

REGULAR MEETING

46 COUNTY ROUTE 11

DECEMBER 19, 2007

8:00 PM

WEST MONROE, NY 13167

Present: Gary Ross, Supervisor; Debra Macdougall, Kelley Davis and Tim McCarthy Board Members
Christine Shaw, Town Clerk, Deputy Clerk Louise Herbert
Judge John DeMong
Superintendent of Highways Randall Shaw
7 people in the audience

Absent: Michael Hickey, Board Member

Mr. Ross called the regular meeting to order and lead those present in the pledge to the flag. Mr. Ross then moved to approve the minutes of the November meetings as audited. Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion with unanimous approval of those board members present.

The Oswego County bills of 10/22/1999 and 4/25/2003, which were excluded for payment in November, were addressed again. Mr. Ross stated he still feels that the Town of West Monroe should not pay these bills at least until a response is received from the letter sent to the County of Oswego regarding these bills. After a discussion, the board was in agreement not to pay the previously mentioned bills totaling \$904.32.

Mr. Frank Underwood from Cronk Insurance Company addressed the board regarding a LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM which the fire dept. would like to the town to have available for the volunteers of the West Monroe Vol. Fire Dept. This program would benefit the active members when they retire in the amount of \$120 (or whatever amount chosen) for each year of service. After an explanation of the buy back program, the 50 pt. system for qualification, the adoption procedure and the cost to the town residents (\$11,700 annually), the board agreed to put off to another meeting night so that they may review all the information given.

Supervisor Ross moved to pay the bills as audited:

General Fund, abstract #12, vouchers #353 to #384, in the amount of \$12,177.34
Highway Fund, abstract #12, vouchers #319 to #335, in the amount of \$7,879.53
Sewer Fund, abstract #12, voucher #108 to #115, in the amount of \$3,321.61
Big Bay Water Fund, abstract #3, voucher #3, in the amount of \$1,916.86
West Side Water Fund, abstract #3, voucher #3, in the amount of \$1,053.58

Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion with unanimous approval of all the board members present.

Mr. Ross presented the Supervisor Reconciliation report to the board members, Ms. Davis moved to accept the reconciliation report, Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion with the vote of the board Ms. MacDougall-yes, Ms. Davis-yes, Mr. McCarthy-yes and Mr. Ross-abstained.

The board then discussed the progress of the Toad Harbor Water District Intermunicipal Agreement. Mr. Ross explained that the town's attorney has reviewed the agreement and after making some minor changes has recommendation that it is okay to approve. Ms. Macdougall asked, what were the changes the attorney recommended? Mr. Ross said it was with the wording. The changes were made and there he has no problem with this agreement as it now reads. Mr. Ross moved to adopt the Toad Harbor Water District Intermunicipal Agreement (with Constantia). Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion with unanimous board approval. This agreement (in its entirety) is on file in the office of the West Monroe Town Clerk.

Results of the bids for the purchase of a loader were presented to board members. The Superintendent of Highways recommended that the low bidder, Tracey Road Equipment, \$107,665 for a 2008 New Holland Wheel Loader W170B, be accepted. Mr. Ross moved to purchase the New Holland Wheel Loader, Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion. Ms. Macdougall stated that she is very concerned about the amount of money the board is spending, and the town stills needs a new building. She stated that she realizes that we need the loader but feels the board needs to be careful. The vote was then taken concerning the purchase of the New Holland Wheel Loader, which was unanimously in favor of the purchase.

Then the results of the bids for the sale of the surplus 1998 Pick up Truck were discussed. On a motion made by Mr. Ross, seconded by Ms. Macdougall, and unanimous approval of the board, the high bid of \$312.00 was accepted which was submitted by Mr. Ken Diffin.

Then the Highway Superintendent distributed to the board the informational brochures concerning storm water prevention, which the town clerk will distribute to the residents via tax bill receipts. The MS-4 regulations require the town to inform the residents of the regulations and these brochures should help the Town of West Monroe to comply with the regulations.

Supervisor Ross submitted the following budget transfers and moved there approval:

FROM		TO
A1440.4 ENGINEER	\$359	A1010.4 TOWN BOARD C.E.
A1440.4 ENGINEER	\$289	A1355.4 ASSESSOR C.E.
A1355.2 ASSESSOR EQUIP.	\$500	A1355.4 ASSESSOR C.E.
A1110.4 JUSTICE C.E.	\$2,044	A1110.2 JUSTICE EQUIP.
A1440.4 ENGINEER	\$536	A110.2 JUSTICE EQUIP.
A1440.4 ENGINEER C.E.	\$310	A1410.4 CLERK C.E.
A1940.2 CONTINGENCY	\$21,185	A1620.4 BUILDING C.E.
A1940.2 CONTINGENCY	\$2,863	A1650.4 CENT. COMM SYS. C.E.
DA5130.2 MACHINERY EQ.	\$7,310	DA5112.4 ROAD CONTRUCTION
DA5130.2 MACHINERY EQ.	\$5,000	DA9010.8 STATE RETIREMENT
DA5130.2 MACHINERY EQ.	\$2,900	DA9060.8 MEDICAL INSURE
DA5148.4 OTHER GOV. SERVICES	\$2,582	DA9060.8 MEDICAL INSUR
DA5148.4 OTHER GOV. SERVICES	\$9,800	DA5110.1 GENERAL REPAIR P.S.

DA5110.4 GEN. REPAIRS C.E.	\$2,770	DA5110.1 GENERAL REPAIR
DA9030.82 MEDICARE	\$774	DA5140.4 BRUSH AND WEEDS

Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion with unanimous board approval.

Mr. Ross moved to schedule the Organization Meeting on Thursday January 3, 2008 at 7:00 PM; Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion with unanimous approval of the board members present.

Mr. Ross remarked that he thought the town could use a Town Emblem. He explained that the entire town could be involved. The board could request submissions and/or ideas from the town residents. The board thought it was worth looking into.

REPORTS were received from:

- Code Enforcement Officer
- Supervisor
- Town Clerk
- Judge Demong
- Judge Inman
- Superintendent of Highways

Superintendent Shaw reported to the board that Mr. Brown requested that a light be installed at the end of O'Mara Drive. The towns' lighting district policy does not include lights at dead ends. The board did not feel they wanted to change the policy at this time and directed the Superintendent to inform Mr. Brown.

A letter was received from Ron Sakonyi, Acting Chairman NORCOG, concerning Low-Volume Roads, asking the Town of West Monroe to adopt the resolution in favor of the Senate & Assembly adopting low-volume and minimum maintenance road standards. Superintendent Shaw recommends that the town adopt the resolution. Mr. Ross moved the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the current framework of New York State Law does not provide for a design, construction and maintenance standard for local roads of less than 400 vehicles per day (average daily trips), and

WHEREAS, in the absence of such a state standard, it is feared that the liability standard towns may be held to are the standards published by the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) which are designed to be applied to high-volume roads and administered by towns with civil engineering staffs, and

WHEREAS, the AASHTO standards place an undue hardship on small rural towns with limited financial resources by which they may be called upon to maintain low-volume vehicular traffic roads at the comparable level as high-volume roads; and

WHEREAS, the designation of a low-volume and minimum maintenance roads serves as a management tool to conserve forest, agriculture and recreation open spaces by providing

access to these lands and deterring residential development that results in land fragmentation; be it

RESOLVED, that we the members of the Town of West Monroe support legislative action to provide towns with the clear authority to designate town roads with less than 400 vehicles per day (average daily trips) low-volume and minimum maintenance roads, as set forth in Senate Bill S. 3309 and Assembly Bill A. 8158.

Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion with unanimous board approval.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Tug Hill times
- Letter of thanks from the Altier family
- West Monroe Historical Society annual report.

Oswego County Treasurer regarding the interest rate for property tax which is paid in two installments. The town clerk reported that the town keeps any late fees (interest) paid prior to April 1st when taxes are returned to the County. The board discussed that if the County decided to reduce the rate that would take revenue from the town.

Paul Baxter reported that there was no meeting of the Oneida Lake Water Shed Advisory Committee. He also reminded the board that as of 2007 NYS requires that members of the Planning Board and Board of Appeals must complete 4 hours of training per year. If the members did not complete the 4 hours of training in 2007, they would not be eligible to serve on the board. However since this was the first year of this new law, the town has the option to make a resolution to give the board members an additional year to complete their training for 2007. Therefore the West Monroe Town Board needs to decide if they want to adopt a resolution to give those members additional time to complete the training for 2007, on top of the 4 hours needed for 2008 .

At 9:35 PM, Mr. Ross moved to go into Executive session concerning the Union Contract for the Highway personnel. Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion with unanimous approval of the member of the town board.

The town board returned at 10:05 PM and was called to order by Mr. Ross. Ms. Davis asked if there were any positions that need to be filled in the Planning Board and there is, but Mr. Ross said he did not hear from the Planning Board Chair if they desired his reappointment.

The regular board meeting of 12-19-2007 was closed at 10:06

Christine Shaw, West Monroe Town Clerk