

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING – FEBRUARY 16, 2011

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, Councilmen Earl J. Dakin, Jr., Thomas C. Jones, Paul Woodruff. Town Clerk Cynthia A. Woodson, Justice Sheridan Swinyer.

EXCUSED: Deputy Supervisor Samuel A. Grimone

GUESTS: Essex County Attorney Daniel Manning, Village of Saranac Lake Attorney Charles Noth, and Village Manager John Sweeney.

Supervisor Morency called the Special Board meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

VILLAGE ANNEXATION

Mr. Sweeney stated that the Village has a major project to do next year and is asking St. Armand to consent to the annexation of 220 acres near the Waste Water Treatment Plant as they would like to have control of the property. Supervisor Morency asked if the area they are looking at will affect Gabriel and Connie Willette's property. He said no. The area for annexation is the mandated area for the water treatment plant. Councilman Woodruff asked how the annexation will affect St. Armand. Village Manager Sweeney said the resources are outside the lines to do the project and they are trying to get the facility inside the Village, and there will be houses. Supervisor Morency stated that if it becomes a City, then St. Armand loses the revenue. Village Manager Sweeney asked what are you getting out of it now. He stated that they have secured 12.5 million dollars in loans and 2 million in grants for the project.

Supervisor Morency stated that Sandy Hayes, who planned to be here, is sick, and he e-mailed a letter with some thoughts and wanted to read it to them. When the Village of Saranac Lake purchased the property from Duso, this is what was lost on the St. Armand tax base. 160 acres of \$64,000.00 and 49.1 acres of \$49,000.00. The APA classification is Resource Management for a maximum of five principle buildings, certainly not subdivision potential. It is bordered on two sides by NYS wilderness classified lands. Village Manager Sweeney stated that he believes it is three sides. Sandy stated that it is bordered by Saranac River classified recreational by APA ¼ mile jurisdiction and across the river from NYS Route 3 travel corridor APA concerns about visibility.

Sandy further stated in his letter, "I see no reason that it would benefit St. Armand to allow annexation and actually no reason that it would benefit Saranac Lake. The four or five reasons they gave in their original letter to the Town are meaningless and Saranac Lake does not need to further secure or protect the sewage treatment plant. They own the only private land on that side of the river and have already only restricted the only access across the bridge. Until there is proof that annexation would truly benefit St. Armand or even Saranac Lake, I would be opposed to considering it or any further discussion about it."

Essex County Attorney Daniel Manning asked if the Village has zoning as St. Armand does not. He stated that the Village will be more restrictive due to the zoning, and asked if it is imminent. Village Manager Sweeney said they do have zoning and yes they plan on starting the project within two years. Councilman Dakin asked what proposal does the Village of Saranac Lake want to give to St. Armand. He asked if the water rates will be the same for the people outside the Village as for those in the Village. Village Manager Sweeney said no. Councilman Dakin stated that the individuals in St. Armand are paying three times as much. Councilman Jones stated that Councilman Dakin made a good point. Supervisor Morency stated that when Rockledge Water District was being put into place, the Village raised the rates again – only for those in St. Armand but not inside the Village. Attorney Manning stated that it should be the same.

Village Manager Sweeney stated that American Management Association (AMA) wants to be annexed into the Village. Supervisor Morency stated that if AMA does, then St. Armand will lose the pilot for the taxes. Village Manager Sweeney said no. Attorney Manning asked about the five houses on the property and Village Manager Sweeney said St. Armand would get the taxes. Supervisor Morency stated that if it became a City, then the Village will get the revenue from taxes. Village Manager Sweeney said yes. Attorney Manning stated that consent or no consent, the Village will still do it.

Attorney Manning called for an Executive Session at 7:05 p.m.

Attorney Manning ended the Executive Session at 7:12 p.m.

Supervisor Morency thanked Attorney Manning for coming and re-opened the Special Board meeting at 7:13 p.m.

PHONE SYSTEM

Supervisor Morency stated that she has received the increase cost for the prevailing wage for the new phone system for the Town Hall. She stated that she did inquire about leasing the phone only to find out that TwinState does not do leasing. She received a quote from the Northstar Leasing Company of Burlington, VT for a cost of \$5,859.36 consisting of monthly payment of \$488.28. TwinState new quote is \$4,983.02. To lease the phones would cost more. She asked for a resolution to rescind the previous resolution for the TwinState phone system for \$3775.48 without the prevailing wage then another one at the new cost.

RESOLUTION #34 – RESCIND RESOLUTION #29 NEW PHONE SYSTEM

Councilman Jones, who moved its adoption, offered the following resolution.

WHEREAS A Resolution of the St. Armand Town Board rescind resolution #29 new phone system for a cost of \$3,775.48.

This resolution was duly seconded by Councilman Dakin, and adopted as follows:

Supervisor Joyce W. Morency	AYE
Deputy Supervisor Samuel A. Grimone	ABSENT
Councilman Earl J. Dakin, Jr.	AYE
Councilman Thomas C. Jones	AYE
Councilman Paul Woodruff	AYE

Dated February 16, 2011

Cynthia A. Woodson
St. Armand Town Clerk

RESOLUTION #35 – NEW PHONE SYSTEM FROM TWINSTATE

Councilman Dakin, who moved its adoption, offered the following resolution.

WHEREAS A Resolution of the St. Armand Town Board agreed to purchase a new phone system from TwinState at a cost of \$4,983.02.

This resolution was duly seconded by Councilman Jones, and adopted as follows:

Supervisor Joyce W. Morency	AYE
Deputy Supervisor Samuel A. Grimone	ABSENT
Councilman Earl J. Dakin, Jr.	AYE
Councilman Thomas C. Jones	AYE
Councilman Paul Woodruff	AYE

Dated February 16, 2011

Cynthia A. Woodson
St. Armand Town Clerk

DEAN MONTROY’S PROPERTY

Supervisor Morency stated that she has received an e-mail from Sandy Hayes who provided a copy of the non-jurisdictional letter from the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) and the land can be purchased without a permit. She asked the Board members to review the three page letter by next meeting in March.

A motion was made by Councilman Woodruff, and seconded by Councilman Dakin, to adjourn the Special Board meeting at 7:25 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