

PUBLIC HEARING
CDBG GRANT FOR SEWER PROJECT
June 10, 2014

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Town Supervisor Charles Whitson, Jr., Deputy Supervisor Sam Grimone, Councilperson Don Amell, Councilperson Jennifer Fuller, Councilperson D. Joseph Bates

TOWN EMPLOYEES PRESENT:

Town Clerk Davina Thurston, Water Superintendent Jeff Cotter,
Highway Superintendent Roger Oliver

GUESTS: Alexis Gill

Notice was posted regarding the date of this meeting.

Town Supervisor Charles Whitson, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Alexis Gill led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING

Supervisor Whitson opened the Public Hearing with discussion regarding the application to CDBG for funds for the Sewer Project. A motion was made by Deputy Supervisor Grimone to waive the reading of the announcement, but to post in the minutes, the motion was seconded by Councilperson Bates, all in favor, motion carried.

Town of St. Armand Public Hearing Notice. The Town Board of the Town of St. Armand intends to submit an application for the New York State Community Development Block Grant (NYS CDBG) Program Year 2014 funds offered by through the Regional Economic Development Council (REDC) Consolidated Funding Application, administered by the New York State Office for Community Renewal (OCR). The NYS CDBG program provides financial assistance to eligible cities, towns, and villages with populations fewer than 50,000, and Counties with an un-incorporated population of under 200,000 in order to develop viable communities by providing decent, affordable housing, and suitable living environments, as well as expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income. The State must ensure that no less than 70% of its CDBG funds are used for activities that benefit low- and moderate-income persons. The program objectives are achieved by supporting activities or projects that: benefit low- and moderate-income families; create job opportunities for low- and moderate-income persons; prevent or eliminate slums and blight; or address a community development need that poses a serious and imminent threat to the community's health or welfare. The Town is notifying the public so residents can attend the public hearing and identify and comment on the overall needs and priorities of the community, and to allow them to consider the potential benefits and impacts of the NYS CDBG project before the application is submitted. The public hearing will provide an explanation of the NYS CDBG program and an opportunity for attendees to ask questions and make comments. Written questions or comments are welcome and can be directed to the Town Supervisor, Charles Whitson, at the address and phone number provided at the end of this Notice. The meeting provides an overview of the CDBG program and an opportunity for public discussion and comments on overall community needs.
No comments or discussion from the audience.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
TOWN OF ST. ARMAND
June 10, 2014

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

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

CEO Robert Drosdowich was excused, but gave the following written report to the Board:

- For the month of May 2014, 2 building permits were issued, \$375.00 fees collected, 10 inspections were completed.

- The Town Garage foundation work and stem walls are completed. The framing has started along with the underground piping and utilities. During work construction bi-weekly meeting I expressed the need for improvement of the use of barrier fencing when trenches are left open for extended times.
- An inspection was conducted on Lake Placid at the Keith Olsen new single-family dwelling.
- I received partial plans for High Peaks Distributing addition and will be reviewing them as they arrive.

WATER DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

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

Town of St. Armand Water Report for 6/10/14

Monthly Progress:

1. Replaced several inoperative meter readers as directed by Davina.
2. Test ran the Well Field and the Pump House generators.
3. Charlie and I repaired the water main shut-off at the intersection of Prospect and St. Regis Ave. We had to borrow a "Gate Box" from the Village of Saranac Lake to make the repair. I ordered 3 New "Gate Boxes" with Charlie's permission; one is replacement for SL and the other two for our inventory.
4. On 5/20/14 Charlie and I met with Ron Gill in the Well Field to discuss options moving forward to get more production from our wells. Ron came up with a quote of approximately \$1500 per day per well. This would involve a two man crew with a truck to conduct flow tests on the wells. Ron said in a "worst case scenario" it would take two days per well to conduct the flow tests or potentially \$3000 per well. Charlie and I both agreed that this would be too expensive if we conducted flow tests on all 8 well. Charlie and I would like to move forward with the flow testing of well #1. This is an abandoned well that used to produce 18 GPM. If this well still produces at least 10 GPM we would place this well back on line. Ron should be available to work on well #1 this Friday the 13th.
5. After conducting a flow test and potentially getting well #1 back on line, Ron Gill recommended picking a well that already exists and drill deeper for more water. Well #~~8~~ 4 has a brand new 8GPM pump installed and Ron thinks that this well may be a good well to drill deeper with because it is right next to the river. He thinks there's is potential to hit a good water vein there. This would be substantially cheaper than conducting flow tests on all the wells. All of our wells are 300' deep.

Note – Flow testing will only help us determine what the wells are capable of producing and will allow us to properly size the pumps to each well. It will not increase the water production of the wells.

Discussion ensued regarding the need for well testing and drilling further into well number 4. The Board agreed that Jeff should pursue that avenue. Davina informed the Board that "Sorry we missed you cards" had been purchased for Jeff, to let homeowners' know that he is trying to contact them.

HIGHWAY REPORT

Highway Superintendant Roger Oliver informed the Board that the CHIPS money will be spent paving the Reservoir Road and the rest of the monies would be used to top-pave Union Street. Roger stated that the lumber to re-deck the Moose Pond Bridge is ordered and the repairs would be completed soon. Roger informed the Board that the Ball Field Building will be re-stained this fall. Discussion ensued regarding the purchase of a 2015 International Truck.

RESOLUTION 38 of 2014 –Purchase of 2015 International Truck

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

WHEREAS the St. Armand Town Board approves the purchase of a 2015 International Truck, 7600 SBA 6x4 2010 (SF667), for plowing, and

WHEREAS, the above vehicle will be purchased from Clark’s Truck Center, 4365 Route 22, Plattsburgh NY 12901-5852, with specifications as requested by Highway Supervisor Roger Oliver, and set forth via proposal from Clark’s Truck Center, dated April 7, 2014, and

WHEREAS, the purchase price of the above vehicle will be as set by New York State – Essex County - Contract price, and

WHEREAS, the price of the vehicle as set above shall be no more than \$207,777.00.

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

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

Dated June 10, 2014

Davina M. Thurston
St. Armand Town Clerk

Town Historian Davina Thurston informed the Board that Roger and the Highway Crew had been working with Judge Swinyer to build the Wayside Exhibit. Davina thanked them for their time and efforts.

AGREEMENT TO SPEND HIGHWAY FUNDS

Town Clerk Davina Thurston asked the Board to sign the above-mentioned forms for Essex County, the Board complied.

MOTION TO PAY MONTHLY BILLS

Deputy Supervisor Grimone made a motion to pay this month’s bills; the motion was seconded by Councilperson Fuller. All agreed. Motion carried.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Councilperson Bates made the motion to approve the minutes of May 13, 2014 Regular Board Meeting and May 15, 2014, Zoning Committee Meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilperson Amell. 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. Deputy Supervisor Grimone made a motion to accept the Supervisors report; Councilperson Fuller seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

ILLUMINATING CONCEPTS

Town Clerk Davina Thurston informed the Board that a virus had been installed on the Town Clerk’s computer and Scott Wilson of Illuminating Concepts had been called for the repair. Davina informed the Board that Scott had suggested a Firewall system for the Town Hall. The written estimate was given to the Board. Discussion ensued. It was decided that all of the computers should be assessed and an upgrade plan should be created. Town Clerk Davina Thurston will obtain this information and report back to the Board in July.

TOWN CLERK MONTHLY REPORT

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

Dog Licenses	10 spayed/neutered	\$70.00
	2 un-spayed/un-neutered	\$ 28.00
Total Revenues to Supervisor		\$79.00
Revenue to NYS Dept of Agriculture & Markets		\$ 19.00

WATER & SEWER BILLING MONTHLY REPORT

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

Total outstanding revenues: \$18,647.28

REVIEW AND UPDATE OF SEWER PROJECT

Supervisor Whitson reported to the Board that a pre-bid meeting was held at the Town Hall on June 10 at 9:00 am for prospective bidders. Jim Dugan represented the Town and AES and gave a tour of the current wastewater treatment facility. Charlie stated that the APA is working on the permit to relocate the transfer station.

NEW BUSINESS

LAW FIRM FOR ZONING

Discussion ensued regarding the attorney for zoning laws. Deputy Supervisor Grimone stated that the four proposed laws that the Town Clerk had last emailed to the Zoning Committee members should be the documents that are sent to the attorney. The Board members agreed.

RESOLUTION 39 of 2014 – Hire Attorney for Zoning

Councilperson Bates, who moved its adoption, offered the following resolution.
WHEREAS the St. Armand Town Board approves hiring the law firm known as Miller, Mannix, Schachner & Hafner, LLC, 15 West Notre Dame Street, PO Box 765, Glens Falls, NY 12801, and
WHEREAS, members of the Town Board have researched the above-named law firm and has had positive feedback regarding them, and
WHEREAS, the Town Board recognizes the importance of having Council advise on Local Zoning Laws, and
NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of St. Armand duly entrusts the law firm of Miller, Mannix, Schachner & Hafner, LLC to represent the Town in all matters regarding to Local Zoning Laws.

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

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

Davina M. Thurston
St. Armand Town Clerk

Dated June 10, 2014

BATES CEDAR TREES

Discussion ensued regarding an email from Debbie Bates regarding the damage done to six of seven cedar trees when the culver was replaced on Mill Street. The Board unanimously agreed that then Supervisor Joyce Morency had agreed to pay for any damaged trees. The Board informed Davina to contact Debbie Bates and make payment to her in the amount of \$300.00 to replace the six trees.

TAX COLLECTORS REPORT

Tax Collector Nancy Heath provided the Board with the following written statement:

MEMORANDUM

TO: Town of St. Armand Supervisor and Board Members
FROM: Nancy M. Heath, Tax Collector *Nancy M. Heath*
DATE: June 8, 2014
SUBJECT: 2014 Tax Collection

Attached are the reports to the Supervisor for the months of January and February 2014.

Our warrant of \$723,334.56 was met with the February 27, 2014 payment to the Supervisor. The State of New York land tax payments were forwarded to Essex County and we did not receive any of those funds toward satisfying the Town portion of our Warrant.

Since the County requests that we not hold our funds until the end of April but rather forward them to the county, I sent two checks, one in the amount of \$55,000 on April 2, 2014, and one in the amount of \$30,000 on April 16, 2014, to the Essex County Treasurer.

On May 1, 2014 I turned in the Town books and wrote a check in the amount of \$38,559.00 to the Essex County Treasurer to satisfy our 2014 warrant to Essex County.

A balance of \$3,219.46 was left in the checking account - I am forwarding a check to Charles G. Whitson, Jr., Town Supervisor, in the amount of \$3,219.46 which is the interest received on tax payments during the 2014 tax receipt year, leaving a -0- balance in the Tax Collector checking account.

If anyone has any questions for me, just leave a note on my desk as I will continue to come into the office every couple of weeks to check my mail - or call me at home at 891-1258.

Thank you.

NMH:hs

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Deputy Supervisor Grimone made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilpersons Fuller. Supervisor Whitson adjourned the meeting at 7:45 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

June 10, 2014