

FEBRUARY 8, 2006

8:00 PM

WEST MONROE, NY 13167

Present: Supervisor Ross; Councilpersons Michael Hickey, Timothy McCarthy and Debra Macdougall

Town Clerk Christine Shaw, Deputy Clerk Louise Herbert
Randall Shaw, Highway Superintendent
Code Enforcement Officer Gail Swistak
Tug Hill Representative Paul Baxter
Oswego County Legislator Arthur Gearsbeck
Oswego County Legislator James Bryant
27 people in the audience

Supervisor Ross opened the meeting at 8:05 PM leading all present to pledge the flag. Following the pledge Supervisor Ross welcomed all those present to the town board meeting.

Councilman Tim McCarthy started the meeting by making a motion to appoint Kelley Davis to fill the vacancy on the town board. Councilman Hickey seconded the motion. Councilwoman Macdougall stated that the interviews held were illegal meetings, according to information she received from Robert Freeman of the Association of Towns, referring to Section 103 of the Freedom of Information Law. Then Ms. Macdougall gave the board two options she wanted done to correct what she alleged was illegal. Ms. Macdougall explained that since she was not in attendance at both meetings she was at a disadvantage because she did not know what questions the other town board members asked and what Mrs. Davis responded. Ms. Macdougall also expressed that she feels that due to the fact that Ms. Davis is married to a Town of West Monroe highway employee and is a volunteer firefighter, this creates conflict of interests which would make Mrs. Davis in-eligible to vote on matters concerning these two factions. Ms. Macdougall then moved to appoint Doug Fuegel to the vacancy on the town board, stating that Mr. Fuegel is well qualified for the position. There was no second to the motion to appoint Mr. Fuegel. Mr. Ross then said that he supports the appointment of Kelley Davis and that Mrs. Davis' experience on the Planning Board and in the Fire Dept. would be a benefit to the Town Board. Mr. Ross reminded those present that since the death of Councilman Richard Baxter, there has not been input from a board member regarding the fire dept. and that was a valued asset. The board then voted on the appointment of Kelley Davis to the town board which went as follows: Councilwomen Macdougall-no; Councilman Hickey-yes, Councilman McCarthy-yes and Councilman Ross-yes. Motion carried. Mrs. Davis then received the Oath of Office, signed the Oath book and took her place on the board.

Mr. Ross moved that due to conflicts in schedules, to move the regular Town Board meeting to Wednesday March 15th at 8:00 PM. Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion, with unanimous approval of all board members.

Mr. Hickey then moved to approve the minutes of the January town board meeting as presented, Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion with the vote: Ms. Macdougall-yes, Ms. Davis-abstained, Mr. Hickey-yes, Mr. McCarthy-yes and Mr. Ross-yes, motion carried.

Mr. Hickey moved to pay the bills as audited, Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion:

GENERAL FUND, abstract #2, vouchers #28 to #46, in the amount of \$6,870.16

HIGHWAY FUND, abstract #2, vouchers #37 to #66 in the amount of \$20,615.53

BIG BAY SEWER FUND, abstract #2, vouchers #16 to #29 in the amount of \$6,763.61

The vote of the board was: Ms. Macdougall-yes, Ms. Davis-abstained, Mr. Hickey-yes, Mr. McCarthy-yes and Mr. Ross-yes, motion carried.

Surveyor Neil Brownell presented the application for a 5 lot Area Variance for Mr. James Ricelli on Shaw Road. After reviewing the maps with some discussion, Mr. McCarthy moved to hold a public hearing on March 15 at 7:30 for this variance application. Mr. Hickey seconded the motion with unanimous approval of the board.

Mr. Bill Winks, Pinnacle Rd., asked the board if they had any additional information on the clean up of the tire yard on Pinnacle Rd., explaining that he has been told that there has been a request for an extension of time from 3 years to up to 8 years for this clean up. Supervisor Ross responded that he has been attempting to get answers from the DEC and to schedule a meeting for an update, without success. Supervisor Ross explained that the site clean up is under the jurisdiction of the DEC, who does not have to inform the town board of any changes and/or the progress on the project. There has been no correspondence received from DEC to the town board regarding the site/project in quite some time. Mr. Hickey added that there was concern expressed right from the beginning of the clean up, of the damage to the town road which will be caused by the trucks traveling to the site. The board was assured that the DEC would put the road back to the same condition that it was prior to the project however, Mr. Hickey, as well as the rest of the town board, felt they would like it in writing.

Mr. Hadwin Bisbo, County Route 11, made the statement that Mr. Fuegel lost the election by only 4 or 5% and on top of that, there was a voting machine malfunction, and the election inspector did not report that to the Board of Elections on the day of elections. Supervisor Ross explained that the election machines are the responsibility of the board of elections of Oswego County and there has been no notification from the Board of Elections changing the result of the November elections. Mr. Bisbo wanted to know what the town board members had against Mr. Fuegel. Mr. Ross explained that he has nothing against Mr. Fuegel; however his job is to fill the position with the person he feels is best qualified and he (Mr. Ross) feels that Kelley Davis is that person.

Norma Howard, Pinnacle Rd., questioned who is paying for the cost of the clean up of the tire yard on Pinnacle Rd.

Mr. Ross explained his understanding is that the DEC is paying for the project out of the tire tax fund.

Jerry Slivinski, Morey Rd., stated that Ms. Macdougall said the process of interviews was illegal. Why is the board not addressing this? Mr. Ross said that Ms. Macdougall was part of the town boards' interview process and he felt that there was nothing illegal about the interviews.

Georgia Cunningham, Breckheimer Road asked if anyone will be checking into it. The board responded that they would.

Councilwoman Macdougall stated that the board should have checked into the legality before the appointment of Mrs. Davis. Councilwoman Macdougall stressed that she gave the town board two options in her opening statement, alleging the illegal interview process, and the board chose not to take either one. Again Ms. Macdougall stated that she felt that she was at a disadvantage because she did not hear what the other board members asked the candidates and what their responses were.

Councilman Tim McCarthy told those present that he was the board member unable to attend the town board interview of Mrs. Davis and that he did not see a problem with the boards' interview since there were three of the four board members present.

Supervisor Ross then informed the town board that Justice DeMong has stated that the justice department has a need for petty cash (to be able to give change for fines) and requested \$50.00 petty cash. Mr. Ross explained that petty cash was an acceptable policy, as the town clerk has a \$100.00 petty cash fund. Mr. McCarthy moved to allow the Justice dept. to have \$50.00 petty cash, Mr. Hickey seconded the motion and all board members were in favor.

Supervisor Ross moved to re-appoint Mike Perry to serve a 7 year term on the Planning Board as recommended by the Planning Board and to re-appoint Kenneth Parrotte to another 5 year term on the Grievance Board as recommended by Claude Miller, Grievance Board Chairman. Councilman McCarthy seconded the motion and all board members voted yes to the appointments

The Code Enforcement Officer was given permission to issue the annual mobile home park permits to the four (4) parks within the Town of West Monroe, as they have all paid the annual fee and are in compliance with the law on a motion made by Mr. Ross, seconded by

Mr. McCarthy with unanimous approval of the board.

REPORTS were received by:

Supervisors' financial report
Superintendent of Highways
Code Enforcement Officer
Dog Control Officer
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Mr. Ross explained that CDM engineers have come in to look at the problem of the town hall roof leakage and have submitted an agreement, at a cost of \$1,800, in which CDM would consult with 3 different roofers regarding correcting the situation of the leak, prepare the bids and once the bid is awarded by the town board visit the site 2 times during the repairs. Mr. Ross then moved that the board to allow him the authority to sign the contact with CDM engineers, Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion. Mr. Hickey asked if CDM would be the "Clerk of the Works" for the project and if they would stand behind the repairs should the problem persist which the Supervisor felt was the case. After some discussion which included having that responsibility incorporated into the agreement, the vote of the board was: Mr. Hickey-abstain; Mr. McCarthy-yes; Ms. Macdougall-abstain; Ms. Davis-abstain and Mr. Ross-yes. Supervisor Ross stated that due to the results of the vote, he would contact CDM with this concern, and would address this again in March.

Supervisor Ross then made the following 2006 committee appointments:

Councilman McCarthy - put together a Disaster Plan for the Town of West Monroe
Councilwoman Macdougall in charge of the Youth Committee
Councilman Hickey/Supervisor Ross/Code Enforcement Officer Gail Swistak - Land Clean Up Committee

CORRESPONDENCE:

Tug Hill Times

OCWA notification of increased rates for 2006

Letter from the attorney for the North Syracuse Rod and Gun Club. The club owns property located on County Route 37 which adjoins the former Good farm, on State Route 49 which has been purchased for development. The Club is concerned and is looking to protect their rights to continue their activities. A copy of this letter was forwarded to the planning board.

Letter from Brewerton Ambulance explaining that Northern Oswego County Ambulance will be covering the Big Bay area.

Barbara Rainville letter of support for Doug Fuegel

Greenview Liquor License renewal notification

Supervisor Ross attended the NORCOG meeting held in Constantia and explained that there was a NYSGIS demonstration and availability to members of the north shore communities. Mr. Ross stressed what an asset this could be for several departments with the town and the made the motion to enter into an agreement with the Tug Hill Commission, Mr. Hickey seconded the motion and all board members voted yes to enter into this agreement.

Paul Baxter of the Tug Hill Commission explained that the Tug Hill Commission is working on this and that mapping would be available to the towns via the internet. There will be another meeting on February 13th at 7:00 PM at the Parish Village Gym.

Mr. Baxter also said, being the representative from West Monroe, he attended the OLWAC meeting held on January 24th in Cicero and that new officers were elected and felt that they are the best people for the offices. The next meeting will be February 28.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 PM