

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

Supervisor Ross called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM and everyone pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America. Mr. Ross then moved to **approve the minutes** of the September 10<sup>th</sup> regular meeting and September 16<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting. Ms. Davis seconded the motion with the vote of the board as follows: Ms. Macdougall-abstained, Ms. Davis-yes, Mr. Hickey-yes, Mr. McCarthy-abstained, and Mr. Ross-yes.

Mr. Hickey moved to **approve the bills** as audited:

GENERAL FUND, abstract #10, vouchers #274 to #293, in the amount of \$9,056.40  
HIGHWAY FUND, abstract #10, vouchers #206 to #222, in the amount of \$7,483.09  
BIG BAY SEWER FUND, abstract #10, vouchers #92 to #102, in the amount of \$5,304.67  
BIG BAY WATER FUND, abstract #2, vouchers #2, in the amount of \$641.70  
WEST SIDE WATER FUND, abstract #2, voucher #2, in the amount of \$3,385.20

Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion with unanimous approval of the board.

Steve Collins asked if the Grunder Variance was granted and Mr. Ross said it was. He also mentioned that he felt that all town employees should be residents.

Mr. Ross presented the **Lease Agreement for the Toad Harbor Water District with OCWA**. The attorney for the town has reviewed it and feels that our interests are protected so the attorney's have no problem with the board entering into this agreement, which is the next step in the establishment of the Toad Harbor Water District. Mr. Ross moved that the Town of West Monroe enter into this Lease Agreement with OCWA and Mr. Hickey seconded the motion and the vote of the board was: Ms. Macdougall abstained due to the fact that she was not given the agreement to review prior to this vote; Ms. Davis-yes, Mr. Hickey-yes, Mr. McCarthy-yes and Mr. Ross-yes.

Supervisor Ross reminded everyone that October 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM, CNY Regional Planning will be presenting information on MS-4 regulations. This presentation is open to all area town, planning and zoning boards, contractors and residents.

Supervisor Ross said that the Superintendent of Highways will be **closing the Smith Road Bridge** as of November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008 due to weight limit restraints. Superintendent Shaw reported that all agencies i.e. Schools, Fire Dept., Ambulance etc. have been notified. There is an alternative route around the bridge that causes only limited inconvenience for those who live and travel on that road. The bridge will not be plowed this winter due to the weight of the snowplows. The cost to replace has been estimated at \$284,000 which is just about impossible for the Town of West Monroe to incur and therefore over the next 6 months or so the Superintendent of Highways and Supervisor will be contacting NYS representatives to see what kind of funding is available.

The town board scheduled the following budget work shops and special meetings on a motion made by Supervisor Ross and seconded by Councilperson Hickey:

**Budget Work session:** October 13, 2008 at 6:30 PM  
October 27, 2008 immediately following a Special Meeting

**Special Meeting:** October 27, 2008 at 6:30 PM to discuss the snow agreement with Oswego County and any other town business that comes before the board.

**Preliminary Budget Public Hearing** on Monday November 3, 2008 at 7:30 PM

The vote of the board was unanimous approving the above dates.

Monthly reports were received from:

Town Clerk  
Supervisor  
Code Enforcement  
Justice Inman for August and September  
Justice DeMong for August and September

Superintendent of Highways who requested that the town board bid the fuel for 2009, and on a motion by Supervisor Ross the board approved the bid opening to be December 2, 2008 at 11 am. Mr. Hickey seconded the motion with unanimous approval to obtain bids for the 2009 fuel.

Mr. Doug Fuegel, Breckheimer Rd. commented on what a great job the highway department did cutting the sides of the road on Breckheimer Rd.

CORRESPONDANCE:

Ft. Brewerton/Greater Oneida Lake Chamber of Commerce newsletter  
BOCES monthly newsletter  
2 Tug Hill Times  
NYSDEC Annual Inspection of the Big Bay Sewer Treatment Plant report with an over all rating of "Satisfactory".  
NYS Public Service Commission Notice of Public Hearings dated 9/11/2008  
CNY Regional Planning & Development Board regarding Stormwater Phase II  
CNY Regional Planning & Development regarding the comprehensive/master plan for the town of West Monroe

National Grid notification of reimbursement for planting of trees.

Town Clerk requested use of the Town Hall to host a session with Robert Freeman, NYS Dept. of State who will be talking about Freedom of Information and the Open Meetings Law on Dec. 4, at 6:00 PM, there was no opposition for the use of the building.

Supervisor Ross also requested use of the town hall on Sunday, October 12 for sign ups for the Jr. basketball league. All board members agreed that sign ups could be held at the town hall.

Paul Baxter reported that the OLWSAC will be holding their Annual Conference and he plans to attend. Also APW will host a workshop regarding Natural Gas and energy costs. And the North Shore Council of Government is changing the date of the next meeting.

Mr. McCarthy addressed the board reading the following:

***To the Town Board, Town Clerk, Highway Superintendent, Residents of West Monroe, all Town Employees and the West Monroe Fire Dept.:***

***It is with deep regret that I resign my position as Councilman, Town of West Monroe. Given the continued challenges with my full-time job as well as my families desire to relocate, this has been a difficult decision for me.***

***I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as your councilman and hope you understand my position. Many of you are aware that I have had to miss several meetings since May of this year. In each and every case, I intended to be at the monthly meeting but had airline and/or business issues arise. In each instance however, I did communicate with the Town Supervisor (even when it happened at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour-i.e. 6:30 PM). I apologize for my absence.***

***I have appreciated the unwavering support I have received during my several election campaigns. I want each individual to know that in every decision that I have been a part of over the years, I worked exhaustively to make my decisions with the majority of the residents concerns being addressed and the best possible outcome being delivered.***

***For those of you that may have personal agendas, I strongly recommend you change your direction and commitment to your town. What the Town of West Monroe, as well as the County, State and Federal governments need are people that come to the table with "solutions" to the very significant challenges we will face in 2009 and beyond. Rather than throw stones and attack individuals, I recommend you come to the table with options to address your concerns.***

***When we were growing up, my Dad use to always say, "if you do not have something positive to say, keep it to yourself or let me know how you will fix the negative situation. Remember, life is short so make the most of every day!"***

***I wish each of you the very best in the future. I am confident West Monroe will continue to be a very nice place to live and raise a family.***

With the resignation of Mr. McCarthy, Mr. Ross moved to **appoint Kelley Davis as deputy supervisor for 2008**, Mr. Hickey seconded the motion and all board members voted unanimously in favor to Ms. Davis as deputy supervisor.

Ms. Macdougall remarked that she spoke with Bret Culver of the New Life Church, St. Rt. 49, and they would be willing to lease space to the town for Justice Court and offices. Also there is a possibility of renting the Dual Design Bldg. from Mr. Tassone as well as renting the house on the corner of Rt. 37 and Rt. 49. These are all options that are available to address the problems facing the town justices with the loss of their building last year. Mr. Ross asked Ms. Macdougall to check into the cost for these buildings.

The meeting was closed at 8:09