcel no. 85.12-1-24. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried. The hearing will be held on October 4, 2010 at 7:15pm.
- Resolution offered by Councilman Stewart, seconded by Councilman Peck;

WHEREAS, the County of Jefferson operates and maintains a highway known as "County Route 197" in the Hamlet of Great Bend and;
WHEREAS, the County of Jefferson has requested that County Route 197 become a Town road, and;
WHEREAS, the Town Highway Superintendent has recommended that County Route 197 become a town road, and;
WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that it is in the best interest of the residents and property owners within the Town for County Route 197 to become a Town road;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board accepts the County Route 197 as a Town road.

Supervisor Buckley.....aye
Councilman Stewart.....aye
Councilman Watkins.....aye
Councilman Buzzell.....aye
Councilman Peck.....aye
Resolution adopted.

- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Peck to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing collective negotiations and the employment of a particular person. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried. Executive session began at 10:14pm.
- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Peck to resume open session. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried. Open session resumed at 11:06pm.
- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to approve the 2011-13 contract between the Town of Champion and the highway employees represented by the Teamsters Union, as negotiated. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Peck to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 11:10pm.

Christina Vargulick
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Town Clerk