

Organization Town of Champion

Board Town Board

Date and Time Tuesday, September 6 2016 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 6, 2016 at the Town Municipal Building, 10 North Broad Street, West Carthage. Present were Supervisor Ferguson, Councilmen Watkins, Stewart, and Leary, and Highway Superintendent Sech. Councilman Buzzell was absent.

Supervisor Ferguson called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing

Proof of notice having been furnished, the public hearing on Local Law # 3 for 2016 – A Local Law to Override the Tax Levy Limit Established in General Municipal Law 3-c was called to order at 7:01pm by Supervisor Ferguson. No one spoke in favor or against the proposed local law. All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, the public hearing was closed at 7:02pm.

Supervisor Ferguson opened the meeting for public comment. Diana Harris, Bach Road, discussed the construction of a radio tower by Jefferson County Emergency Management on County Route 47 and questioned what would happen to the constructed basement nearby. Supervisor Ferguson responded that the Town had forwarded a letter opposing the siting of the tower but that the County does not have to comply with Town zoning and setback regulations. The Town informed the adjacent property owners about the County’s intentions by letter. He added that the basement is not located on the parcel that the County intends to construct the tower on. Mrs. Harris questioned why if the County was considering leasing space on their tower they could not co-locate their antenna on a neighboring tower. Supervisor Ferguson and Councilman Stewart responded that the County’s position is that their antenna would be subject to interference if they co-located.

Julie Fiaschetti, Line School Road, reported that she had been told that persons on Sayre Road still taste sulphur in their water. Supervisor Ferguson reported that due to the drought conditions that the line has not been flushed as of this date. Flushing is still planned and will be done when conditions permit.

Monthly Reports

- Highway Superintendent – Mr. Sech reported on the following activities: paving Bach Road and Farney Pit Road; replacing a culvert on Cole Road; grading Taylor, Hall, Eddy and Boni Roads; drawing pavement and grindings from Fort Drum and Bridge Street; equipment maintenance; drawing grindings to school bus garage parking lot; assisting the T/Wilna with paving; and repainting fire hydrants in all districts. Mr. Sech reported that the administration at Meadowbrook Assisted Living has requested a pedestrian crossing on Cole Road between their facility and the school to assist transporting wheel chair bound residents to school district activities. Mr. Sech distributed an email from NYSDOT approving the closure of a portion of Putman Hill Road. Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Stewart to close a portion of Putman Hill Road and install a barricade and “Road Closed” signage. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried. Superintendent Sech listed a number of items that he believes should be listed as excess equipment and offered for sale. Supervisor Ferguson requested that the Highway Superintendent prepare a written list for advertising.
- Planning Board/Zoning Enforcement – Mr. LaBarge reported that the Planning Board is considering a site plan review for a school house and a minor subdivision. He reported that he issued one permit for a new home on the south side of Pleasant Lake.
- Parks/Historian – Mrs. Thornton issued a report on the war memorial in Great Bend.

Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Leary to approve the minutes of August 1, 2016 as presented. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.

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

General #199-225.....	\$19,816.76
Highway #142-163.....	\$27,490.64
RACOG #7-9.....	\$2,500.00
Con WD#1 O&M #23-25.....	\$1,479.45
WD#2,4&5 O&M #49-53.....	\$3,783.31
SD#2 O&M #29-36.....	\$10,758.87
SD#2 Capital #18.....	\$509.22

Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Supervisor’s monthly report was read and reviewed. Mr. Yuhas reported that revenues for state

revenue sharing and sales tax will be received in September and October respectively. Motion by Mr. Leary, seconded by Mr. Stewart to accept the report as presented. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Supervisor Ferguson reported that the Comprehensive Planning Committee reviewed the SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) summary. The next few months will be topical meetings starting with agriculture and open spaces on September 27. The Town has scheduled fall clean-up days for bulk items on September 23 and 24 during regular hours of operation. Supervisor Ferguson reported that the Town has decided to change the depository to Community Bank effective October 1, 2016.

New Business

- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Leary to approve Local Law # 3 for 2016 – A Local Law to Override the Tax Levy Limit Established in General Municipal Law 3-c. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Leary to adopt a uniform average water rate of \$6.00/KG for WD#2, 4 & 5. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Board members reviewed an application for a junk yard license from Gary Chaffee for a site located at 33490 NYS Route 3, Great Bend (the former Burke junk yard). The Board acknowledged the advisability of having a junk yard operating in the Town to accept automotive and scrap metal salvage. Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Leary to approve a junk yard license for Gary Chaffee to operate a site at 33490 NYS Route 3, Great Bend renewable annually. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Supervisor Ferguson presented the uniform Dog Control Law as prepared by Jefferson County for the Board's consideration. Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Watkins to schedule a public hearing on a dog control law for October 3, 2016 at 7:00pm. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Board members reviewed and discussed an Order of Town Superintendent of Highways in the matter of the discontinuance of a portion of Taylor Road between Hall Road and Austin Road. A release of damages shall be executed by the owners of all lands affected. Councilman Watkins stated that the portion of the road is of no use to the Town due to the condition of the bridge (*the bridge has been "red-flagged" by NYS DOT*) and the estimated cost of replacing the bridge. Councilman Leary stated that by abandoning that portion of the road that it allows the snowmobile club to negotiate a crossing agreement with the landowners if they wish. Councilman Stewart stated that abandoning that portion of the road would protect the Town from liability. Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Leary, pursuant to Section 171 of the Highway Law of the State of New York, to discontinue that portion of the Taylor Road between the Hall Road and the Austin Road that has been determined to be of no use to the Town by the Highway Superintendent. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Supervisor Ferguson, acting as chairman of the Town Health Board, discussed the conditions observed at property owned by Earl Petty and located at 33560 Hall Road. The property has been violated under the Town Zoning Law a number of times without sustained improvement. Peter LaBarge, Zoning Enforcement Officer, distributed a number of photographs detailing the conditions. Those persons residing on the property at this time are not residing in the single wide mobile home which has no electric service. They are residing in small tents and have no running water or sanitary service. The Jefferson County Building Code office has cited the property for maintenance issues. Health Board members have inspected the site. Councilman Leary noted trash that reached all the way to highway as did the other members of the Board. Councilman Watkins questioned what the alternative placement would be for those persons residing on the property. Supervisor Ferguson replied that it is the Health Board's responsibility to identify the pertinent issues and address the problem. Motion by Mr. Leary, seconded by Mr. Stewart to deem the property a health and safety hazard to the general public due to the uninhabitable condition of the residence, the proliferation of trash and potential for odor and infestation, and the lack of running water and sanitary service and furthermore, to recommend that the Town Board take appropriate action. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Supervisor Ferguson, seconded by Mr. Leary that the Town Board take appropriate legal action based on the determination that property owned by Earl Petty and located at 33560 Hall Road is unsafe and dangerous and order that the property must be cleaned up and made safe and secure and all such garbage and trash be removed and that running water and sanitary service must be provided if the property is to be used for residential purposes. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- County Legislator Peck reported on activities at the county level.
- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Leary to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:10pm

Christina Vargulick
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Town Clerk