

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
December 11, 2012

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

PRESENT: Deputy Supervisor Samuel A. Grimone, Councilman Donald Amell, Councilman Charles Whitson, Jr., Town Clerk Davina Thurston, Mike Kilroy, Town Accountant, Jeff Cotter, Water Superintendent, Stan Ingison, Sewer Superintendent, Robert Drosdowich, Code Enforcement Officer, Connie Willette, Clerk to the Supervisor, Mike Kilroy, Town Accountant

ABSENT: Councilman Earl J. Dakin, Jr.

GUESTS: Sandy Hayes, Carol Techman, Attorney Bill Kissel, Bucky Willette, Judy Latt, Kevin Latt, Chris Knight, reporter for Adirondack Daily Enterprise

Notice was sent to the Adirondack Daily Enterprise regarding this meeting.

Deputy Supervisor Grimone called the board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Deputy Supervisor Grimone led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence in honor of late Supervisor Joyce W. Morency.

ANNEXATION OF AMA TO VILLAGE OF SARANAC LAKE

Attorney Bill Kissel presented a petition to annex the AMA property to the Village of Saranac Lake. The petition was accepted for review. Sandy Hayes asked the Board what their position on this topic would be. Deputy Supervisor Grimone stated that we would have a better understanding after speaking with the Town Attorney Nathan Race. A time table was discussed, with Chris Knight giving his understanding of the process.

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR SUPERVISOR MORENCY

Deputy Supervisor Grimone read the following Resolution:

TOWN OF ST. ARMAND
RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO
SUPERVISOR JOYCE W. MORENCY

For Serving as the Town Supervisor
January 1981 to December 2012
And for the faithful dedication to serve
The people of St. Armand

This resolution was offered by Councilman Whitson, who moved its adoption.

Whereas, effective government depends upon those individuals who dedicate their time and talent to Public Service; and

Whereas, it is always a privilege to honor an individual who possesses the rare characteristics of leadership and commitment to the public good, and who is willing to devote their time and energy to the conduct of responsible government; and

Whereas, Supervisor Joyce W. Morency was such an individual; and

Whereas, Supervisor Morency has ably served as the Supervisor of the Town of St. Armand, until her death, and has served on the Essex County Board of Supervisors; and

Whereas, Supervisor Morency has been accessible to her constituents, both on the Town and County Levels, has listened to their concerns and sought to address their needs; and

Whereas, Supervisor Morency not only executed the duties of Supervisor for the Town of St. Armand in an exemplary and professional manner, but she also proficiently

assumed and performed the tasks of service for the constituents of the Town of St. Armand, above-and-beyond what is normally asked of a Town Supervisor.

Now, Therefore, Let it Be Resolved, that the Board of the Town of St. Armand, hereby extends its sincere gratitude and appreciation, on behalf of the Constituents of the Town of St. Armand, to Supervisor Joyce W. Morency.

This Resolution was duly seconded by unanimous vote and adopted as follows:

Deputy Supervisor Samuel A. Grimone	AYE
Councilman Donald Amell	AYE
Councilman Earl J. Daikin, Jr.	ABSENT BUT IN AGREEMENT
Councilman Charles Whitson, Jr.	AYE

I, Davina M. Thurston, Town Clerk for the Town of St. Armand, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct transcript from the Board Meeting minutes, held on December 11, 2012.

Davina M. Thurston
St. Armand Town Clerk

MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Whitson and seconded by Councilman Amell to accept the Regular Town Board minutes of November 12, 2012. All were in favor. Motion carried.

SUPERVISORS MONTHLY REPORT

Deputy Supervisor Grimone asked Town Accountant Mike Kilroy for information for the Supervisors Monthly Report, Mike Kilroy stated that the bank statements had not come in and therefore he could not provide any information at this time.

TOWN CLERKS MONTHLY REPORT

Deputy Supervisor Grimone asked Town Clerk Davina Thurston to provide the Board with the Town Clerk's monthly report. The report was passed to each Board Member for review. Town Clerk Davina Thurston gave the Board the estimate for fence repair at the reservoir. Deputy Supervisor Grimone read the estimate to the Board. After discussion and information provided by Water Superintendant Jeff Cotter, the gate did not need to be replaced, only its hinges, and the fence is in need of repair. Supervisor Clerk Connie Willette stated that we had received \$586.00 from the insurance company for the damage to the fence. A motion was made by Councilman Whitman and seconded by Councilman Amell to proceed with the fence repair. All were in agreement. Motion carried. Deputy Supervisor Grimone asked Town Clerk Davina Thurston to arrange for the repairs to take place.

Town Clerk Davina Thurston informed the Board that the Town Hall had been reserved for a Christmas Party for local children given by the staff at Adirondack Medical Center. The party is scheduled for Saturday, December 15, 2012, from 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM.

CONCERNS FROM GUESTS

Deputy Supervisor Grimone opened the floor to the guests. Judy and Kevin Latt, 1712 NYS Rt. 3, Bloomingdale, NY, spoke regarding the noise from the Town Garage. Judy Latt stated that their home is across the street from the Town Garage and a lot of noise from backing up vehicles was interfering with their right to peace and quiet. They also expressed concern regarding the parking situation at the Post Office and the lack of designated handicap parking areas. Judy Latt requested a reduction of speed for the Town Vehicles pulling into the garage, and asked that they back the trucks in at night to eliminate the reverse beeping noise first thing in the morning. Deputy Supervisor Grimone informed the Latt's that the Board would look into their concerns and attempt to rectify the situation.

CLERKS WATER & SEWER MONTHLY REPORT

Discussion was led by Davina Thurston, Water and Sewer Clerk, regarding the most recent activities for the Water and Sewer Department. A list of unpaid balance was passed to the Board members, and Davina stated that several customers are on payment plans, and almost all are following through with their payment commitments at this time.

The water line issue for the property owned by Charles and Marla Duffy was discussed. Sandy Hayes and Jeff Cotter spoke regarding the issue. It was decided that the past contractors who installed the water lines should have included that property. A motion was made by Councilman Amell to provide a new water line to the property at no cost to the owners. The motion was seconded by Councilman Whitson. All agreed. Motion carried. It was decided that the installation would take place in the spring with weather permitting.

Bill Edelberg's issue with the neighbor's sewer line was discussed. The Code Enforcement Officer, Robert Drosdowich, informed the Board that he had been to residence of Mr. Edelberg and did not see any indication of a sewer leaking problem. It was decided that Robert would check the basement again to ensure no sewer leaks are present.

The water shut off on 54 Main Street, Bloomingdale was successful, and no need to replace the curb stop was found at this time.

The bill to Cantwell Construction for the installation of a water tap was approved by the board.

HIGHWAY MONTHLY REPORT

As Roger Oliver, Highway Superintendent, was not present, no highway report was given.

WATER DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

Jeff Cotter, Water Department Superintendent gave an accounting of the most recent actions taken for the water department.

Jeff informed the board of progress made on the concrete slab for the diesel generator, and offered an alternative to the slab. It was decided Jeff would get more information and present it at the next board meeting.

Jeff stated that Ron Gill would be replacing the old well casing in the clear well of the pump house. Work is scheduled for next week. Jeff expects it to be a three day project and he will update the Board next month as to its success.

One quote was received for a new chart recorder, as the old one is broken. It was decided that Jeff would obtain two more quotes, and then present them to the Board.

Jeff spoke about the need for an internal inspection of the water storage tank. It was decided that an inspection will be made in the summer of 2013.

The water shut off at GaGa's is broken. The building is drained and heat tape has been applied internally to prevent freezing and leaks. This is all that can be done without replacing the curb stop at this time.

Jeff stated that this past Sunday, there was a rupture of a water line at Tedford's Trailer Park. He had to use the locator, and after an hour, it was determined that the shut off was located under a patio built by the owners. He was able to turn off the water after that.

SEWER DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

Stan Ingison led the discussion regarding office equipment for the new Sewer Building. Deputy Supervisor Grimone gave compliments to American Management Association for donating the office equipment.

Stan stated that the DEC was at the River Road Lift Station, and had conducted marking of the wetlands located there.

Conversation ensued regarding the Sewer Project and the purchase of the Riley property for the project. Attorney Nathan Race has been given all documents pertaining to the purchase of the Riley property. Deputy Supervisor Grimone stated that February 1, 2013, is the next deadline that we need to meet, and AES and Essex County are proceeding appropriately to meet that deadline.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS MONTHLY REPORT

Robert Drosdowich led discussion of recent code enforcement activities. Two building permits were issued with \$400.00 received for them. One certificate of occupancy was completed, with two additional certificates anticipated in the next few weeks. One requests for a search, with a \$50.00 fee, was reported. Several new buildings are being built in St. Armand in 2013.

Deputy Supervisor Grimone asked Robert about the repair for the Clock Tower at the Town Hall, and Robert stated he is working on it, and needs to repair or replace the mechanism.

CHAMPLAIN VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE PARTNERSHIP GRANT

Councilman Amell and Town Clerk Davina Thurston led the discussion of the application for the grant and the research that has been done. It was decided that the application would be submitted and we would go forward with further research if the grant is awarded.

REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE

Deputy Supervisor read a letter that was sent to the Board from Ayres Insurance Agency with condolences for the death of Supervisor Morency.

DROP BOX FOR CORRESPONDENCE

After discussion and debate, it was decided not to install a drop box outside the Town Hall.

SOUND SYSTEM FOR BOARD ROOM

The laptop that is in possession of the Town Clerk has a built in microphone. Councilman Amell suggesting recording the next Board Meeting utilizing the lap top, one half with a microphone and one half without a microphone and comparing the recordings.

TOWN WEBSITE

Councilman Amell suggested we invite Rainbow Graphics to the Board Meeting in January to discuss a web site for the Town. All agreed.

NO FIRE ARMS SIGN

Councilman Amell stated that Judge Swinyer has requested a "No Firearms" sign be posted near the front door of the Town Hall. After discussion, it was decided that Robert Drosdowich would look into having a sign made, not a plastic sign, but a nice wooden sign that would be appropriate in the building.

FIRE CONTRACT

Deputy Supervisor Sam Grimone stated that he had met with Julie Hodgeson regarding the price the Town pays for its Fire Contract with Saranac Lake. Sam read from a list of number of calls and prices for other Towns. At this point, the price of the Fire Contract will not change.

EMPLOYEE EVALUATIONS

Deputy Supervisor Grimone led discussion of implementing a new employee evaluation plan, and stated that he had received a copy of Harrietstown's Employee Evaluation Plan and that he would be sharing key points with the Board.

RESOLUTION #87 of 2012 – Subcontract for Snow and Ice

The following resolution was offered by Councilman Amell:

WHEREAS: Essex County wishes to Contract the Town of St. Armand for services to New York State in connection with control of snow and ice on State highways, and

WHEREAS: St. Armand, as contractor, agrees to provide, perform and furnish to Essex County the work, labor, services, material and/ or equipment more fully described and set forth in Appendix A annexed hereto and made a part hereof, and

WHEREAS: Contractor agrees to accept and Essex County agrees to pay to Contractor, the contract price set forth in Appendix B annexed hereto and made part hereof, and

WHEREAS: The term of this agreement is from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2017, and

WHEREAS: The parties hereto agree that the following terms and conditions are included in, a part of, and incorporated into this agreement, Insurance Requirements, Appendix C, and Essex County Standard Clauses, Appendix D, and

WHEREAS: Notices or communications are to be given or directed to either party at its address specified in the agreement, or to such other addresses as either party may from time to time designate by written notice to the other party, and

WHEREAS: This agreement, including the Appendices referred to hereinabove, constitutes the entire agreement between the parties, and there are no other agreements, either written or oral, between the parties pertaining to the work/services or the funds encompassed by this agreement, and

NOW, AND THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED: That the Town of St. Armand will Contract for Essex County in connection with the control of snow and ice on State Highways.

This resolution was seconded by Councilman Charles Whitson, Jr., and duly passed as follows:

Samuel Grimone, Deputy Supervisor	AYE
Charles Whitson, Jr., Councilman	AYE
Donald Amell, Councilman	AYE
Earl Dakin, Councilman	EXCUSED

Dated December 11, 2012

Davina M. Thurston
St. Armand Town Clerk

HEALTH OFFICER

Robert Drosdowich asked the Board if Ray Scollins is still our Health Officer. Deputy Supervisor Grimone stated that he would call Ray and see if he is still interested in the position.

NEW PURCHASE ORDER SYSTEM

Discussion ensued regarding the lack of purchase orders being utilized for Town purposes. It was decided that a new purchase order system would be implemented and overseen by Councilman Charles Whitson.

TIME WARNER CABLE CONTRACT

Councilman Whitson asked Deputy Supervisor Grimone about the Town’s contract with Time Warner Cable. Sam stated that he was still working on it and would report back at next month’s meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Deputy Supervisor Grimone asked for a motion to be made for the Board to retire to Executive Session. Councilman Amell made the motion, which was seconded by Councilman Whitson. The Board retired for Executive Session at 7:57 PM.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING CONTINUED AT 8:28 PM.

APPOINTMENTS

Deputy Supervisor Grimone stated that a Special Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 PM on December 27, 2012 for Appointments. At this time, Sam announced, Councilman Charles Whitson will be appointed as Town Supervisor until December 31, 2013. The regular election for Town Supervisor is scheduled for November, 2013. Other Appointed Offices will be announced during the Special Board Meeting.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Whitson, and seconded by Councilman Amell. All agreed. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM.

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

Davina M. Thurston
St. Armand Town Clerk