

ORWELL TOWN BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
August 12, 2014

Members Present:

Supervisor William Potter

Councilmen: Nicholas Marshall, Robert Martin, Jeffrey Graham, James LaCelle

Also Present:

CEO-John Howland, Assessor-David Roach, Co Leg-Milferd Potter

Hwy Supt-Doug Henry, THC Representative-Paul Baxter

NOCA Representative-Robert Trainham, Water Operator-Marvin Levack

Town Clerk-Traci LaVeck

Public Present:

Greg Ivison, Neil Adams, Shirley Downes

Supervisor Potter opened the meeting at 7:01 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was held in memory of Councilman Robert Crossett.

Supervisor Potter welcomed Robert Martin Jr. as new Councilman.

REPORTS:

A) CEO Howland gave his report for July, four permits were issued.

B) County Legislator Milferd Potter gave the August Legislative Report: the entire County agenda can be found on the Oswego County Website.

The August Legislative Meeting will be held in Pulaski, Thursday August 14, at 2:00 pm.

C) Dog Warden Report: None

D) Assessor Roach was present to discuss the Basic STAR application re-registration process for New York State. Last year the State Legislature and the Governor chose to take control of the basic STAR Exemptions away from the assessors, so all control of those exemptions have been legally taken out of Assessor Roach's office. People must now apply with New York State Dept. of Taxation and Finances for those exemptions. The final application period for that process has closed and a number of exemptions statewide have been ordered to be removed by the Department of Taxation and Finances, in Orwell there are 29 Basic STAR Exemptions that have been removed. Assessor Roach states that many of the exemptions that have been ordered to be removed, the people still qualify, however, they have not reapplied. Legally the exemptions can not be removed the first year, it has to be removed the following cycle (the following tax year), therefore, people will not know that their exemptions are removed until they receive their School Tax Bill in September. Assessor Roach has a phone number for the State that he will be giving out to people who have questions regarding their exemptions. The **Enhanced STAR exemptions** have not been affected up to this point.

E) Water Operator's Report for July 2014:

- The latest bacteria test came back satisfactory
- All of the equipment is working fine
- There is still plenty of water
- The wet area located on Co Rt 22 and the leak across from Jim Taylor's located on Co Rt 2 have both been repaired

F) Highway Superintendent's Report:

- Hwy Supt. Henry gave the Equipment Repair Cost Report for July
- Jason White of JWD Construction removed the stacks from the roof where the old furnace was hooked up at the highway garage and patched the holes left in the roof from the pipes. Hwy Supt Henry wants to know what should be done with the triple wall stainless steel pipes that Mr. White removed (the pipes are over 30 years old). Due to possible liability issues the board members agree to have the pipes scrapped as opposed to trying to sell them to an individual.
- CHIPS money totaling \$104,442.50 has been applied for by Hwy Supt. Henry, he will give Supervisor Potter a copy of both CHIPS reports
- The side window in the mower has been broken, the whole door will have to be replaced, not just the window, it will cost around \$2,000 to fix. The mower cannot be used until it is repaired.
- Members of the Lorton Lake Association have been in contact with Hwy Supt Henry concerning logging that is going on in that area, asking him to keep an eye on the roads to make sure that they remain passable and to watch the culvert. Hwy Supt. Henry said that he has gone over several times to keep an eye on things and everything looks okay so far.
- JF Electric who are contracting for National Grid (doing power line work in Orwell) have set up their job trailer and equipment at the highway garage. Supervisor Potter has taken care of the lease and he has received the insurance certificate from JF Electric. Supervisor Potter will talk to them about the \$450/month payment that was agreed upon for use of the highway garage parking lot.

G) Tug Hill Commission Report: Paul Baxter was present to talk about upcoming meetings.

- The next Tug Hill Commission meeting will be held on Monday, September 8 from 4:00-6:00 pm. at the Tailwater Lodge located in Altmar. A tour of the lodge which was formerly the Altmar Elementary School will begin at 3:30 pm., before the meeting starts.
- There will be a Budget Process Workshop on Monday, September 15 from 6:30-9:30 pm. at the Albion-Altmar Municipal Building. Laird Petrie, Associate Examiner for the NYS Comptroller's Office will be the presenter.

H) NOCA Representative Trainham gave his report for July and turned in the budget for NOCA.

I) The Historian's report was turned in covering the following dates: June 5-July 31,2014.

DISCUSSION:

A) Approval of Milton Cat Buy-Back/Trade (2014 Caterpillar 950K)

-A motion was made by Councilman Graham and seconded by Councilman Marshall to approve the Milton Cat Buy Back/Trade of the 2012 Caterpillar Loader for the 2014 Caterpillar 950 K Loader for the Orwell Highway Garage. (5 Ayes) motion carries

B) Office Air Quality Update: Councilman Marshall and Supervisor Potter had a conference call with Healthway. The report from Healthway was discussed and their recommendation is to install a central air unit and a commercial de-humidification system with heat recovery, as well as, reworking the duct work. Supervisor Potter will be in touch with HealthWay to get specifications.

C) Water Exploration Project Engineering Report Update: B&L Engineering have come and gathered all of the documentation that is required for their report. Supervisor Potter has spoken with the B&L Representative who is working on the Grant Application process. There is an organization (at no cost to Orwell) that will do an income survey (for Grant application purposes) based on the water district itself.

D) Due to Primary Elections the September Regular Meeting will be changed from Tuesday September 9th to Thursday September 11th at 7:00 PM.

E) Transfer Station Closing Update: The Resolution from Orwell will be signed at tonite's meeting and sent out. Councilman Marshall said that at the last meeting that he attended concerning this issue, the committee was open to the idea of discussing other possible solutions concerning the County's financial problems.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Greg Ivison was present representing the Pulaski-Boylston Snowmobile Club. He and Mr. Neil Adams discussed the possibility of connecting the Pulaski-Boylston Trail System with the Kasoag Trail System off of the Falls Road. They would like to put up signs on Falls Road directing the snowmobile riders where to go, there is no signage at this time. The Town Board members were in agreement to have the clubs post caution signs on Falls Road for the snowmobile riders. Hwy Supt Henry addressed the issue of snow being left in the roads by the snowmobile trail groomers. Mr. Ivison and Mr. Adams said that they would bring it up to the other members in the club to try to prevent it from happening.

CORRESPONDENCE: Supervisor Potter read the correspondence received since last month's meeting.

-A motion was made by Councilman LaCelle and seconded by Councilman Graham to approve the July Regular Meeting Minutes as written. (5 Ayes) motion carries

-A motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilman Graham to approve the Town Clerk's Monthly Report for July. (5 Ayes) motion carries

- A motion was made by Councilman Marshall and seconded by Councilman Graham to

approve the Supervisor's Monthly Report for July. (5 Ayes) motion carries

-A motion was made by Councilman Graham and seconded by Councilman LaCelle to approve the following Budget Adjustments for July 2014. (5 Ayes) motion carries

General Fund

Add	A5010.2	Superintendent Hwy CE	\$ 99.88
Deduct	A1990.4	Contingent CE	\$ 99.88

Highway Fund

Add	DA5140.1	Misc/Brush PS	\$ 728.00
Deduct	DA5110.1	General Repairs PS	\$ 728.00

-A motion was made by Councilman LaCelle and seconded by Councilman Marshall to approve payment of the following claims: (5 Ayes) motion carries

General Fund Abstract #8	Claims #98-110C	Amount \$15,789.56
Hwy Fund Abstract #8	Claims #82-93C	Amount \$73,086.00
Water District Fund Abstract #8	Claims #22-25	Amount \$ 2,528.89

-A motion was made by Councilman Marshall and seconded by Councilman Graham to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 PM. (5 Ayes) motion carries

Submitted
August 27, 2014

Traci S LaVeck
Orwell Town Clerk