

REGULAR SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC HEARING ON SEWER ORDINANCE  
TOWN OF ST. ARMAND  
December 10, 2013

A Highway Garage Project Public Hearing and a Regular Board Meeting of the Town of St. Armand was held on the above date at the Town Hall, Bloomingdale, NY.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Town Supervisor Charles Whitson, Jr., Deputy Supervisor Samuel A. Grimone, Councilperson Jennifer Fuller, Councilperson Donald Amell, Councilperson E. Jimmy Dakin

TOWN EMPLOYEES PRESENT:

Town Clerk Davina Thurston, Highway Superintendant Roger Oliver

GUESTS:

Sandy Hayes, Tom Burman, D. Joseph Bates, Alexandra Gill

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

Town Supervisor Charles Whitson, Jr. called the Public Hearing to order at 6:29 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Deputy Supervisor Sam Grimone.

SEWER ORDINANCE PUBLIC HEARING

Supervisor Charles Whitson opened the meeting with discussion regarding the new Sewer Ordinance for the Town. Supervisor Whitson explained that the proposed Sewer Ordinance has been approved, with minor changes by Todd Hodgson and Nathan Race. The new Sewer Ordinance is due in draft form to the DEC by December 20, 2013 and we will meet this deadline. DEC will be in contact with us to approve or have changes made to the Sewer Ordinance, then the Board will begin the process to approve the Ordinance as Town Law. After discussion, Supervisor Whitson closed the Public Hearing at 6:40 pm.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

HIGHWAY REPORT

Superintendant of Highways, Roger Oliver reported to the Board. He stated that the new fuel shed has been erected and sided and will be ready in the spring. The lines for fuel will need to be dug but the shed meets DEC approval. Roger informed the Board that a new owner of the last property on Goodspeed Road will be utilizing the property all winter; therefore the full road will now have to be plowed to the end. Roger stated that the new truck is having problems with the hydraulic pump used for plowing and sanding. Roger is working with technical assistance to solve the problem. Roger informed the board that at 9:30 am on December 11, 2013, all of the Highway employees must take a yearly hearing test in Elizabethtown. Roger has received a letter regarding reconstruction of Whiteface Memorial Highway, and he gave details to the Board regarding the project.

APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

Supervisor Whitson asked for a motion to approve paying the monthly bills. Councilperson Fuller made the motion, seconded by Councilperson Amell. All approved. Motion carried.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Supervisor Whitson asked for a motion to approve the minutes for Public Hearing and Regular Board Meeting on November 12, 2013, and Zoning Committee Meeting on December 3, 2013. Deputy Supervisor Grimone made the motion, seconded by Councilperson Fuller. All approved. Motion carried.

MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE SUPERVISOR

Supervisor Whitson gave the Board his monthly financial report. This report is kept on file and can be viewed at the Bloomingdale Town Hall, in the Town Clerk's file. Councilperson Dakin made a motion to accept the Supervisors report; Deputy Supervisor Grimone seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

#### CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

CEO Robert Drosdowich was unable to attend the meeting, but provided a written report to the Board. The Board reviewed the report.

#### TOWN CLERK MONTHLY REPORT

Town Clerk Davina Thurston gave the following report for the month of November 2013:

8 Dog Licenses	\$70.00
Total Revenues to Supervisor	\$58.00
Revenue to NYS Dept of Agriculture & Markets	\$12.00

#### WATER & SEWER BILLING MONTHLY REPORT

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

Total outstanding revenues	\$13,819.85
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#### HISTORIAN YEARLY REPORT

Town Historian Davina Thurston read the following report to the Board:

Town of St. Armand  
Historian Report  
January 2012 to December 2013

The past two years have brought many changes to the Town of St. Armand.

Long time Supervisor Joyce Morency passed away on December 3, 2012 after a long battle with cancer. She was 77 years old. Joyce served as Town Supervisor from 1982 until her passing in 2012, giving her over 30 years of service. Other long-time residents of St. Armand that have passed in the past two years include Darwin Shumway, Grace Brewster, Elizabeth Baker and Marie Tupper Darrah.

Long time Town Board Member Charles Whitson, Jr. resigned from the Town Board on December 26, 2012 to become in-term Town Supervisor on December 27, 2012. Supervisor Whitson ran unopposed for the four year term of Supervisor beginning January 1, 2014. Supervisor Whitson has faced many challenges during the first year of his term, including construction of the new Wastewater Treatment Plant and construction of a New Highway Garage. Both of these infrastructure projects are greatly needed and grant funding for both projects has been diligently sought after. Supervisor Whitson has proved to be a tireless advocate for the citizens of St. Armand.

Subsequent to Supervisor Whitson's resignation from the Town Board, a vacancy in the Board occurred. After interviewing many candidates, the Town Board appointed Jennifer Fuller on January 31, 2013. Jennifer ran unopposed in the November 2013 election and is a welcome addition to the Town Council. Roots in St. Armand run deep for Jennifer and she is dedicated to the improvement of the Town and its residents.

Town Clerk Cynthia A. Woodson retired as Town Clerk and Water & Sewer Clerk on September 28, 2012. Cindy took her duties as Town Clerk very seriously and was significant in bringing forth a new billing program for the water and sewer district. Cindy was very organized and took pride in her work for the citizens of the Town.

The Town Board hired a new Town Clerk and Water & Sewer Clerk, Davina Thurston. Davina has worked hard to secure grant funding for the Town Highway Garage. She also applied for and was granted a Wayside Exhibit to be placed in Veteran's Memorial Park. The Exhibit will be titled "Patriots of St. Armand" and will be historically and economically significant for the Town. Davina ran unopposed for the Town Clerk position in November 2013. She is committed to providing excellent service to members of our community.

Town Board member Earl “Jimmy” Dakin has decided not to run again for Town Council. Councilperson Dakin has ably served on the Town of St. Armand Board from November 11, 2003 until December 31, 2013. His dedication and commitment to St. Armand is evident in his many acts of kindness, generosity and concern for the citizens of St. Armand. D. Joseph Bates ran unopposed for the open Town Board position and will take seat on the Town Board on January 1, 2014.

In March 2013, the Town Board asked for volunteers to form a Highway Committee to research the best options for a New Highway Garage. Residents Ollie Burgess, Chuck Bruce, Sheridan Swinyer and Paul Aery answered their call. The Committee members were chosen due to their knowledge of construction and their concern for the Town of St. Armand. This committee received no financial compensation for their time spent researching and developing their recommendations for the Highway Garage.

In July 2013, the Town Board asked for volunteers to form a Zoning Committee to research the best options for St. Armand to adopt Planning & Use Laws for the Town. Residents Ray Tempestilli, Alexis Gill and Patrick Finnegan answered their call. The Town Board members decided they would volunteer to also be on the Zoning Committee. Work is continuing toward the mission statement of the Zoning Committee: “To create guidelines for the inhabitants of the Town of St. Armand, providing a safe, healthy and welcoming environment for all residents, guests and visitors. To guarantee the future health of a growing community with an attempt to prevent problematic issues from arising in the future.” Currently, no new laws have been passed, but are expected to go forward during the year of 2014.

On April 9, 2013, the Town Board passed Resolution 26 of 2013 - Resolution and Order of Town Board Granting Petition for Annexation of American Management Association International Territory. In essence, AMA has now become part of the Village of Saranac Lake. This is of historic significance due to the territory now being shared with the Village.

During the first part of the year 2013, the Town of St. Armand joined the World Wide Web. The Town’s website: [www.townofstarmand.com](http://www.townofstarmand.com) is now fully on-line and provides a substantial amount of information about the Town as well as many historical documents.

In 2013, the Town Board approved the completion of the fire-safe room upstairs. All of the Town’s past records and historical information are now stored there. The oldest Birth, Marriage and Death records book dating from 1883 to 1913 was restored this past year. This book was in very poor condition. It has been re-bound and the pages have been treated. The information has also been saved to a disk and microfiche. This book now stands as a proud reminder of the Town’s heritage.

The new Wastewater Treatment Facility is part of a four phase plan to improve the wastewater infrastructure in St. Armand. The project is estimated to cost approximately 13 million dollars and will take many years to complete. Grant funding for this project is being conscientiously sought after with the assistance of the Essex County Planning Commission.

The current employees who work for the Town of St. Armand are a very committed group of individuals. Each possesses unique skills; attributes and experience that St. Armand needs to successfully accomplish the many tasks that face us in the future.

It seems that although many things in St. Armand remain steadfast, the truth is, the only thing that remains the same.... is change.

Respectfully submitted,  
Davina M. Thurston  
Town Historian

Councilperson Fuller made a motion to accept the Historian Report; Deputy Supervisor Sam Grimone seconded the report. All in favor. Motion carried.

#### WATER DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

Water Superintendent Jeff Cotter was unable to attend the meeting, but provided the following written report that was read by Supervisor Whitson.

Test ran both generators for the month. The coliform sample taken from the Town Hall on 11/26/13 came back negative. On 12/4/13 I took a sample for coliform from the Highway Garage. I am still waiting on the

results from this test. It was a routine sample. On 12/4/13 I took a sample for “Disinfection Byproducts” from the last fire Hydrant on the River Road. This sample is only required every three years because our water supply comes from ground water sources. On 11/8/13 we completed the service connection on the River Road for Shawn O’Brien. I spent the day locating the line and assisting Luck Brothers in the boring under the road to ensure that they did not hit the water main. The water main was very difficult to locate because I was getting a signal with our pipe locator from a one inch galvanized water line that is still charged with water. We worked around the one inch line and managed to tap into the six inch water main. The two water lines were only a couple of feet apart. Luck Brothers conducted the wet tap and supplied the curb stop and way box. I turned off the water to 54 Main Street for the winter. On 11/30/13 the clear well pump breaker tripped in the Pump House and the pumps failed to come on. Water coming from the well field was pouring out of the overflow of the clear well in the Pump House. I reset the breaker and tested amperages and the operation of both clear well pumps and all operations were normal. I suspect the cause of the breaker tripping was either a pump amperage surge upon startup or the breaker itself is getting weak. I will monitor the pump amperages daily to ensure that we are not having an early sign of pump failure.

#### REVIEW OF SEWER PROJECT

Supervisor Whitson informed the Board that AES is working hard and pulling together to meet the new deadlines for the new Wastewater Treatment Facility. Supervisor Whitson also informed the Board that the grant funds for CDBG will be announced tomorrow, and hopefully the Town will receive the \$600,000.00 grant that we applied for. Supervisor Whitson spoke about the new Sewer Ordinance and the new IM Plan for the Sewer Department. Both of these items are required by DEC. Town Clerk Davina Thurston provided information regarding the IM Plan and Sewer Ordinance. Discussion ensued and questions were asked and answered.

#### NEW BUSINESS

The following Resolution was read by Supervisor Whitson:

Resolution 50 of 2013 – Appreciation for the service of Earl “Jimmy” Dakin.

This resolution was offered by Supervisor 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, Councilperson Earl “Jimmy” Dakin is such an individual; and

Whereas, Councilperson Dakin has ably served on the Town of St. Armand Board from November 11, 2003 until December 31, 2013, and

Whereas, Councilperson Dakin has been considerate of the needs of the residents of St. Armand, and has supplied countless hours of service to his community, and

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 Councilperson Earl “Jimmy” Dakin.

This Resolution was duly seconded by Deputy Supervisor Grimone, Councilperson Amell and Councilperson Fuller and adopted as follows:

Supervisor Charles Whitson, Jr.	AYE
Deputy Supervisor Samuel A. Grimone	AYE
Councilperson Donald Amell	AYE
Councilperson Earl J. Daikin, Jr.	AYE
Councilperson Jennifer Fuller	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 of the Board Meeting minutes, held on December 10, 2013.

December 10, 2013

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Davina M. Thurston  
St. Armand Town Clerk

The following Resolution was read by Town Clerk Davina Thurston:

RESOLUTION 51 OF 2013 - BOND RESOLUTION DATED DECEMBER 10, 2013.

COUNCILPERSON FULLER, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, OFFERED THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DEMOLITION OF THE EXISTING HIGHWAY GARAGE AND CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW HIGHWAY GARAGE ON THE SITE THEREOF, IN AND FOR THE TOWN OF ST. ARMAND, ESSEX COUNTY, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$925,000, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$925,000 BONDS OF SAID TOWN TO PAY THE COST THEREOF.

WHEREAS, the capital project hereinafter described has been determined to be a Type II Action pursuant to the provisions of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”) and the regulations of the Department of Environmental Conservation promulgated pursuant thereto, which regulations provide that Type II Actions will not result in a significant impact on the environment; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 43 of 2013, said capital project has been authorized and it is now desired to authorize the financing thereof; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of St. Armand, Essex County, New York, as follows:

Section 1. The financing of the demolition of the existing Highway Garage and construction of a new Highway Garage on the site thereof on NYS Route 3, in Bloomingdale, New York, in and for the Town of St. Armand, Essex County, New York, including original equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances and incidental improvements and expenses in connection thereto, heretofore authorized at a maximum estimated cost of \$925,000, is hereby authorized at said maximum estimated cost of \$925,000.

Section 2. The plan for the financing of the aforesaid maximum estimated cost is by the issuance of not exceeding \$925,000 bonds of said Town of St. Armand, Essex County, New York, hereby authorized to be issued therefore pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 3. It is hereby determined that the period of probable usefulness of the aforesaid specific object or purpose is fifteen years, pursuant to subdivision 11(c) of paragraph a of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law. It is hereby further determined that the maximum maturity of the serial bonds herein authorized will exceed five years.

Section 4. The faith and credit of said Town of St. Armand, Essex County, New York, are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same respectively become due and payable. An annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds becoming due and payable in such year. There shall annually be levied on all the taxable real property in said Town, a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same become due and payable.

Section 5. Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the bonds herein authorized, including renewals of such notes, is hereby delegated to the Supervisor of said Town, the chief fiscal officer. Such notes shall be of such terms, form and contents, and shall be sold in such manner, as may be prescribed by said Supervisor, consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 6. All other matters except as provided herein relating to the bonds herein authorized including the date, denominations, maturities and interest payment dates, within the limitations prescribed herein and the manner of execution of the same, including the consolidation with other issues, and also the ability to issue bonds with substantially level or declining annual debt service, shall be determined by the Supervisor, the chief fiscal officer of such Town. Such bonds shall contain substantially the recital of validity clause provided for in Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law, and shall otherwise be in such form and contain such recitals, in addition to those required by Section 51.00 of the Local Finance Law, as the Supervisor shall determine consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 7. The validity of such bonds and bond anticipation notes may be contested only if:

- 1) Such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said Town is not authorized to expend money, or
- 2) The provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of publication of this resolution are not substantially complied with,

and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of such publication, or

- 3) Such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 8. This resolution shall constitute a statement of official intent for purposes of Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2. Other than as specified in this resolution, no monies are, or are reasonably expected to be, reserved, allocated on a long-term basis, or otherwise set aside with respect to the permanent funding of the object or purpose described herein.

Section 9. Upon this resolution taking effect, the same shall be published in full or summary form in the official newspaper(s) of said Town, together with a notice of the Town Clerk in substantially the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Section 10.

THIS RESOLUTION IS ADOPTED SUBJECT TO PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM.

Councilperson Dakin duly seconded this resolution, and the question of the adoption of the foregoing was duly put to vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

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

December 10, 2013

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Davina M. Thurston  
St. Armand Town Clerk

RESOLUTION 52 of 2013 - SARANAC LAKE RESCUE SQUAD CONTRACT

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

WHEREAS A Resolution of the St. Armand Town Board authorizing Supervisor Charles Whitson to sign the Rescue Contract agreement with the Saranac Lake Rescue Squad. Services begin January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014.

WHEREAS the total sum of \$28,755.00 for 2014 to be paid by February 1, 2014.

Councilperson Dakin duly seconded this resolution, and was adopted as follows:

Supervisor Charles Whitson	AYE
Deputy Supervisor Samuel Grimone	AYE
Councilperson Donald Amell	AYE

Councilperson Jennifer Fuller  
Councilperson Earl Dakin

AYE  
AYE

Dated December 10, 2013

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Davina M. Thurston  
St. Armand Town Clerk

#### EMAIL RECEIVED FROM TOM BURMAN

Supervisor Whitson opened the discussion regarding an email received from Tom Burman regarding the proposed animal livestock law. Discussion ensued. Tom Burman spoke regarding his thoughts on this new law. The Board decided that the issue would be further discussed at the next Zoning Meeting which is scheduled for January 21, 2014, and Tom could present his ideas to the Zoning Committee at that time.

#### QUESTIONS & COMMENTS FROM GUESTS

Sandy Hayes asked about the lower yearly fee for the rescue squad contract. Supervisor Whitson explained the change.

#### MOTION TO ADJOURN

Deputy Supervisor Grimone made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilperson Dakin. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 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 Special Board meeting minutes held on the above-referenced date.

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Davina M. Thurston  
St. Armand Town Clerk

December 10, 2013