

**REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 9, 2008**

**46 CO RT 11 TOWN HALL
WEST MONROE, NY**

Present: Supervisor Gary Ross; Councilwomen Kelley Davis and Debra Macdougall
Town Clerk, Christine Shaw, Deputy Town Clerk Louise Herbert
Superintendent of Highways Randall Shaw
Town Justice John DeMong
Oswego County Legislator Arthur Gearsbeck
Paul Baxter, Tug Hill Commission
16 people in the audience

Absent: Councilmen Michael Hickey and Tim McCarthy

Supervisor Ross called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM and everyone pledged allegiance to the flag of the United

States of America. Mr. Ross then moved to approve the minutes of the March meeting, Ms. Macdougall seconded the motion with those board members present all in agreement to approve the minutes.

Mr. Ross then moved to pay the bills as audited, Ms. Davis seconded the motion
GENERAL FUND, abstract #4, vouchers #99 To #133 in the amount of \$10,106.41
HIGHWAY FUND, abstract #4, vouchers #89 to #106 in the amount of \$12557.46
BIG BAY SEWER FUND abstract #4, vouchers #27 to #35 in the amount of
\$6,750.16

All board members present voting to pay the bills as audited.

Ms. Davis moved to accept the Supervisors Reconciliation report, Ms. Macdougall seconded the motion with the vote being: Ms. Macdougall-yes, Ms. Davis-yes and Mr. Ross-abstained

Comments from the Public:

Mr. McKittrick, Shaw Rd., asked why the town filled the holes on Woodland Drive, which is a private road. Mr. Ross explained that with the legal action the Town of West Monroe took, regarding the fence erected into the private drive which prohibited emergency vehicles access to the residents living on the private drive, the Town took the action which they felt was necessary to insure the safety of those residents. Mr. McKittrick asked if the board was aware that this would set a precedence for the repair of other private drives. Mr. Ross explained that due to the special circumstances, he felt that the town acted appropriately.

Mr. Alfred Gerisch, County Route 11 asked about the outdoor sign for the front of the building that the board talked about last year. Ms. Macdougall did some research on them, but with the current situation of the building still up in air, the outdoor sign is on hold for now.

Mr. Gerisch asked if the loader that the town purchased was put out for bid or did we just check state bids. Superintendent of Highways Shaw answered that the town did both, checked state bid pricing and then put the loader out for bid.

Mr. Gerisch then addressed the money the town has received on the Justice building. Mr. Ross said he did not know the exact dollar amount from the insurance, but we did receive a small amount of insurance money, also a \$50,000 grant from the State Senate last year and Judge DeMong applied for and will be receiving \$20,000 grant from the justice system for 2008.

Mr. Art Gearsbeck asked if there was a possibility that the voting on the fire department program and the new building could be done at the same time. Mr. Ross said he would keep that under consideration once we have a plan for the building.

Doug Fuegel, Breckheimer Rd., stated that with the town board in looking into a new building, retirement plan for the Fire Dept. and the possibility of a water district extension, in his opinion the timing is not a favorable one to increase taxes. With the increased pricing of gas, which causes everything else to cost more, people are struggling and do not need to have an increase in taxes.

Jeff Fuegel, Breckheimer Rd. stated that he would like it clearly stated on the information that the town board is sending out to the residents, that this program would definitely cause a tax increase for all residents.

Joyce Ineich asked if all district would vote on one machine or will that be two as that makes a difference in the cost to hold the vote.

Ms Macdougall moved to **appoint Mark DeCuffa to the Master Plan Committee**, Mr. Ross seconded the motion, with unanimous approval of the board members present.

Mr. Ross then explained that due to the absent board members the **LOSAP vote would need to be delayed**. Mr. Ross moved to hold a **special meeting on 4/16/2008 at 8:00 PM** to vote and finalize the dates for the informational meetings and vote. Ms. Macdougall seconded the motion with unanimous approval of the three board members to hold the special meeting.

Mr. Ross explained that he has been contacted by the Town of Constantia Water Committee and the engineer concerning a possibility of a water district expansion. Mr. Ross asked the board how they wanted to handle getting the information from the residents who could be involved in this possible expansion as to whether or not they would be interested in exploring this. After some discussion, Ms. Davis suggested sending out questionnaires as was done with those residents in the Toad Harbor District. Ms. Macdougall stated she really needs more time to think about this and would like it addressed at the next board meeting. Supervisor Ross agreed to revisit this at the next meeting.

The town clerk explained to the board members that she has been having trouble with one of the computers in her office and when service was done to repair it, it was found that it was just a matter of time before it crashes completely. This computer was purchased in 2002 and is used every day. She explained that she was planning to apply for a grant next year to replace it but is not sure it will last that long. A quote from A & S Computers in the amount of \$841.95

plus \$135.00 for the Windows XP Professional software was presented to the board and the clerk asked permission to purchase it. She felt that with the cost to keep it running being about \$180 if the present computer goes down again, the money spent to keep the old one up and running would have paid for half the new one. Ms. Macdougall asked if the clerk could investigate how much would the town save if the new computer had less hard drive. The clerk would check that out and report at the next meeting.

Mr. Ross moved the following resolution and seconded by Ms. Davis:

The Town duly adopts resolution authorizing the Code Enforcement Officer (pursuant to Local Law No. 1 of 2007) to commence an action or special proceeding in the name of the Town of West Monroe in the Justice Court of the Town of West Monroe to compel a resident to immediately cease and desist and all business activities at 2939 State Route 49 in the Town of West Monroe, State of New York until the Planning Board of the Town of West Monroe has approved the use of the property for the purposes proposed and the Code Enforcement Officer of the Town of West Monroe has certified that the building complies with the New York State Fire and Building Code.

The Town hereby authorizes the Code Enforcement Officer to seek any and all remedies available to the Town in such action or special proceeding.

WHEREAS, the question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote, which resulted as follows:

AYES: 3

NAYS: 0

The resolution was thereupon declared adopted and effective immediately.

Prior to the vote Ms. Davis moved to table the vote and enter into executive session to discuss possible legal action. Mr. Ross seconded the motion, all members voted unanimously in favor of executive session at 7:53

The board returned at 8:00, Mr. Ross reopened the regular meeting and the vote of the board as recorded above.

REPORTS:

Justice DeMong's March report with a check in the amount of \$2945.00

Justice Inman's February and March report along with checks in the amount of \$2,857.50 and

\$1367.50

Town Clerks report with a check in the amount of \$940.65

Code Enforcement monthly report along with a detailed year-end report from 2007

Superintendent of Highways report which includes information regarding contacting Stearns & Wheeler Engineering regarding the Sewer Plant for what can be

done there

CORRESPONDENCE

Tug Hill Times
Fort Brewerton Chamber of Commerce
Public Service Commission regarding 315 area code
State of New York Real Property with Final Franchise Assessments

Paul Baxter reported that he is continuing to work on setting up training classes for the planning and zoning boards expecting that they will be held in May. Also he and a colleague are planning on attending the Master Plan Committee meeting and doing what they can to help them.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04

Christine Shaw, West Monroe Town Clerk