

REGULAR MEETING – NOVEMBER 9, 2011

The regular 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 Charles Whitson, Jr. Town Clerk Cynthia A. Woodson. Historian Don Amell.

GUESTS: Sandy Hayes, Sue Abbott-Jones, Carol Techman.

Supervisor Morency called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Grimone.

RESOLUTION #91 – MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Whitson, and seconded by Councilman Jones, to accept the Regular Town Board meeting minutes of October 12, and the Public Hearing, Special Board meeting minutes of October 26. All were in favor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #92 – MONTHLY BILLS

GENERAL:	Abstract #11	\$151,622.87
HIGHWAY:	Abstract #11	\$ 94,541.34
WATER:	Abstract #11	\$ 3,669.49
SEWER:	Abstract #11	\$ 24,819.27

Councilman Dakin stated that the repair bill on the water and sewer truck should be paid out of the highway fund as the highway workers have been using it a lot; the truck should be parked down at the pump station and available for Jeff (Cotter) and Stan (Ingison) when they need it. The other board members agreed. Supervisor Morency stated that the truck should be down at the pump house.

A motion was made by Councilman Grimone, and seconded by Councilman Jones, to accept and pay this month’s bills. All were in favor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #93 – SUPERVISOR’S REPORT

Supervisor Morency stated that there is no financial report as the bank statements have not come in the mail yet. She asked for a motion to accept the water and sewer report.

WATER & SEWER BALANCE		\$38,295.91
RE-LEVY	Water	\$ 1,642.06
	Sewer	\$ 1,508.91

A motion was made by Councilman Jones, and seconded by Councilman Whitson, to accept the Water & Sewer Report. All were in favor. Motion carried.

WATER & SEWER REPORT

Jeff Cotter submitted the monthly report to the board. Supervisor Morency asked for a motion to accept it. Councilman Whitson, and seconded by Councilman Dakin accept the report as written.

1. The 9/6/11 routine Coliform test from the Highway Dept. Garage came back negative.
2. The Lead and Copper results came back from 10 St. Armand residences from the new York State laboratory. The results were very good and indicated that the levels of lead and copper in the drinking water “did not exceed the action levels for lead and copper”; therefore we will not be required to test lead and copper levels for another 3 years.
3. We replaced a burnt resistor on the controls for the Stand Pipe level indicator. The controls were apparently struck by lightning back in 2006. The resistor was replaced with a required 250 ohm resistor. We should now have a more accurate reading on the level of water in the Stand Pipe and I have since cut back on the running time of the well field pump #3 by two hours daily. This has cut the electrical costs for the Water Department and has also saved approximately 8,000 to 10,000 gallons of water per day. Formally, this pump was programmed to run every night from 12pm – 6am to ensure that the water in the Stand Pipe was pumped up to the overflow and out. This was done to ensure the operator that the Stand Pipe was full due to the fact that the level indicator for the Stand Pipe was not accurate. I still need to repair the dysfunctional chart recorder.

4. I flushed 10 fire hydrants so far and will try to get to the others, weather permitting.
5. I recently purchased a pipe line locator form USA BOOK. The pipe locator that was purchased back in 1996 for the Water Department was inoperative. This locator is used to locate water lines in the Town of St. Armand and will also work to locate underground power lines. It is essential equipment for all Water Departments.
6. I also purchased a secondary containment pallet for the Chlorine Day Tank in the Pump House. This spill prevention containment is required for hazardous chemicals such as Chlorine. This pallet will also act as a shelf for the Chlorine Day Tank and Chlorine pumps. Currently the pumps and Day Tank are sitting on a dirt floor in the Pump House.
7. Dean Montroy was hired to install a new drop ceiling in the Pump House. The old drop ceiling was in very bad condition...looks great...thank you!
8. In the near future I am looking at capping the original well casing in the Pump House. This was a violation that was sighted by the Health Department some time ago. I believe we should be able to cap this old well in house using a concrete truck to fill the old casing. We are currently looking into options to keep the cost down. This capping is critical to eliminate the potential of contaminating the well water with surface water and also to eliminate the potential of having our Clear Well draining out of the badly deteriorated original well casing.
9. We were called out several times on sewer lift station problems. (mop heads)

Councilman Grimone stated that a letter should be sent to Jeff and Stan for their positive work and help. Supervisor Morency stated that Stan called Pump Service as the light came on again and it could be the pump or the panel; he was checking out the new pump when the light came on. Greg Walker put in new electric in the pump house.

HIGHWAY REPORT

Highway Superintendent Roger Oliver presented a report to the board members. "I am writing this letter to the town board to recommend that the board reconsider the raises for Doug Snickles, Keith Bordeau and Tim Reyell. These three men are hard working and dedicated to the town. Doug and the boys have saved the taxpayers thousands of dollars building pole barns and the youth building and a garage for the water department. They also gutted the upstairs of the town hall, as well as several other projects that needed to be done in the town. These men do many different things like carpentry, electrical, plumbing and garbage collectors and ball field maintenance and any other job they are asked to do. These men do more for the town than any department of public works around the area. Joyce has called several times during the day or night to have us work on broken water lines or to help dig them up or bury them. Ever since Bart left the town we have picked up most of his work that Stan and Jeff do not have time to do. So when you talk about their raise at this meeting please keep these things in mind. Thank you."

Supervisor Morency stated that the men will be at the Public Hearing tomorrow night to discuss their raises.

COMMUNITY RESOURCE

Supervisor Morency stated that she received a letter from Michael Mascarenas, Director of Community Resources on the sewer project update. The letter stated that the Town of St. Armand has been identified by EFC as a hardship community and means that the Town is now eligible for grant, loan or some combination of the two. EFC is waiting to learn what they will have available for grant monies in the coming year. Principal forgiveness will be granted to those towns that score the highest on the list.

The County is also in the process of getting the Town of St. Armand a pre-planning grant for the pre-engineering portion of the project. The Town will be reimbursed for half of the total cost of the report.

SEWER PIPE ON MAIN STREET

Supervisor Morency stated that Mary O'Dell and Tom Burman were having problems with the sewer line being plugged and backed up in the house. They share one sewer line with shut-off. Mary and Tom will each have their own shut-off. Trudeau came to do the work and during the digging, it was discovered that the old line is made of cement; therefore, only a portion of the line was cut to allow for two lines for the shut-offs.

COUNTY LOCAL LAW

Supervisor Morency stated that the County introduces a proposed Local Law to authorize enclosure of additional information with real property tax bills. This will identify the portion of each annual property tax bill dedicated to NYS Medicaid Mandate within the taxing purpose section of each County Real Property tax bill.

RESCUE SQUAD

Supervisor Morency stated that the \$135,800 to pay for a driver using the formula by assessment will cost \$13,079 for St. Armand, which is what she put into the budget; while the Village of Saranac Lake pays \$33,808 and the Town of Harrietstown will pay \$53,847. She stated that she received a letter from Julie Harjung, President of the Saranac Lake Volunteer Rescue Squad Inc., saying that now it will be an equal split of driver contribution \$19,400 plus the rate method of 5.50% for all towns (except Village of Saranac Lake and Harrietstown) to pay \$21,600. The Village and Harrietstown will pay 36.25% (\$33,900) for rescue services.

Supervisor Morency stated that for 2011 the cost for fire and rescue is \$31,435, and now for 2012 it is \$16,768.89 for fire contract and \$13,079 (or \$21,600 for equalization) is not saving any money at all for the Towns except the Village and Harrietstown.

Councilman Jones suggested having a meeting with the other smaller towns and find out their opinions on it. Supervisor Morency stated she will call the other towns and see what they say. Councilmen Whitson and Dakin stated that it really will not make a difference as the towns have to have it.

PIPE LINE LOCATOR

Supervisor Morency stated that she told Jeff to buy a pipe line locator receiver as the other one is old and not working. Councilman Grimone asked if the Highway department will be able to use it as well. She stated yes and will consider taking it out of the equipment account.

ANNEXATION

Councilman Grimone stated that he has not seen nor hear anything about it. Supervisor Morency stated that the AMA and the Village (Saranac Lake) have co-signed an agreement.

WATER & SEWER POSITIONS

Sue Abbott-Jones asked the Supervisor if the positions have been advertised yet. Supervisor Morency said not yet.

HSBC TOWN CLERK ACCOUNT

Town Clerk Cindy Woodson asked if she could close out the account at HSBC as the majority of the Town's accounts are now at NBT Bank. Supervisor Morency asked for a resolution to do this.

RESOLUTION #94 – CLOSE OUT TOWN CLERK'S HSBC ACCOUNT

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

WHEREAS A Resolution of the St. Armand Town Board to permit Town Clerk, Cindy Woodson, to close out the HSBC checking account and open a new account at NBT Bank.

This Resolution was duly seconded by Councilman Whitson, and adopted as follows:

Supervisor Joyce W. Morency	AYE
Deputy Supervisor Samuel A. Grimone	AYE
Councilman Earl J. Dakin, Jr.	AYE
Councilman Thomas C. Jones	AYE
Councilman Charles Whitson, Jr.	AYE

Dated November 9, 2011

Cynthia A. Woodson
St. Armand Town Clerk

MAIN STREET ROAD

Councilman Jones asked if there is any money to fix the three cracks in the road before winter, this would help preserve the road. Supervisor Morency stated that Roger will try to do something in the spring. Councilman Jones stated to do something before spring; have a couple of guys and spray tar into the cracks in the road.

END OF MEETING

A motion was made by Councilman Grimone, and seconded by Councilman Whitson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 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 Regular Town Board meeting minutes held on the above referenced date.

Cynthia A. Woodson
St. Armand Town Clerk