

## July Regular Meeting

Minutes of the July Regular Meeting held July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at the Village Gym. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Stelmashuck at 7:00 p.m.

**Present:** Stephen Stelmashuck, Supervisor  
Mary Ann Phillips, Councilor  
Robert Frederick, Councilor  
Doug Jordan, Councilor  
Dale Chapman, Councilor  
Kelly Reader, Town Clerk

**Absent:** Zack Schreyver, Youth Rep.

**Also Present:** Kathy McGaffick, Bookkeeper; Harold Babcock, CEO/ZEO; Bonnie Frederick, Mary Anne Pelkey, Mary Lou Guindon, Ray Seaman, and Paul Baxter, Tug. Hill Rep.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilor Phillips, seconded by Councilor Frederick to approve the Minutes of the June Meeting with the correction that Councilor Frederick voted aye to share the cost 50/50 with the Village to conduct a Preliminary Engineering Study of the previous joint Town/Village Water Survey. Roll taken...motion carried.

### SUPERVISOR'S REPORTS:

**The Supervisor's Report:** The Supervisor's Report was reviewed by the Board and filed with the clerk.

**August Calendar:** The August Calendar was presented for review. Supervisor Stelmashuck reviewed dates of upcoming events: August 8<sup>th</sup>-Old Home Days-9am-2pm  
August 9<sup>th</sup>-Car Show-10am-4pm, August 13<sup>th</sup>-Joint Meeting-7:00 p.m., Summer Rec. ends-August 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Revenue and Justice Reports:** The Revenue and Justice Reports were reviewed by the Board and filed with clerk.

Kathy McGaffick, Bookkeeper stated that the 6 months detail of accounts is available in the Supervisor's Office.

**Committee Reports:** No Reports.

### REPORTS:

**Legislator's Report:** No Report at this time.

**Hwy Report:** Hwy Sup't Dayger was excused.  
The Hwy Dep't will be shut down for the next two weeks for vacation.

**Clerk's Report:** Clerk Reader submitted a written Town Clerk Report and a Dog License Report for June 2009.

**Assessor's Report:** Assessor Sigourney is excused as she is attending an Assessor's training in Cornell.

**CEO/ZEO Report:** CEO/ZEO Babcock submitted a written CEO/ZEO Report for June 2009. CEO Babcock stated that permits have been slow.

**DCO Report:** Deputy DCO LaFlair submitted a written DCO Report for June 2009.

**Planning Board Report:** Minutes were submitted for the Board's review. Planning Board Chair Scriber was excused. Supervisor Stelmashuck read an e-mail from Planning Board Chair Scriber reporting that they are completing the Comprehensive Plan updates. There are forms available on line for the public's convenience and they will begin reviewing the Village's Subdivision Law.

**Fire Chief's Report:** Fire Chief Harvey was excused as he was attending a parade. Supervisor Stelmashuck read the Fire Report for June 2009.

**Rec. Coordinator's Report:** Rec. Coordinator Lamb will try and attend the meeting by the end of the meeting.  
Supervisor Stelmashuck reported that on Wednesday, 97 kids were in attendance.

**CORRESPONDENCE, COMMUNICATIONS, AND PETITIONS:**

Notice from the Public Service Commission  
Letter from Francis House  
NYMIR Annual Report  
Letter from American Legion Post 601 Commander  
May Library Board Minutes  
Notice form Oswego County Health Dept.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Establishing a Parish Constabulary:** reminder Joint Board Meeting, August 13, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Councilor Phillips asked if it was possible to have Bob Dalton attend the Joint Meeting to answer questions.

**Proposed Local Law to Grant a Partial Tax Exemption to Cold War Veterans:** A motion was made by Supervisor Stelmashuck, seconded by Councilor Phillips to pass a local law to grant qualified Cold War Veterans A Real Property Tax Exemption: Roll taken:

Councilor Phillips: Aye      Councilor Jordan: Aye      Supervisor Stelmashuck: Aye  
Councilor Frederick: Aye      Councilor Chapman: Aye  
motion carried.

**Meeting of Special Counsel with the Public:** The meeting will be scheduled for June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to introduce Special Counsel to the public and to allow Special Counsel to address any area of concerns the public may have.

**Meeting of External Auditor with the Public:** Supervisor Stelmashuck stated that the auditor will meet with the public once the audit is completed and address any concerns. An additional meeting will be held once the three year audit is completed.

Councilor Frederick stated that he felt that the Board should hold off on completing the 3-year audit until the 1<sup>st</sup> year audit is completed to see if any problem areas are identified before a definite decision is made to proceed with a 3-year audit.

A motion was made by Councilor Frederick, seconded by Supervisor Stelmashuck to rescind the motion to conduct a 3-year audit prior to 2008 and to reconsider once the current audit has been completed. Roll taken...

Councilor Phillips: Nay      Councilor Jordan: Nay      Supervisor Stelmashuck: Aye  
Councilor Frederick: Aye      Councilor Chapman: Nay  
motion failed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Appointment of Union Contract Negotiations Committee:** Supervisor Stelmashuck stated that in the beginning of the year committees were established. Some of the committees can be disbanded. The Assessor's Committee and the Rec. Coordinator Committee can be eliminated as selections have been made.

Supervisor Stelmashuck made the following appointments to committees:

**Joint Municipal Water Committee:** Councilor Frederick, Councilor Jordan and Trustee Allardice.

**Building Committee:** Councilor Jordan, Councilor Chapman and one Village Trustee should be appointed.

**Fiscal Oversight Committee:** Councilor Phillips and Councilor Jordan

**Union Contract Negotiations Committee:** Councilor Phillips and Councilor Chapman  
Councilor Chapman stated that he felt a professional should be hired to aid with the process as there are many layers to the contract.

It was the consensus of the Board to begin the process and possibly consider hiring a professional at a later time if needed.

Supervisor Stelmashuck stated that they can begin the process immediately.

**Need for New Dog Enumeration:** Deputy DCO LaFlair stated that because the prior enumeration is so old some of the information is not current and it is difficult to check the information.

Suggestions were to hire several people at once to complete the enumeration in a more timely manner. The best source of information regarding enumerations is Ag. and Markets. Deputy LaFlair will contact them to try and obtain some information.

**Approve Court Clerk Salary to Judge Field:** Supervisor Stelmashuck explained that due to the loss of Carol Field, Court Clerk the work is currently being done by the judge.

A motion was made by Supervisor Stelmashuck, seconded by Councilor Frederick to amend the 2009 budget and add the remainder of the Court Clerk's salary to Judge Field's salary until 12/31/2009. Roll taken...

Councilor Phillips: Aye      Councilor Jordan: Aye      Supervisor Stelmashuck: Aye  
Councilor Frederick: Aye      Councilor Chapman: Aye  
motion carried.

It was suggested to contact the court administration to see if it is acceptable for Judge Field to train the incoming judge.

Possibly Special Counsel would know if it is allowable.

**MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

Mary Lou Guindon read a letter requesting Supervisor Stelmashuck and the Town Board rescind the motion to conduct a 3 year audit as it is going to cost additional funds that the Town could use other places. Mary Lou Guindon doesn't understand the purpose if nothing is found in the current audit.

Councilor Jordan stated that the town had not had an audit in 12 years and he felt it is money well spent.

Supervisor Stelmashuck stated that the State Comptroller was requested to conduct an audit but they declined as there were no Red Flags and they were busy with school districts.

Mary Anne Pelkey stated that she read a notice that the Dog Enumeration was completed but no one had been to her house and she spoke to her neighbors and no one had been there.

Ray Seaman suggested that possibly community service people could get involved to obtain the information.

Supervisor Stelmashuck stated that an organization called Experience Works is always looking for positions to employ individuals 55 and older. The salaries are paid by Experience Works.

Bonnie Frederick asked if liability could be an issue. Supervisor Stelmashuck responded that the Town has an Umbrella Policy and there would not be an additional cost for insurance.

Clerk Reader suggested to hire people that are familiar with the town when conducting the enumeration to insure that no areas of the Town are missed.

Bonnie Frederick asked the Board if there is a possibility for the County Highway Dept. to cut the brush on the county roads in a more timely matter as it becomes a safety hazard when it gets high.

Supervisor Stelmashuck stated that the county would be contacted regarding the request.

Mary Lou Guindon would like to see the Town move forward with the audit instead of backwards.

Bonnie Frederick questioned the 3 year audit and asked if there is a particular reason why the Board voted to go back 3 years to conduct an audit costing between \$22,000 to \$25,000.

Councilor Jordan stated that the Town has not conducted an audit in 12 years.

Ray Seaman asked if the State frown's on not conducting audits and conducting an audit doesn't mean that anyone's on a witch hunt. It's just to make sure the town is operating properly.

Kathy McGaffick, Bookkeeper stated that the Town did try to get the Comptroller's Office to conduct an audit and they responded that they did not deem it necessary at this time and they were busy with school districts.

Paul Baxter, Tug Hill Rep. stated that the Comptroller's Office has been placing more emphasis on holding workshops and educational opportunities on how to identify red flags and how to conduct annual audits.

Paul also stated that in his experience Dog Enumerations increase additional revenues for the Town through dog licenses. It is also a public health and safety issue.

Paul reviewed a flyer for grant opportunities on Energy Efficiencies.

Paul stated that the Town Clerk's computer crashed and it was determined that it was purchased in 2005 and the warranty has expired. Paul explained that he had the Clerk hooked up to an old computer that was dreadfully slow. A new computer has been ordered on State Bid and should arrive shortly. Supervisor Stelmashuck's computer was purchased at the same time and should be considered at budget time to update.

A microphone system could possibly be obtained through Court Administration Grants. Paul will look for price quotes.

Bonnie Frederick stated that the Rec. Coordinator should receive more that \$20.20 per month and is it going up.

May Lou Guindon stated that Sue Lamb is only coordinating Summer Rec. at this time and the Rec. Coordinator's position term will expire. Mary Lou suggested that the Board ask to see if Sue Lamb is willing to stay on.

**MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC.**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

**General Fund:** A motion was made by Supervisor Stelmashuck, seconded by Councilor Phillips to approve the claims to the General Fund, those being claims #248-#286 for a total warrant of \$22,727.39. Roll taken...motion carried.

**Highway Fund:** A motion was made by Supervisor's Stelmashuck, seconded by Councilor Frederick to approve the claims #157-#172 for a total warrant of \$5,203.02. Roll taken...motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Stelmashuck, seconded by Councilor Phillips to enter into Executive Session at 8:31 p.m. after taking a five minute recess to discuss employment history of a particular employee or employees. Roll taken...motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilor Jordan, seconded by Councilor Chapman to adjourn from Executive Session to the Regular Meeting at 9:03 p.m. Roll taken...motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding contract negotiations.

A motion was made by Councilor Jordan, seconded by Councilor Chapman to adjourn at 9:06 p.m. Roll taken...motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Reader  
Parish Town Clerk