

REGULAR MEETING
July 9, 2008

46 CO RT 11 TOWN HALL
WEST MONROE, NY

Present: Supervisor Gary Ross; Board members Kelley Davis, Michael Hickey and Debra Macdougall
Town Clerk, Christine Shaw, Deputy Town Clerk Louise Herbert
Superintendent of Highways Randall Shaw
Oswego County Legislator Arthur Gearsbeck
Paul Baxter, Tug Hill Commission
11 people in the audience

Absent: Tim McCarthy

Supervisor Ross called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and everyone pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America. Mr. Hickey then moved to approve the minutes of the June town board regular meeting and special meeting, Ms. Macdougall seconded the motion with those board members present all in agreement to approve the minutes.

David Hanson, President of the West Monroe Volunteer Fire Dept., addressed the board thanking them for the opportunity given both the fire department volunteers and the residents of West Monroe for the opportunity to vote on the Vol. Fire Dept. Service Award Retirement Package (which was voted down).

Carl Hoyt, Kellar Rd., thanked the board for getting the ball rolling to have the property with a condemned house, located next to the West Monroe United Methodist Church, available to the church. Mr. Hoyt explained that the stewarts of the church would take down what is left of the house but may need some help, should the County agree to letting the church stewarts obtain this property. Mr. Ross explained that in an effort to clean up the "eye" sores in the town, he had written a letter asking the County Legislature to deed the abandoned property over to the church stewarts, who have reassured Mr. Ross that the house would be taken down and the property cleaned up. Mr. Ross asked Legislator Gearsbeck if he knew any more on this. Mr. Gearsbeck said David Hastings was coming down to take pictures for the committees review.

The Town Board then revisited the need for Zoning Board Members. Mr. Hickey moved to appoint Jim Scott of 88 Woodworth Rd. to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Mr. Ross seconded the motion, with unanimous approval of the board. The board discussed that 2 more members are needed.

Mr. Ross explained that he and Superintendent of Highways Shaw met with John Franz of Shumaker Engineering regarding the Smith Road Bridge. The State of New York representative inspected the bridge and red flagged this bridge. Superintendent Shaw posted the 4-ton limit, the recommended limit for the condition of the bridge. Superintendent Shaw also notified the fire dept., school district and ambulance service. Shumaker quoted \$1800.00 to design replacing the bridge. This bridge is over a small contributory of the Little Salmon River and therefore has strict requirements. Superintendent Shaw believes it will be a very costly project.

Mr. Ross then explained that he and Superintendent Shaw met with representatives of USDA regarding the Big Bay Sewer Plant. As noted in Superintendent Shaw's previous monthly reports, the plant has reached the 20-year-old mark, which is the approaching time frame for the life expectancy of the machinery. The plant is experiencing some minor equipment breakdowns; therefore a solution needs to be in the plans before any major problems arise. The result of that meeting is that USDA will match the town dollar for dollar for an engineering study therefore the engineering firm will be contacted to get that going.

The Surveys results of possibly extending public water to roads north of St. Rt. 49 was presented to the board members. Ms. Macdougall requested that the board table the discussion until next month so that the members could review the results. Mr. Hickey insisted that was not necessary, they should discuss it now. Ms. Macdougall explained that the Master Plan Committee, which is meeting twice a month, with all that they have learned, realizes that the town needs to have public water and sewers, at least down the "main" route to bring in growth.

Mr. Hickey stated that with the results of the survey, which for the most part, was 2 to 1 against public water, there should be no more work towards extending public water at this time. Ms. Davis remarked that the survey served its purpose and that

she agrees that extending the water is not what the majority of residents in the surveyed area want.

Ms. Howard, Pinnacle Rd., questioned about Pinnacle Rd., as the tire yard is located on that road. And the board explained that the survey of resident was 10 against, 4 in favor. The residents do not want it. Mr. Fuegel of Breckheimer Rd., remarked that the possibility of pollution makes it just a matter of time for that road.

The extension of the water district north of St. Rt. 49 is a dead issue at this time.

Mr. Ross then moved to hold a workshop with the West Monroe Vol. Fire Dept. for the budget request for the next contract on July 24th, 2008 at 7:30 PM and prior to that workshop, at 7:00, the town board would hold a Special Meeting to handle any business that comes before the board. Ms. Macdougall seconded the motion. Supervisor Ross said that there are so many items the town is working on that 2 meetings each month are a good way to keep things moving. The vote of the board was unanimous to hold the Special Meeting at 7:00 PM and the workshop at 7:30 PM on Thursday July 24th at the town hall.

The board then revisited the Justices request for a constable. The need for someone to man the metal detector (which was sent from the state of NY) as well as protection during court has become necessary. Mr. Ross informed the board that the contract with the agency that would supply the constable would be month to month and that the minimum charge is \$45.00 (\$15.00 per hour). Mr. Hickey remained strong that he felt that the town could not afford all the additional expenses and that the court should budget for it in the 2009 budget. Ms. Davis felt that \$15.00 per hour to keep the courts safe is definitely not too much to pay. After some discussion, Mr. Ross moved to approve entering into a contract for the service of a constable for the courts. Ms. Davis seconded the motion. The vote of the board was Ms. Macdougall-no; Ms. Davis-yes; Mr. Hickey-no; Mr. Ross-yes therefore the motion was defeated.

Doug Fuegel, Master Plan Committee Member, addressed the board to present a report of what is happening with the Master Plan Committee. He explained that presently the committee is in the "fact finding/ learning" process. Mr. Fuegel stated that Steve Patch is leading the committee and is doing a great job to insure that the committee members are properly informed and educated. The committee has had speakers at their meetings who can give facts on each of their specialties and many more are planned. Mr. Fuegel stated that most of the members feel so eager for knowledge that they have asked that the meeting be longer. The committee intends to report to the town board periodically.

Mr. Ross mentioned that NORCOG is working on economic development along the North Shore of Oneida Lake and perhaps someone from the Master Plan Committee might want to attend those meetings.

MONTHLY REPORTS:

5 months of Planning Board minutes were received

Code Enforcement Officer's report for June

Town clerks monthly report

Highway Superintendent reported that one of his men, Lyle Borland, is out on disability, at which time the board wished Mr. Borland, long time highway employee a speedy recovery. Superintendent Shaw also explained that his crew is paving what roads they can, however the rising cost of product is making it difficult to stay within budget. Mr. Hickey questioned if contracting the paving out would save money. Mr. Shaw said that contracting paving is about \$73,000. per mile. The highway department can do it for about ½ price using town equipment and labor. Mr. Hickey remarked that our town highway department is doing a great job.

CORRESPONDENCE:

TIME WARNER-explaining their plan to effect a complete separation of Time Warner Cable from TWX.

MS-4 requirements that construction projects with an acre or more of soil impact must have a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan. Superintendent of Highways Shaw stated that the MS-4 requirements are such that he is not the correct person to be handling this, the Town needs to look into hiring someone specialized in these regulations. Brochures are also being supplied to the towns to be distributed to residents obtaining dog licenses and building permits.

2 publications of the Tug Hill times

Minutes of the Planning board meeting from January 23, February 27, March 26, April 23, and May 28, 2008

USDA information that their mission is to help rural Americans to improve the quality of their lives.

Oswego County Emergency Management Office offering training sessions for new emergency workers the need to comply with the federal National Incident Management Systems (NIMS) training.

National Grid concerning the extreme weather in June.

Ft. Brewerton /Greater Oneida Lake Chamber of Commerce Newsletter

Oswego County Assessors' Association 7/22/08 meeting notification

Oswego county Solid Waster Dept. regarding the collection of Electronic waste (e-waste)

Slack Chemical notification of increased pricing.

West Monroe vol. Fire Dept. update on activity for July 2008

Paul Baxter reported that OLWSA met but he was unable to attend and that NORCOG met in June and the next meeting will be held in Central Square 8/14. He explained that the Tug Hill Commission was in the process of setting up training for Planning Board Members and these training classes will be scheduled most like for the fall.

Mr. Ross then moved to pay the bills as audited; Ms. Macdougall seconded the motion

GENERAL FUND, abstract #7, vouchers #175 to #217 in the amount of \$11,984.09

HIGHWAY FUND, abstract #7 vouchers #152 to #169 in the amount of \$7,335.49

BIG BAY SEWER FUND abstract #7, vouchers #57 to #62 in the amount of \$3,585.56

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43