

Organization Town of Champion

Board Town Board

Date and Time Monday, December 7 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, December 7, 2015 at the Town Municipal Building, 10 North Broad Street, West Carthage. Present were Supervisor Ferguson, Councilmen Stewart, Watkins(7:03), and Buzzell, Highway Superintendent Sech, and Attorney Farley.

Supervisor Ferguson called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Jon and Sherry Furgison, Furgison and Co., CPA, presented the findings and representations from the audit of the 2014 financial statements.

Supervisor Ferguson opened the meeting for public comment. Jonathan Schell expressed his concerns for the safety of his family and neighbors in regards to fire protection. Supervisor Ferguson responded that the Town has received the ISO rating for the West Carthage Fire Department and Champion Fire Protection District No. 1. The protection classification was upgraded for the department and fire protection district based on ISO's analysis of the structural fire suppression delivery system.

Dale Flitcroft questioned the status of the Taylor Road bridge stating that he uses the bridge to access land he rents for agricultural purposes. Supervisor Ferguson responded that use of the bridge is now restricted to snowmobiles only. Highway Superintendent Sech reminded Mr. Flitcroft that the bridge previously had a 3-ton weight limit which prohibited its use for farm equipment.

Monthly Reports

- Engineer – Supervisor Ferguson updated the Board on the progress of the Sewer District #2 capital project. Ten (10) gravity laterals have been connected. The balance of the laterals have been laid and will be connected when the sewer pump station is operational. Restoration will continue in the spring.
- Councilmen – Supervisor Ferguson reported that he attended a DANC orientation for newly elected officers.
- Highway Superintendent – Mr. Sech reported on the following activities for the previous month: cold patching; gravel on Lee Road; cleaning back brush and trees within the right-of-way; equipment maintenance; new 30mph speed limit signs on Martin Street Road; coordinating with the transfer site to collect scrap metal, and; widening and modifying access to Putman Hill Road. Mr. Sech recommended Simpson Fuel as the provider of diesel, unleaded gas and shop heating fuel for 2016 at a cost of \$.16 over rack price.
- Assessor – Mr. Vargulick reported that the market appears to be stable at this time.
- Justice – Judge Quinn reported that there will be no court December 24 or December 31.
- Parks/Historian – Mrs. Thornton reported that 4 River Valleys Historical Society has received funding to erect a plaque at the Hiram Hubbard House to detail its historical significance.

Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Stewart to approve the minutes for November 2 and November 10, 2015 as presented. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.

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

General #287-308.....	\$22,793.83
Highway #232-250.....	\$26,485.18
RACOG #25.....	\$500.00
Con WD#1 O&M #34-40.....	\$18,861.41
WD#2,4&5 O&M #66-70.....	\$4,891.11
SD#1 O&M #8.....	\$2,210.00
SD#2 O&M #40-45.....	\$11,086.75
SD#2 Capital #19-22.....	\$1,265,009.24

Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Supervisor's monthly report was read and discussed. Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Stewart to accept the report as presented. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Supervisor Ferguson reported on the new speed limit on Old Martin Street and the amendment of the 2015 tax cap and the distribution of tax freeze checks from the State. He informed the Board that the Article 78 proceeding filed against the Town regarding the fire dissolution plan was heard and dismissed in State Supreme Court by Judge James P. McClusky on November 12, 2015.

New Business

- Resolution offered by Councilman Buzzell; seconded by Councilman Stewart:

WHEREAS, the Town Board engaged Furgison and Co., CPA, P.C. to conduct the annual independent audit of the Town's general and Justice Court financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2014, and;

WHEREAS, the audit of the financial statements has been completed and copies of the findings and representations presented at a public meeting of the Town Board.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board accepts and acknowledges that the audit was conducted in accordance with standards for financial audits contained in the Government Audit Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Supervisor Ferguson.....aye
Councilman Stewart.....aye
Councilman Watkins.....aye
Councilman Buzzell.....aye

Resolution adopted.

- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to authorize the Town Clerk to relevy unpaid water and sewer bills on the 2016 Town/County tax bill. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Stewart to purchase diesel, unleaded gas, and shop heating fuel from Simpson Fuel as recommended by the Highway Superintendent. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Supervisor Ferguson presented a letter of resignation from Kathryn Smith from the Planning Board. Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Stewart to accept the letter with deep regret and appreciation for the years of service. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Stewart to schedule a year end meeting for December 30, 2015 at 10:00am to pay bills and conduct any other necessary business. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Watkins to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried. Executive session began at 8:19pm.
- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to resume open session. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried. Open session resumed at 8:48pm.
- Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Stewart to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:49pm.

Christina Vargulick
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Town Clerk