

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
TOWN OF ST. ARMAND
April 9, 2013

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

PRESENT: Town Supervisor Charles Whitson, Jr., Deputy Supervisor Samuel A. Grimone, Councilperson Donald Amell, Councilperson Jennifer Fuller, Councilperson Earl J. Dakin, Town Clerk Davina Thurston, Supervisor's Clerk Connie Willette, Code Enforcement Officer Robert Drosdowich

GUESTS: Sandy Hayes, Bucky Willette, Corey Hurwitch, Carol Techman, Town Attorney Matt Norfolk, Chris Knight, Reporter, Adirondack Daily Enterprise.

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

Town Supervisor Charles Whitson, Jr. called the board meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

Sandy Hayes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AMA ANNEXATION

Matt Norfolk led discussion on AMA annexation. After discussion, the following Resolution was made:

**RESOLUTION 26 OF 2013 - Resolution and Order of Town Board Granting
Petition for Annexation of American Management Association International
Territory**

Deputy Supervisor Grimone, who moved its adoption, offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, pursuant to General Municipal Law §703, a petition by American Management Association International for the annexation of certain territory to the Village of Saranac Lake was received by the Town Board of the Town of St. Armand being the town in which the territory proposed for annexation is located, which territory is described as follows:

ALL OF THAT TRACT, part, piece or parcel of land situate in Lots 9, 10 and 30 of Township 11, Old Military Tract, Richards Survey, Town of St. Armand, County of Essex and State of New York, designated as parcels no. 32.001-1-9.000 and no. 32.001-2-1.000 on the Essex County Real Property Tax Map of the Town of St. Armand consisting of approximately 65 acres of land, and commonly referred to as 628 AMA Way

and;

WHEREAS on January 23, 2013, at 6:30 P.M. at the Town Hall of the Town of Harriestown, located at 39 Main Street, Saranac Lake, New York, a joint hearing was held on the petition by the Town Board of the Town of St. Armand and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Saranac Lake, and;

WHEREAS, it appears that the petition for annexation is in compliance with the provisions of Article 17 of New York General Municipal Law, and;

WHEREAS, it appears that is in the overall public interest that the Town Board of the Town of St. Armand grant the petition for annexation to allow for the proposed annexation of the above-described territory by the Village of Saranac Lake based upon considerations appropriate under, and in accordance with, Article 17 of New York General Municipal Law, including but not limited to those relating to the effects upon (1) the territory proposed to be annexed, (2) the local government or governments to which the

territory is proposed to be annexed, (3) the remaining area of the local government or governments in which such territory is situated, and (4) any school district, fire district or other district corporation, public benefit corporation, fire protection district, fire alarm district or town or county improvement district, situated wholly or partly in the territory proposed to be annexed.

THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED AND DETERMINED:

1. That it is in the overall public interest for the Town Board of the Town of St. Armand to grant the petition for annexation of certain territory or lands owned by American Management Association International, as more particularly described hereinabove and situated in the Town of St. Armand, to the Village of Saranac Lake; and,

2. That the Town Board of the Town of St. Armand hereby grants the petition by American Management Association International for the annexation of said territory or lands owned by American Management Association International, as more particularly described hereinabove and situated in the Town of St. Armand, and consents to the annexation of said territory or lands to the Village of Saranac Lake.

Councilperson Dakin duly seconded the resolution.

The above resolution was put to a vote and upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Supervisor Charles Whitson, Jr.	AYE
Deputy Supervisor Samuel A. Grimone	AYE
Councilperson Earl J. Dakin, Jr.	AYE
Councilperson Donald Amell	AYE
Councilperson Jennifer L. Fuller	AYE

Upon the above vote the resolution was declared adopted.

I, Davina Thurston, Town Clerk of the Town of St. Armand, Essex County, New York, do hereby certify that I have compared the preceding resolution with the original thereof filed in my office at 1702 NYS Route 3, Bloomingdale, Essex County, New York, and that the same is a true and correct copy of the original and the whole thereof.

I further certify that all members of the Town Board had proper notice of the meeting at which the resolution was adopted.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Town of St. Armand this 9th day of April, 2013.

Davina M. Thurston
Town Clerk
Town of St. Armand

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Supervisor Whitson asked the Board for approval of March 12, 2013, March 13, 2013 and April 1, 2013 Board Meeting Minutes. Motion to approve was made by Councilperson Amell, duly seconded by Councilperson Fuller. All in favor. Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

Supervisor Whitson asked the Board for a motion to approve payment of the monthly bills. Deputy Supervisor Grimone made the motion. Councilperson Amell seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

SUPERVISOR REPORT

Supervisor Whitson informed the Board that the bank statements had not yet been received and he was unable to provide them with the Supervisor's Report. He will report to them at next month's meeting.

CONTRACT WITH SARANAC LAKE RESQUE SQUAD

Supervisor Whitson asked the Board to approve a Resolution with regard to the contract with the Saranac Lake Rescue Squad. After discussion, the following Resolution was made:

RESOLUTION 27 of 2013 – Contract with Saranac Lake Volunteer Rescue Squad, Inc.

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

WHEREAS A Resolution of the St. Armand Town Board authorizing Supervisor Charles Whitson, Jr. to sign the contract with Saranac Lake Volunteer Rescue Squad, Inc., and

WHEREAS the Town of St. Armand agrees to pay a sum of \$29,333.00, in a onetime lump sum to be received on or before April 11, 2013, now

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that Supervisor Whitson has permission from the Town of St. Armand Board, to sign said contract with Saranac Lake Rescue Squad, Inc.

Councilperson Fuller duly seconded this resolution, and adopted as follows:

Supervisor Charles Whitson, Jr.	A YE
Deputy Supervisor Samuel A. Grimone	A YE
Councilperson Earl J. Dakin, Jr.	A YE
Councilperson Donald Amell	A YE
Councilperson Jennifer L. Fuller	A YE

Dated April 9, 2013

Davina M. Thurston
St. Armand Town Clerk

TOWN CLERK MONTHLY REPORT

Town Clerk Davina Thurston gave the following monthly collection report to the Board:

Spayed & Neutered Dog Licenses:	\$188.00
Unspayed & Unneutered Dog Licenses:	\$ 22.00
20 Certified death certificates	\$200.00
TOTAL	\$410.00

WATER & SEWER MONTHLY REPORT

Water & Sewer Clerk Davina Thurston gave the following report to the Board:

Total outstanding water & sewer bills \$12,778.59

Clerk Thurston also informed the Board that the new water & sewer program is being completed and would be completely updated and ready for billing and payments very soon.

Clerk Thurston spoke to the Board regarding the water bill for Pam Bombard. Ms. Bombard had asked Davina to ask the Board to reduce her water bill, as her meter was broken and her bill is being estimated. Ms. Bombard feels she uses much less water than she is being billed for, and cannot afford to fix her water meter. After discussion, the Board decided to table discussion until next month, and look into the issue further for Ms. Bombard and other people who find themselves in the same type of situation.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Town Clerk Davina Thurston read the following report turned in by Nancy Heath:

From March 1, 2013 to March 31, 2013, taxes paid to Supervisor Whitson for the Town of St. Armand in the amount of \$56,419.79, thus meeting the warrant of \$737,784.05 for 2013.

The report was duly signed by Tax Collector Nancy Heath, and signed and acknowledged by Town Supervisor Charles Whitson, Jr. Dated April 5, 2013.

REVIEW OF SEWER PROJECT

Supervisor Whitson informed the Board of a phone conference with Scott Muller from RCAP. Sewer Project survey's will be sent out next week. Also, Todd from AES has lent the Town a flow meter which is installed to measure effluent into Sumner Brook, per DEC request.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

Code Enforcement Officer Robert Drosdowich stated that he had collected \$400.00 for the Month of March 2013. Robert informed the Board that he had attended the 2013 Codes Conference in Lake Placid on March 4, 5, 6 & 7th. He informed the Board that there was a chimney fire at 185 Bloomingdale Ave. Robert asked the Board to consider adopting Local Zoning Laws to help him enforce violations as they occur. Robert gave the examples of rubbish, sheds, cars, farm animals and setbacks to property lines. After discussion, Deputy Supervisor Grimone suggested the Board appoint a committee to look into adopting Local Zoning Laws. Robert asked the Board to consider paying one third of his cell phone bill, with one third being billed to Franklin and Robert paying the other third. The amount was approximately \$300.00 per year. The Board did not reach a conclusion on the topic. Robert informed the Board that he will be out of town from April 15 to April 22. Robert informed the Board that he feels the homeowner's should be responsible for their own water meters, not the town.

ADIRONDACK AIRPORT

Corey Hurwitch from the Adirondack Regional Airport gave the Board a presentation on what is new at the Airport and why more funds are needed. He closed by asking the Board to increase the amount of funding they provide each year to the Airport.

REVIEW OF NEW BUSINESS

1. Vacuum - Discussion ensued regarding the need for a new vacuum cleaner for the Town Hall. The Board agreed that a new vacuum could be purchased.
2. Seminar - Discussion ensued regarding the Cornell Seminar that Donna Bramer, Sole Assessor, would like to attend. The fee would be split between the four towns that Donna is the assessor for. The Town's portion of the fee for the seminar would be \$250.00. The Board agreed that that amount would be paid so that Donna could attend the seminar.

REVIEW OF OLD BUSINESS

1. Town Website – Town Clerk Davina Thurston informed the Board of the progress on the Town's website. It is now up and running with a few missing links that will be worked on.
2. Bee keeping Tax Exemption – Town Clerk Davina Thurston informed the Board that it would not be possible for St. Armand to provide a Residential Bee Keeping Tax Exemption. However, there is a bee keeping exemption in the current agriculture laws.
3. Highway Garage – Supervisor Whitson informed the Board that the committee is progressing and will be ready to present their findings to the Board at next month's regular Board meeting.
4. Champlain National Heritage Grant – Town Clerk Davina Thurston informed the Board the Town was awarded a grant for a wayside exhibit. The exhibit will be titled "Patriots of St. Armand". Davina informed the Board that she would present more information at next month's regular Board meeting.
5. 2009 F250 Truck Repair – Supervisor Whitson provided the Board with estimates for repairing the vehicle. After discussion, a motion was made by Deputy Supervisor Grimone to have the repairs made by Tow Bordeau's Body Shop. Councilperson Dakin seconded the motion. Councilperson Amell abstained from voting. Motion passed and carried.
6. Record's Room – Town Clerk Davina Thurston provided the Board with estimates to complete the fire safety room upstairs. After discussion, Councilperson Amell made a motion to accept the bid from Dean Montroy for the metal door. Councilperson Fuller seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.
7. NYS comptroller – Supervisor Whitson informed the Board that the comptroller's representative, Sean, had finished his audit of the Town. Several suggestions were made and would be implemented.
8. Street Lights – Supervisor Whitson informed the Board that National Grid had replaced several street lights located on Saranac Lane and River Road

CEMETERY MAINTENANCE

Councilperson Amell led discussion regarding the need to hire a cemetery attendant to ensure that the upkeep and needed adornments for Memorial Day were met. The Board decided that an advertisement for the position should be placed immediately. The position would be broken apart at this time, with Supervisor Whitson responsible for selling lots and the new hire responsible for grounds maintenance.

GENERATOR SHED / WELL CAPPING

Deputy Supervisor Grimone led discussion regarding the base for the generator shed at the well field. Sam stated that something should be done as soon as possible

Supervisor Whitson stated that Jeff Cotter is contacting Ron Gill this week to further discuss this issue.

HEALTH OFFICER ORDINANCES

Deputy Supervisor Grimone asked that the Health Officer be contacted regarding suggestions for regulations involving ordinances.

FRANK CASIER

Discussion ensued regarding the assessed values of Frank Casier's properties on Rockledge that have been deemed un-buildable. Frank has been in touch with Donna Bramer to have his assessment reduced.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Deputy Supervisor Grimone made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Councilperson Dakin seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

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 Special Board meeting minutes held on the above-referenced date.

Davina M. Thurston
St. Armand Town Clerk

April 9, 2013