

The Town of Champion Town Board met in regular monthly session on Monday, June 3, 2019 at the Town Municipal Building, 10 North Broad Street, West Carthage. Present were Supervisor Ferguson, Councilmen Stewart, Watkins, Buzzell, and Waite, and Highway Superintendent Strife.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Supervisor Ferguson opened the meeting for public comment. Diana Harris questioned the placement of the County communication tower on County Route 47. Supervisor Ferguson responded that the Town had sent a letter to the County objecting to the proposed placement prior to construction.

Monthly Reports

- Engineer – M. Altieri, BC&A, reported that the specifications and plans are being finalized for the heating oil tank project. Responding to questions, Mr. Altieri stated that the tank will have a heating element to avoid fuel gelling. Highway Superintendent Strife stated that he will also mix in an additive to protect against gelling. Mr. Altieri also discussed funding for a 700T salt storage barn; interest expressed by the sewer survey for service in Champion Heights and portions of Sayre Road; and the status of the water construction project in Patriot Estates.
- Councilmen – Councilmen Watkins, Stewart and Buzzell will be attending the Black River Watershed conference at Aldersgate on June 4, 2019.
- Highway Superintendent – Superintendent Strife reported on the following activities: cleaning ditches; repairing sinkholes; equipment repairs; roadside mowing, profiling Boni Road; and the paving schedule.
- Assessor – Mr. Vargulick reported light attendance on Grievance Day and a proposal by the County to work with an appraiser to establish a uniform assessment for solar arrays.
- Planning Board/ZEO – Mr. LaBarge reported that the Planning Board will be considering site plans for the construction of two 875KW AC photovoltaic solar arrays. Mr. LaBarge issued a number of permits for the month.
- Parks/Historian – Mrs. Thornton reported that she has withdrawn the application for a historical sign in the Village Green Park for later submittal. Plans for Old Home Day are being finalized. Mrs. Thornton will be attending the district historian’s meeting on June 20th in Lowville.
- Circuit Rider – Mr. Dietrich reviewed and submitted his June report.

Board members reviewed the meeting minutes for May 6, 2019. Mr. Watkins requested that under the Engineer heading that the minutes clarify the reference to “pressure test” by specifying “water”. Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Stewart to approve the minutes as amended. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

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

General #130-154.....	\$27,236.52
Highway #89-107.....	\$23,921.19
Con WD#1 O&M #11-12.....	\$5,542.69
WD#2,4&5 O&M #43-48.....	\$6,206.87
SD#1 O&M #6.....	\$5,674.12
SD#2 O&M 25-27.....	\$1,128.88

Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Supervisor’s monthly report was read and reviewed. Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Watkins to accept the report as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Board members reviewed the monthly revenue and appropriations analysis report. Motion by Mr. Waite, seconded by Mr. Stewart to approve the attached budget transfers and amendments as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Supervisor Ferguson reported that sexual harassment and work place violence training is scheduled for June 18th at 1:00pm.

Supervisor Ferguson advised the Board that AED units have been purchased and will be available in the highway barn and at the municipal building. Users of the units are required to be certified in CPR and training is available through the Carthage Area Hospital. Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Watkins to authorize the Supervisor to schedule training at a cost not to exceed \$40 per participant. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Supervisor Ferguson discussed an upcoming meeting with Jefferson County administration to negotiate a 5-year contract for snow and ice removal on county roads. Presently, the contract pays the Town \$97,000 for 15.5 miles of road. Supervisor Ferguson stated that the cost of employing two (2) fulltime MEOs, plus the additional truck to maintain the capacity to plow the county roads, means a loss to the Town over a twelve (12) month period. Supervisor Ferguson recommended a request for compensation in the amount of \$150,000 per year or alternatively, giving up the County contract. There would be no lay-offs as a result of not contracting with the County. The number of department employees would be reduced by attrition. The Board agreed by consensus to the Supervisor's recommendation.

Supervisor Ferguson reported that maintenance in WD#2, 4 & 5 has identified and reduced produced water loss by 20KG. Operation and maintenance personnel are still searching for an additional 9KG in loss and suspect unmetered hydrant use based on information from the SCADA system. Supervisor Ferguson asked the Board and the public to report unauthorized hydrant use as a theft of services.

New Business

- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to contract with the Village of West Carthage for an amount not to exceed \$500 to support the summer concert series. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Supervisor Ferguson to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:21PM

Christina Vargulick

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Tow Clerk