

The Town of Champion Town Board met in regular session on Monday, October 5, 2020 at the Town Municipal Building, 10 North Broad Street, West Carthage. Present were Supervisor Ferguson, Councilmen Stewart, Watkins, Waite and Gump and Highway Superintendent Strife.

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

Proof of notice having been furnished, the public hearing on the 2021 preliminary budget was called to order at 7:01pm. No one spoke for or against the proposed budget. All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, the public hearing was closed at 7:02pm.

Supervisor Ferguson opened the public forum. No one addressed the Board.

**Monthly Reports**

- Councilmen – H. Watkins discussed an online meeting of the Hudson-Black River Regulatory Commission.
- Highway – Superintendent Strife reported on equipment maintenance and preparing trucks for plowing. Superintendent Strife requested that the Board authorize a night crew for the months of December, January, February and two weeks in March, if necessary. D. Martel confirmed that monies have been budgeted. Motion by L. Waite, seconded by M. Gump to authorize the Highway Superintendent to hire two temporary MEO’s for the months of December, January, February and two weeks of March, if necessary. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Assessor – W. Vargulick reported that a meeting has been scheduled between himself, Jefferson County Real Property, and NYS Real Property to finalize the preparations for the revaluation. W. Vargulick reported discussions to add a land tag to property utilized for large solar arrays based on the change of use from tillable land to commercial.

Supervisor Ferguson advised the Board that JCIDA will hold a public hearing on October 13, 2020 regarding the proposed solar arrays on County Route 47, Great Bend.

- Planning Board/ZEO – P. LaBarge reported that the Planning Board is reviewing a minor subdivision application for the Uhlinger solar arrays and considering zoning changes to allow bed and breakfasts in additional districts. He reported that he received five zoning permit applications.
- Circuit Rider – M. Dietrich reported that the next RACOG meeting is scheduled for October 21, 2020 at the V/West Carthage Community Room. He advised members that additional online trainings have been added to the Tug Hill Commission website.

Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by H. Watkins to approve the minutes for September 8 and September 28, 2020 as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by M. Gump to approve payment of the following bills as presented:

General #252-275.....	\$10,086.84
Highway #134-149.....	\$32,224.00
RACOG #15-20.....	\$1,582.64
Con WD#1 O&M #21-22.....	\$611.50
WD#2,4&5 O&M #63-67.....	\$6,860.60
SD#2 O&M #50-52.....	\$1,018.65

Supervisor Ferguson noted that the invoice payable to National Grid in the amount of \$704.92 was for the installation of LED street lighting in Great Bend. The work will be completed in approximately two months. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Supervisor's monthly report was read and discussed. Motion by L. Waite, seconded by T. Stewart to accept the report as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Supervisor Ferguson reported that the Town has received the grant monies for the Multi-Modal project on Cole Road. He reported that the Town received its annual stress score from the State Comptroller. The fiscal stress score was "0" indicating that the Town has no financial issues. The environmental stress score was "20" which is a measure of risk factors including high poverty rate, depressed home values, declining household incomes, and high unemployment. The Town's score is considered "no designation".

**New Business**

- Motion by M. Gump, seconded by H. Watkins to approve the Asset Management Plan for Water Districts 1,2,4, and 5 and Sewer District 2 as presented. L. Waite questioned if approval obligated the Town to implement the recommendations. Supervisor Ferguson responded that it did not. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by H. Watkins to authorize the Clerk to advertise for on-road diesel, winter blend, propane and heating oil for the period January 1 to December 31, 2021. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Resolution offered by Councilman Stewart; seconded by Councilman Waite: WHEREAS, the Town of Champion has received a request to name a private driveway for the purpose of establishing an E-911 address, and; WHEREAS, the property owner has given his consent and has granted right-of-ways to the subject parcels.  
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to name the driveway "Waterview Drive" located on parcel number 93.00-2-43.21, west of Freeman Drive West, and to provide a sign with the provision that the Town accepts no responsibility for the maintenance, upkeep, or care of the driveway and that the action in no way supersedes any Town Zoning laws.

Supervisor Ferguson.....aye  
Councilman Stewart.....aye  
Councilman Watkins.....aye  
Councilman Waite.....aye  
Councilman Gump.....aye  
Resolution adopted.

- Motion by M. Gump, seconded by L. Waite to go into executive session to discuss personnel. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried. Executive session began at 7:43pm.
- Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by H. Watkins to return to open session. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried. Open session resumed at 8:00pm.
- Motion by M. Gump, seconded by T. Stewart to schedule a special meeting for October 14, 2020 at 7:00pm to interview applicants for the justice vacancy in executive session. October 15<sup>th</sup> shall be the alternate date. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by H. Watkins to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:01pm.

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Christina Vargulick  
Town Clerk