

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING – SEPTEMBER 22, 2010

The Special Board meeting of the Town Board of St. Armand was held on the above date at the Town Hall, Bloomingdale, NY.

PRESENT: Supervisor Joyce W. Morency, Deputy Supervisor Samuel A. Grimone, Councilmen Earl J. Dakin, Jr., Thomas C. Jones, and Paul Woodruff. Justice Sheridan Swinyer, Town Clerk Cindy Woodson, and Water & Sewer Superintendent Bart Crary.

GUESTS: Media Nathan Brown and John Alexander.

Supervisor Morency opened the special board meeting at 5:40 p.m.

Notice in paper for special board meeting read as follows: The St. Armand Town Board will meet on Wednesday, September 22, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the Town's hydrants, building committee, and the Saranac Lake Area Government Restructuring project. The public is welcome.

FIRE HYDRANTS

Bart said that six hydrants need to be replaced. Many of the hydrants are damaged due to the snow plows, and loader. The valve boxes need to be replaced and several of them need work done. The firehouse hydrant has to be replaced as the bolts rotted out and blew out of the bottom when the men used it. Bart said he cannot do all the work himself and the town need to hire someone with the right equipment to do the repairs.

Supervisor Morency asked what kind of hydrants they are. Bart said all but one brand are Waterous and one brand is Kennedy, next to Francis Tuthill's house. Supervisor Morency said she talked to Bob Martin in Saranac Lake and he told her he has two workers and equipment for any repairs. The company, Waterous, can rebuilt the hydrants 80% of the time, which is better than buying six new ones for \$26,700. They will help with the load of the tools and the two men to come down and guide on what to do. Bart said there is a lot of digging involved.

Sheridan stated that the ones that need to be replaced don't have shut-offs. Is that the case of no way to shut off the valves? Bart said yes. Councilman Jones stated that there are plenty of hydrants that need some type of work. Bart stated that the hydrants up on the county line hill have high pressure and he doesn't feel comfortable doing the work. Some 20 hydrants need some type of work. Sheridan stated to do a couple of them this year and then next year do the others.

Deputy Councilman Grimone said to Bart that he needs to categorize them and have it ready for the budget. Councilman Grimone said he agrees with Sheridan to do two or three on the hill now and then do the others next year. Bart will call Bob Martin and get estimate on fixing the hydrants. Councilman Dakin said that the Village has the equipment and to also get an estimate on that as well.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Supervisor Morency stated that Phil is requesting staging and for someone else to do the top portion of the wall to do the brick work on the windows. The outside portions near the front steps need to be done and Phil will do what he can to finish it. Sheridan stated that there should be something to support the brick work and suggested putting a form up against the wall of the steps. Councilman Grimone said to go ahead and do this.

The drainage system should be simple to do as Sheridan stated there is not any problem of water getting into the basement. He suggested digging down even more and putting six inches of stones on both sides of the town hall and the water should drain with no problems.

Councilman Dakin asked about the status of the Barnard Building. Supervisor Morency stated that there were three proposals and Trudeau was the cheapest. She will call Trudeau and set up a time to take the building down. Councilman Dakin stated that the town garage's roof should be checked as there is water leaking down into the electrical box. Councilman Woodruff said that he will call Dean Montroy to check the roof area over the electrical box. The board members will go over to the garage to look at it again.

Supervisor Morency said that the highway men are putting up another small building to house the equipment from the Barnard building. The cost for materials is \$3,000. The building will have metal sides.

SARANAC LAKE CITY PROPOSAL

Councilman Grimone said that something will happen with this as a lot of work went into doing this project. He stated that the best alternative of what can happen is if Saranac Lake chose as a city instead of dissolving the Village. This would be a huge repercussion to St. Armand. Councilman Woodruff asked if Saranac Lake is dissolved, what will St. Armand gain. Councilman Grimone said there is the sewer plant and also Pisgah ski area that are in St. Armand. Supervisor Morency said that when the sewer plant was built, the Village annexed the area to become Village property.

Councilman Grimone stated that the Saranac Lake Area Government Restructuring Project recommendation is to do the option of forming a city. The committee does not have the power; the Village of Saranac Lake has the power to do this, with the people's vote for dissolution. Supervisor Morency said if it becomes a city, St. Armand may not be able to lower cuts in the budget, only to raise taxes.

Supervisor Morency asked when the next meeting is and Councilman Grimone said it will be a public meeting and they will make recommendations to the Village to the option of becoming a city. Media John Alexander asked if both counties are opposing this. Councilman Grimone said he is not aware of any official observations. John asked if there are any chances of task force. Councilman Grimone said it depends on whether they look at what is best for areas, or political solutions. Supervisor Morency said that both counties will not want to give up their sales tax dollars. Councilman Grimone stated that whether we lose the sales tax; there are other sources available such as raising property tax.

END OF MEETING

A motion was made by Councilman Grimone, and seconded by Councilman Dakin, to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

I, Cynthia A. Woodson, Town Clerk for the Town of St. Armand, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct transcript of the Special Board meeting minutes held on the above referenced date.

Cynthia A. Woodson
St. Armand Town Clerk