

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

TOWN OF ST. ARMAND

April 8, 2014

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., Councilperson Don Amell, Councilperson Jennifer Fuller, Councilperson D. Joseph Bates

TOWN EMPLOYEES PRESENT: Town Clerk Davina Thurston, Code Enforcement Officer Robert Drosdowich, Water Superintendent Jeff Cotter, Highway Superintendent Roger Oliver

GUESTS: Sandy Hayes, Jim Dakin, Greg Claus

EXCUSED: Deputy Supervisor Samuel A. Grimone

Notice was posted regarding the date of this meeting.

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

Sandy Hayes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SPECIAL GUEST

Supervisor Whitson introduced Greg Claus of Historic Saranac Lake. Greg gave a brief presentation inviting people to attend two workshops that Historic Saranac Lake is hosting. The first is on window restoration at 10 am and the second on reviving Main Street at 12:45 pm. Both workshops will be held on May 13, 2014 at the Saranac Laboratory Museum located at 89 Church Street in Saranac Lake. A hard hat tour of the Hotel Saranac will follow the presentations. The workshops are free to contractors and five dollars for the general public.

RD UPDATE FROM MIKE MASCARENUS

Supervisor Whitson discussed the letter that was received from Mike regarding the current RD loan. Discussion ensued. It was decided to hold the status quo for the short term.

MOTION TO PAY MONTHLY BILLS

Discussion on the bills resulted in the removal of one payment from the submitted bills. Councilperson Amell made a motion to pay this month's bills; the motion was seconded by Councilperson Fuller. All agreed. Motion carried.

WATER DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

Water Superintendent Jeff Cotter provided the Board with the following written report:

Town of St. Armand Water Report for 4/8/14

1. **Wells** – I will meet with wells drillers to obtain price quotes on well pump downs and well analysis in May after the “mud season”. Currently the wells are producing more than enough water to satisfy demand. I reduced the pump run times on well #3 to 6 hours per day from 24 hours per day.
2. **Rock Ledge Water Main Issues** – The 6” water main on Rock Ledge froze up twice over the past month. Charlie and I worked with a local welding contractor to unthaw the water line. We may want to consider adding fill to this area of the road to provide more freeze protection for this water line. I also question why this water line is our responsibility if the Village of Saranac Lake bills customers for water in the Rock Ledge development.
3. **Coliform Sample** - The Coliform sample taken for the month from the Town Hall came back negative.
4. **Emergency Generators** -Test ran both emergency generators.
5. **Highway Dept. Water** – Turned the water off to the Highway Dept. Garage before the demo of the Garage.
6. **Residence Water Meters** – I am working with Davina to identifying problems with several residence water meters. There are numerous meters that average far less usage than the “average water usage”. I am checking to ensure that the meters in these homes are properly installed and I am replacing the remote readers that are broken. I ordered 10 remote readers at a cost of \$30.00 each for these replacements.
7. **Provided Meter “Reader” to Gar Munn** - I provide a new remote reader to Gar Munn to install at his residence as his reader was broken.
8. **Vacation!** - I’m going on vacation from 4/14/14 – 4/25/14. Kevin Seymour is a certified operator who will be filling in for me in my absence.
9. **Residence Water Shut off** – On 3/20/14, I shut the water off to 758 St. Regis Ave. because their service connection froze.
10. **Large crack in Main Street with Water coming out** - On 3/29/14, we investigated a possible water main leak on Main Street. There was a lot of water streaming out of a crack on Main Street during a recent thawing period. I tested the water and it proved to be ground water runoff rather than potable water.

Discussion ensued regarding Rockledge Water line.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

CEO Robert Drosdowich was gave the following report to the Board:

- For the month of March 2014, 3 building permits were issued, no fees collected, 4 inspections were completed, and one certificate of occupancy was given.
- Robert issued the demolition permit for the Highway Garage.
- Received and approved plans for the K. Olson boat house on Lake Placid.
- Now using new building permit applications.
- Now using orange paper for building permits to increase visibility.
- Robert informed the board that the motors for the clock tower are only available if we purchase 50 units at \$59.00 each. Discussion ensued regarding purchasing of new motors and mechanisms. When warmer, Robert will remove one of the clocks and inspect it and report the findings back to the board.

- Robert will be on vacation April 12 thru 27th. He will be available via cell phone. Ed Randig or Ed Lagree will be available in case of emergency.

HIGHWAY REPORT

Highway Superintendent Roger Oliver informed the Board that the Highway Garage demolition is complete. Clean up continues. Installation of the gas tanks will begin soon. They will be re-using the left over cement for retaining walls for the tanks. The electric pole and pedestal will be installed on April 21st. The site will be ready for the contractors on May 1st. Roger informed the Board that the old furnace could be sold. Discussion ensued. It was decided that Roger would give the specs to Davina and she would contact Joe Bates to get a price estimate, and then would list the furnace on craigslist.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Councilperson Amell made the motion to approve the minutes of March 11, 2014 Regular Board Meeting and March 25, 2014 Special Board Meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilperson Bates. 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 Fuller made a motion to accept the Supervisors report; Councilperson Bates seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

ASSESSORS REPORT

Assessor Donna Bramer had sent a letter to Supervisor Whitson regarding the new assessments. The letter was given to the Board members and discussion ensued. Any questions regarding the new assessments should be answered by Donna. Grievance Day will be May 28th by appointment.

TOWN CLERK MONTHLY REPORT

Town Clerk Davina Thurston gave the following report for the month of March 2014:

Dog Licenses	19 spayed/neutered	\$133.00
	1 un-spayed/un-neutered	\$ 14.00
Death Certificates – 20 certified		\$200.00
Total Revenues to Supervisor		\$325.00
Revenue to NYS Dept of Agriculture & Markets		\$ 22.00

WATER & SEWER BILLING MONTHLY REPORT

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

For the 2 nd Quarter:	Total Water gallons billed 2,464,845
	Total Sewer gallons billed 2,045,123
	Total of 2 nd Qtr billing \$47,005.95
	Total funds outstanding \$58,213.24

Davina informed the Board of the changes that she made to the current Water & Sewer Regulations document. These changes are necessary due to the new sewer ordinance that will be submitted to the Board in the near future. Discussion ensued.

RESOLUTION 31 OF 2014 – Amend Water & Sewer Regulations

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

WHEREAS the St. Armand Town Board has approved changes to the current Water & Sewer Rules and Regulations to work in tandem with the new proposed Sewer Ordinance as required by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

THEREFORE, let it be resolved that the Town Board agrees that these new changes to such document entitled "Water & Sewer Rules and Regulations" shall be updated and effective as of April 8, 2014.

This resolution was duly seconded by Councilperson Fuller and adopted as follows:

Supervisor, Charles Whitson, Jr	AYE
Samuel Grimone, Deputy Supervisor	EXCUSED
Donald Amell, Councilperson	AYE
Jennifer Fuller, Councilperson	AYE
D. Joseph Bates, Councilperson	AYE

Dated April 8, 2014

Davina M. Thurston
St. Armand Town Clerk

REVIEW AND UPDATE OF SEWER PROJECT

Supervisor Whitson reported to the Board that the Sewer Project is moving forward. Charlie is meeting with Nathan of Graymont to discuss the placement of the trash containers. AES is working diligently to get the sewer project ready to go for bid next month.

NEW BUSINESS

TOWN HALL GRANT

Davina informed the Board that the Town could receive grant funding for renovations for the Town Hall. Discussion ensued.

RESOLUTION 32 of 2014 – Apply for Community Facilities Program Grant for Town Hall Renovations

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

WHEREAS the St. Armand Town Board has approved the application for a Community Facilities Program Grant to make needed renovations to the St. Armand Town Hall.

THEREFORE, let it be resolved that the Town Board agrees that Town Clerk Davina Thurston may write, submit and sign such grant application.

This resolution was duly seconded by Councilperson Bates, and adopted as follows:

Supervisor, Charles Whitson, Jr	AYE
Samuel Grimone, Deputy Supervisor	EXCUSED
Donald Amell, Councilperson	AYE
Jennifer Fuller, Councilperson	AYE
D. Joseph Bates, Councilperson	AYE

Dated April 8, 2014

Davina M. Thurston
St. Armand Town Clerk

RESOLUTION 33 of 2014 – Summer Food Service Program Contract

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

WHEREAS the St. Armand Town Board approves having Supervisor Charles Whitson, Jr. endorse the contract with Essex County in regards to the Summer Food Service Program for the Youth Commission on behalf of the Town of St. Armand.

This resolution was duly seconded by Councilperson Fuller, and adopted as follows:

Supervisor, Charles Whitson, Jr	AYE
Samuel Grimone, Deputy Supervisor	EXCUSED
Donald Amell, Councilperson	AYE
Jennifer Fuller, Councilperson	AYE
D. Joseph Bates, Councilperson	AYE

Dated April 8, 2014

Davina M. Thurston
St. Armand Town Clerk

OLD BUSINESS

- Supervisor Whitson informed the Board that the Bonds that were submitted in good faith for the construction bids are refundable by the contractors.

Sandy Hayes asked Supervisor Whitson about the Assessment Board of Review. Charlie stated that he had not appointed anyone as of yet. Charlie asked Jimmy Dakin if he would like to be on the review board, Jimmy declined at this time. Sandy asked Davina if the new building permits were on the website. Davina informed him that they had been sent to Hilary, and she would ensure they are posted.

Councilperson Amell asked to set a Zoning Committee Meeting to review the changes made to the proposed laws. Discussion ensued. It was decided to tentatively schedule the next Zoning Committee Meeting on April 29th at 6:30 PM at the Bloomingdale Tow Hall.

Charlie informed the Board he would be in Elizabethtown all day on the 14, 15 and 16 of April.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Councilperson Bates made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilpersons Fuller and Amell. Supervisor Whitson adjourned the meeting at 7:42 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.

Davina M. Thurston
St. Armand Town Clerk

April 8, 2014