

Organization Town of Champion

Board Town Board

Date and Time Monday, November 2 2015 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, November 2, 2015 at the Town Municipal Building, 10 North Broad Street, West Carthage. Present were Deputy Supervisor Ferguson, Councilmen Stewart, Watkins and Buzzell, Highway Superintendent Sech, and Attorney Farley. Deputy Supervisor Ferguson called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Public Hearings

- Proof of notice having been furnished, the public hearing on the 2016 Preliminary budget was called to order at 7:00pm by Deputy Supervisor Ferguson. Jonathan Schell spoke in favor of the tax rate. Joshua Crump questioned the amount appropriated for ambulance service. All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, the hearing was closed at 7:05pm.
- Proof of notice having been furnished, the public hearing on the fire contract for Champion Fire Protection District No. 1 between the Town and the V/West Carthage was called to order by Deputy Supervisor Ferguson at 7:05pm. The following persons spoke against the contract: Jonathan Schell and Jennifer Waite. All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, the hearing was closed at 7:10pm.
- Proof of notice having been furnished, the public hearing on the fire contract for Champion Fire Protection District No. 2 between the Town and the V/Copenhagen was called to order by Deputy Supervisor Ferguson at 7:10pm. The following persons spoke against the contract: Joshua Crump, Michael Harris, Jennifer Waite, and Jonathan Schell. All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, the hearing was closed at 7:13pm.
- Proof of notice having been furnished, the public hearing on Local Law #2 for 2015 – A Local Law to rescind Local Law #1 for 2014 was called to order by Deputy Supervisor Ferguson at 7:13pm. No one spoke for or against the proposed local law. All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, the hearing was closed at 7:15pm.

Deputy Supervisor Ferguson opened the meeting for public comment. Jennifer Waite questioned the Town’s oversight over the V/Copenhagen Fire Department. Deputy Supervisor Ferguson responded that the Town contracts with the Village not the fire department. Jonathan Schell reiterated his position regarding his family’s safety. Deputy Supervisor Ferguson invited Mr. Schell to meet with him to discuss his concerns including insurance premiums. Mr. Schell agreed to a meeting after the general election. Diana Harris stated that she anticipates an increase in her homeowner’s insurance premium. Jennifer Waite questioned why the Board had not invited the Champion Fire Department to meet with them.

Monthly Reports

- Engineer – Kris Dimmick, BC&A, discussed progress on the SD#2 Improvement project including: the completion of mainline construction on Cole and Farney Pit Roads; plans for installing laterals and repaving; work on replacing the transmission line; and plans to deal with the shallow bedrock. The substantial completion date is December 15, 2015.
- Highway – Highway Superintendent Sech reported on the following activities: using the Gradall to remove brush as weather permits; all trucks prepared for snow removal; winter tires on the Ford pickup; a front end alignment on the Chevy pickup; construction of a new sand rack; replacement of a number of floor grates; and the cost of salt on state bid (\$59/T).
- Planning Board/Zoning Enforcement – Mr. LaBarge reported that the Planning Board has scheduled a public hearing on the special permit application from OWN Energy. A vote on the project is pending action by the County Planning Board and the Cooperative ZBA.

Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Stewart to approve the minutes of October 5, 2015 as presented. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to pay the following bills as presented:

General #257-286.....	\$23,752.98
Highway #211-231.....	\$46,629.56
RACOG #22-24.....	\$14,373.69
Con WD#1 O&M #30-33.....	\$27,841.18
WD#2,4&5 O&M #62-65.....	\$3,468.95
SD#2 O&M #36-39.....	\$483.61
SD#2 Capital #16-18.....	\$26,442.66

Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Supervisor's monthly report was read and discussed. Mr. Buzzell questioned the disbursement of the remaining funds in the Champion Fire Protection District budget line. Mr. Yugas responded that the funds would be completely disbursed at the yearend meeting. Deputy Supervisor Ferguson advised the Board that the Town has been served with an Article 78 lawsuit by Jennifer Waite, etal charging that the Board acted improperly in regards to the protection district dissolution and plan. Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Stewart to accept the Supervisor's report as presented. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.

New Business

- Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Stewart:
WHEREAS, the Town Board has met at the time and place specified in the notice of public hearing on the preliminary budget and heard all persons desiring to be heard thereon;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby
adopt the preliminary budget as the annual budget of the Town of Champion for the fiscal year beginning on the first day of January 2016 and that such budget as so adopted be entered in the minutes of the Town Board;
and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk of the Town shall prepare and certify, in duplicate, copies of the said annual budget as adopted pursuant to
Section 202A and B2 of the Town Law and shall present a copy thereof to the
Supervisor of the Town to be presented by him to the County Legislature.
Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Board members reviewed the fire contract between the Town and the V/West Carthage. Mr. Buzzell suggested that the contract reflect emergency responses in addition to fire calls. Attorney Farley recommended replacing "fire" with "Incident" and define incident as "called by Jefferson County's duly appointed Emergency Management officials. Mr. Buzzell opposed offering a three year contract. Board members added that a map of the new fire protection districts should be attached to the contract. Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Watkins to approve the fire contract between the Town and the V/West Carthage as amended. Vote: Mr. Stewart-aye, Mr. Watkins-aye, Mr. Buzzell-nay, and Deputy Supervisor Ferguson-aye. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Stewart, Mr. Watkins to approve the fire contract between the Town and the V/Copenhagen as amended for West Carthage. Vote: Mr. Stewart-aye, Mr. Watkins-aye, Mr. Buzzell-nay, and Deputy Supervisor Ferguson-aye. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to adopt Local Law #2 for 2015 - A Local Law to rescind Local Law #1 for 2014 (tax cap override). Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Watkins to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:03pm.

Christina Vargulick
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Town Clerk