

December 14, 2015 the regular town board meeting was held in the Town Hall beginning at 7:00 p.m. and all members were in attendance. Sup. Gang led the pledge to the flag. A motion to accept the previous month's minutes was made by Coun. Greenough and seconded by Coun. Raymond and all were in favor. A motion to pay the audited bills was made by Coun. Wilbur and seconded by Coun. Greenough and all were in favor.

Attending the meeting was Representative Dan Stec. He has been visiting each of the 41 towns in his district making an effort to touch base with each of them. He addressed the board in a casual manner and discussed the two main issues at hand on the front burner and those are the ethics prosecution and the minimum wage increase that will be taking effect. Mr. Stec remained in attendance for the entire meeting and encouraged any questions he may have been able to answer from those who attended the meeting. Sup. Gang spoke about the excess of 1% tax cap that for the second year we weren't able to remain under that tax cap. There is little money with a bare bones budget and a low fund balance due equipment purchases and higher health insurance costs for the town. The cellular service is pretty sketchy in these rural towns and without towers to reach the customers it doesn't seem to look promising for the half of a billion dollars set aside for expanding cell service from the state. The money is still sitting in an account while the state considers a plan on how and where to use it.

**Old Business:** The audit of the town's accounts are nearly complete and 2012 will be closed soon with the County Treasurer. The town's website is looking good and Mr. Kapusinski is still maintaining it. The monthly financials were given to the board and are on file in the Town Clerk's office. Everything is on track as we head into the end of the year. We are still waiting on the money from the State for the weed eradication job and the FEMA money from the bridge project. Most of the letters have been printed and will soon be sent to the residents about family members that have served in the military during any of the conflicts dating back to the revolutionary war and included with the letter is a suggestion for donations to help out with the cost of the sign. Sup. Gang discussed with the County Treasurer how to pass through the town's general account to deposit the donations we receive.

**New Business:** There are several resolutions that had to be passed during the meeting. All are on file in the clerk's office.

**Resolution #37-2015** titled **Budget Amendment, Highway** for continuing expenses for T-11 Bridge put forth by Coun. Greenough and was seconded by Coun. Wilbur and all were in favor.

**Resolution #38-2015** titled **Budget Amendment, General** for increased medical insurance costs put forth by Coun. Raymond and was seconded by Coun. Barber and all were in favor

**Resolution #39-2015** titled **Budget Amendment, General** for the purchase of the bronze plaque in honor of Maynard Rushia for his years of service. It was put forth by Coun. Raymond and was seconded by Coun. Wilbur and all were in favor.

**Resolution #40-2015** titled **Budget Amendment, Highway** for expenses for Machinery Equipment put forth by Coun. Greenough and seconded by Coun. Wilbur and all were in favor. A resolution will need to be made up for the next meeting for the Supervisor to be able to put any donated money for the sign project into the Town General Account and it will be **Resolution #41-2015** and has been put forth by Coun. Greenough and seconded by Coun. Raymond and all were in favor. Amelia Brown contacted Sup. Gang about the town perhaps being interested in acquiring the Dresden Baptist Church as they are no longer meeting as a church and do not want to continue the upkeep. There is access from Route 22 to accommodate parking and although there are concerns it is only in the preliminary stages of discussion. A letter was sent to the board from the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery and they recently met with Mr. Hobus to conduct on-site monitoring to review the performance and compliance of the town with respect to funding received for Disaster Recovery and FEMA and we have managed the funds and the audit was satisfactory. The County Budget passed under the tax cap for 2016 however it is still taking some monies from the fund balance.

**Highway Superintendent's Report:** Since the last meeting the crew has been ditching and mulching along Pike Brook Road and also have cleaned out the pole barn and moved in equipment for winter storage. Road repairs were done on Bluff Head, Dresden Hill, and Leclaire Roads. A beaver dam on Dresden Hill Rd. has been removed three times during the last two weeks. The graders have been moved

for the winter and the Cat-Grader is in Hulett's Landing and the Gallion has been moved to Cat Den Road and the batteries have been removed and brought back to the garage. Extensive metal fab is ongoing on TD-7's dump body so we can extend its use as a haul truck. The rest of the time has been spent on equipment and building maintenance, some of which includes: batteries replaced on TD-24 and 9; the windshield was replaced on TD-9; oil undercoating was done on TD-1, 14, and, 24 as well as multiple projects with equipment and building repairs. Walt Douglas was contracted to rebuild the motor in TD-9. Finally, the town was awarded a \$20,000 grant through Lake Champlain Basin Program for a new 400 ton salt barn with the help from Beth Gillis of the Lake George Regional Planning Board. A Coalition called Save Lake George salt reduction initiative will be placing a monitoring system on vehicles to monitor how much salt will be put down on the roads. Camera's will also be used for this monitoring and data is being collected to draw some conclusions. A recess was called until December 30, 2015 for the year end closeout. The meeting adjourned until then.

**Attendance:** Helen Marie Sunkenberg, Conrad Peterson, Jody Booth, Samantha Booth, Dan Stec, Louise Davidson, Phillip Perrone, Bernadette Perrone, and two illegible signatures.

December 30, 2015 the board met for the end of the year closeout. Coun. Raymond was absent due to illness. Since the regular meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> some new developments have occurred with the Highway equipment. At this time there are four immobilized vehicles and we are down to two to plow and salt the town roads and Mr. Hobus is currently using his own personal vehicle to attend to the smaller assignments. The board agrees that something needs to be done to get a vehicle to replace TD-24. Sup. Gang received two checks for the Veteran's Sign in the amount of \$105. He will be setting up a new separate account as a trust to deposit them into. Two resolutions were brought to the meeting.

**Resolution #42-2015** titled **Budget Amendment, Highway** to move money to snow removal from general repairs put forth by Coun. Wilbur and seconded by Coun. Greenough and all were in favor.

**Resolution #43-2015** titled **Budget Amendment, General** to move money to cover various expenses was put forth by Coun. Wilbur and seconded by Coun. Barber and all were in favor. There were bills for the end of the year that have come in for the month of December and are being signed for payments and most likely be some carried over to the beginning of the year. Some paperwork recently came into the Clerk's office from the Laberge Group for a grant being offered by the DEC for a funding opportunity for Smart Growth Implementation to be considered for aesthetic improvements to the Town Hall. The board would like to look further into how to achieve the grant. Mr. Hobus brought up that there are two roads in town that are considered seasonal and they have become difficult to maintain. As a courtesy he has been plowing them but with the breakdown of equipment it is hard to get them now. Long Pond Road and the very end of Backus Road are town roads but listed as seasonal. The board feels that they should be maintained so there isn't any liability in case of an emergency and since they are on the list of roads for the town it's uncertain how to go about them now. Sup. Gang will contact the town attorney to find out what our responsibility is for them. There was no further business at this time and the meeting adjourned.