

**DRAFT MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD
OF THE TOWN OF SARATOGA, 12 SPRING ST.,
SCHUYLERVILLE, NY**

**July 12, 2010
7:00 P.M.**

Supervisor Thomas Wood opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 p.m.

Roll call: Ruth Drumm, Town Clerk, called the roll. Supervisor Thomas Wood- present, Councilman Fred Drumm – absent (arrived at 7:25 p.m.), Councilman Charles Hanehan- absent, Councilman James Jennings - present, and Councilman Michael McLoughlin – present

Also present: Town Attorney William Reynolds, Justice Jack Ditch, John Deyoe, Clarence Fosdick, Roger Sherman, Julie Rodrigues, Geraldine Freedman, Stephanie Ferradino, and other interested persons.

Recognitions/Presentations/ Bid openings/ Public Hearings: None

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Councilman Michael McLoughlin and seconded by Councilman James Jennings to accept the minutes of the June 14th regular meeting as written.

Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – absent, Councilman Charles Hanehan – absent, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilman James Jennings - aye. Carried 3 – 0.

Town Clerk's report for June 2010: Fees paid to the County Treasurer for Dog Licenses \$78.72. Fees paid to the NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets for the spay/neuter program \$18.00. Fees paid to New York D.E.C. for hunting and fishing licenses \$336.40. Fees paid to the New York State Health Department for Marriage licenses \$45.00. Dog license fees to Supervisor Thomas Wood \$226.28. Clerk fees to Supervisor Thomas Wood \$83.85. Total State, County, and Local Revenues received were \$788.25.

Zoning Officer's report: Gil Albert's June 2010 report: 5 Building Permits, 15 Building Inspections, 8 Certificates of Occupancy, 1 Junk Yard Permit, 0 Fire inspections, 0 Complaints, 0 Property Maintenance Inspections, 3 Misc., 1 Order to Remedy, and 1 Building Permit Renewal. A check for \$466.60 was given to Supervisor Thomas Wood.

Dog Control Officer's report for June 2010: The report was read by Supervisor Thomas Wood: answered 29 complaints, took 1 dog to the shelter, 0 bite cases, traveled 97 miles, issued 22 warnings and 2 summonses were issued.

Town Court report for June 2010: The following were closed: 179 Vehicle & Traffic, 12 Criminal/Penal Law, 9 DEC/ENCON, 2 Dog cases, 4 DWI's, 0 Town & Village Ordinance, 0 Small Claims/Civil, 1 Eviction, 0 Bench trials, 2 Divestiture Forms (case transfers) sent to County Court, 10 attended the Science of Speed School, 0 Defendants sentenced to probation, 10 hours of community service issued, 0 days of jail time issued, 2 Orders of Protection issued, and \$8,392.50 in fees were paid to the NY State Comptroller.

Historian's report: Sean Kelleher submitted the following report for June: As we get to the summer months, the Old Saratoga Unit of the National Park opens full operations. The National Park Service had a fine opening for Victory Woods. The staff did a great job constructing a boardwalk. The interpretive signs are full of factual information about the last days of Burgoyne's Army. I have to say that this current heat wave reminds me of the issues in 1777 when 233 years ago to last week, Burgoyne's army faced "sweltering heat" and an American army at the Battle of Hubbardton. Hubbardton was one of the high points for Burgoyne's army and of course Victory Woods was Burgoyne's lowest point of the 1777 campaign. On July 10th, Park Ranger Joe Craig has a program called Mud and Misery: Visit the newest site of Saratoga NHP— Victory Woods. Join to find out about the dismal final days of the defeated British army on the ground they occupied. Participants can meet at the Saratoga Monument at 6:30pm. In addition, during the month of July on Thursday afternoons there are wonderful historic children's activities at the Schuyler House. One of the highlights every summer is 18th Century Day at the Schuyler House organized by the Old Saratoga Historical Association. This year the events will be on Sunday August 8th from Noon to 5 pm.

Upcoming local programs of historical interest include Heritage Hunters, the local genealogical association, meeting on Saturday, July 17 at 1 pm at Town Hall on strategies for finding ancestors. The Turning Point Parade is Sunday, August 1st.

Assessor's report: Victoria Hayner submitted the following report: The month of June found our office finalizing the 2010 Assessment Roll that included entering any changes made by the Board of Assessment Review. The Final 2010 Assessment Roll has been received and is available for public inspection and review.

During the month of June we processed sales from March – June. We had 18 valid sales and 20 non-valid sales of which 33 were residential sales, 4 were vacant land sales and one was a commercial sale.

Our office is open Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, with the Assessor present at those times to answer property owner's questions.

Highway Superintendent's report: Highway Superintendent Dave Hall reported that

the mowing of the roadsides is going well. The new pavement and shoulder work has been completed on Neilson and Caldwell Roads. They will be ditching Mabb Road next week and they hope to resurface Chestnut Street this year.

Supervisor's Financial Report:

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT JUNE 2010

GENERAL FUND – TOWNWIDE (A FUND)

Balance on hand June 1	\$ 1,291,768.78
June Revenues	+ 14,868.88
June Disbursements	- 48,882.06
Balance June 30	\$ 1,257,755.60

GENERAL FUND – OUTSIDE VILLAGE (B FUND)

Balance on hand June 1	\$ 266,708.61
June Revenues	+ 91,397.58
June Disbursements	- 4,251.91
Balance June 30	\$ 353,854.28

HIGHWAY FUND – OUTSIDE VILLAGE (DB FUND)

Balance on hand June 1	\$ 934,867.34
June Revenues	+ 372.71
June Disbursements	- 49,625.81
Balance June 30	\$ 885,614.24

SCHUYLER PARK CAPITAL PROJECT June 30 \$ 77,250.29

YOUTH RECREATION & SERVICE June 30 \$ 1,215.02

HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE June 30 \$ 12,747.91

BUILDING RESERVE June 30 \$ 149,567.55

SCENIC BY WAYS GRANT June 30 \$ 309.27

❖ **Sales Tax Received – June 2010 - \$86,878**

❖ **Mortgage Tax – May 2010 - \$5,136.50**

Public comments on agenda items: Clarence Fosdick and Justice Jack Ditch addressed the board.

Committee reports:

Landfill: No report.

Insurance: Supervisor Thomas Wood reported that the Health Ins. Policy with MVP is up for renewal on August 1. The policy is going up in price by 31% so the board has voted to switch carriers to CDPHP which will only be a 4.99% increase over the current policy with comparable benefits.

Youth: Councilman Michael McLoughlin reported that the Summer Youth Swim Program has begun with 40+ participants at the Christ the King Spiritual Life Center's small lake on Burton Road. Supervisor Thomas Wood reported that he went with Mayor John Sherman to the lake when lessons were underway and it was well organized and chaperoned. It is going well.

Senior Citizens: No report.

The **Quaker Springs Seniors:** No report.

Park Committee:

Schuyler Park: Supervisor Thomas Wood reported they have advertised for proposals for the mowing and trimming at the park for the remainder of the season. Bids are due by July 23rd.

Wilbur Road Towpath Trail: Supervisor Thomas Wood reported that the work on the Wilbur Road Trail is finished. A ribbon cutting is scheduled for July 22nd.

Office of Emergency Management: Supervisor Thomas Wood reported that Sherry Doubleday worked with the Red Cross and used the town hall as a cooling station during the heat wave last week. The office also loaned out 4 air conditions to those in need during the heat wave.

Committee to Honor Volunteer Firefighters & Emergency Medical Service Workers: No report.

GSES, QSFD, SLPID/SLA, SCFB Reports: No reports.

Old business:

Supervisor Thomas Wood reported that the Brown Road PUD is scheduled for a SEQR review and public hearing at the August 9th meeting.

Schuylerville Dissolution Committee Update: Wendy Lucas reported that there will be a public meeting August 19th at 7:00 p.m. at the town hall. At this meeting information on the costs and savings of dissolution will be available. It is hoped that a meeting can be scheduled with both boards and the committee prior to this meeting. She added that more information can be obtained on the website: www.Schuylerville.ning.com.

New business:

On a motion by Councilman Michael McLoughlin and seconded by Councilman James Jennings the following **Resolution #10-60 – Support of PDR Application- Drumm**

was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – abstained, Councilman Charles Hanehan – absent, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, and Councilman James Jennings - aye. Carried 3 – 0.

WHEREAS, Ruth and Fred Drumm landowners in the town of Saratoga, intend to participate in the Saratoga County Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program seeking to permanently preserve 34+/- acres of active farmland on Burgoyne Road in the Town of Saratoga; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board views the preservation of agriculture as vital to the quality of life and economy of the town as evidenced by the Town of Saratoga Comprehensive Plan, Saratoga County Farmland Protection Plan, and Saratoga County Green Infrastructure Plan which recommends the use of conservation easements purchase of development rights as a tool to preserve agriculture and recognizes the importance of protection farmland and open spaces; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that the grant application is worthy and will provide funding to permanently preserve the Drumm parcel for agricultural uses only; and

WHEREAS, the Town is an eligible applicant under the grant program and may hold and monitor the conservation easement, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town of Saratoga fully supports this application and shall act as the applicant, holding a conservation easement consisting of the development rights of the Drumm parcel, and shall periodically monitor conformance with the terms of the easement, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized to contract with Saratoga County and execute any documents necessary to accept and redistribute Farmland Protection funds, should the grant application be successful.

On a motion by Councilman Fred Drumm and seconded by Councilman Michael McLoughlin the following **Resolution #10-61 – Support of PDR Application – VanArnum** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – absent, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, and Councilman James Jennings - aye. Carried 4 – 0.

WHEREAS, Vernon and Shirley Van Arnum, landowners in the town of Saratoga, intend to participate in the Saratoga County Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program seeking to permanently preserve 82+/- acres of active farmland on Southard Road in the Town of Saratoga; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board views the preservation of agriculture as vital to the quality of life and economy of the town as evidenced by the Town of Saratoga Comprehensive Plan, Saratoga County Farmland Protection Plan, and Saratoga County Green Infrastructure Plan which recognize the importance of protection of farmland and open spaces and recommend the use of conservation easements and purchase of development rights as tools to preserve agriculture; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that the grant application is worthy and will provide funding to permanently preserve the Van Arnum property for agricultural use; and

WHEREAS, Saratoga P.L.A.N. is a not-for-profit conservation organization qualified and willing to manage farmland conservation transactions and hold conservation easements, and, if the necessary funds are able to be raised for a Stewardship Fund, to hold, monitor and enforce a conservation easement on the Van Arnum property; and

WHEREAS, the Town is an eligible applicant under the grant program and may hold and monitor the conservation easement, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town of Saratoga fully supports this application and shall act as the applicant, and, if needed, hold, monitor and enforce a conservation easement, consisting of the development rights of the Van Arnun property, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Saratoga P.L.A.N. is designated to prepare the grant application and manage the transaction on the Town's behalf, and that the Supervisor is authorized to contract with Saratoga County and execute any documents necessary to accept and redistribute Farmland Protection funds, should the grant application be successful.

On a motion by Councilman Fred Drumm and seconded by Councilman James Jennings the following **Resolution #10-62 – Contracts with Quaker Springs Seniors and Old Saratoga Seniors** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – absent, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, and Councilman James Jennings - aye. Carried 4 – 0.

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that it is in the public interest to offer support and recreational services to the elderly residents of the Town, and

WHEREAS, the Old Saratoga Seniors and Quaker Springs Seniors have offered to provide such services to senior citizens who are residents of the Town, it is now therefore **RESOLVED**, that the Supervisor is authorized to sign contracts with Old Saratoga Seniors and Quaker Springs Seniors to provide support and recreational services to senior citizen residents of the town for the 2010 calendar year at a cost of \$2,500.00 for each contract, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the form of such contracts shall be subject to prior review and approval by the Town Attorney.

On a motion by Councilman James Jennings and seconded by Councilman Michael McLoughlin the following **Resolution #10-63- Employee Handbook Amendment – Section 805- Medical Insurance - Premium Payment Eligibility** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – absent, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, and Councilman James Jennings - aye. Carried 4 – 0.

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that it is in the public interest to adopt a fair and consistent policy regarding the payment of health insurance premiums for elected officials and employees of the Town, and

WHEREAS, to accomplish this purpose, an amendment is needed to the Town of Saratoga Employee Handbook, it is now therefore

RESOLVED, that Section 805 of the Employee Handbook, *Medical Insurance – Premium Payment*, is amended by adding the following sentence to the beginning of this paragraph: *For purposes of this section an employee's date of hire shall revert to the original date of hire of any eligible employee who has been in continuous service for the Town as a full-time employee and/or elected official*, and it is further

RESOLVED, that this amendment shall take effect immediately.

On a motion by Supervisor Thomas Wood and seconded by Councilman Michael McLoughlin the following **Resolution #10-64 - Support of the Historic Saratoga/Washington on the Hudson Stewardship Plan** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – absent, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, and Councilman James Jennings - aye. Carried 4 – 0.

WHEREAS, the Partnership received copies of the Draft Stewardship Plan for the Historic Saratoga Washington on the Hudson Partnership on May 3, 2010 and the plan was available at <http://upperhudsonpartnership.org> for review and comment, and

WHEREAS, the Partnership noticed and held public hearings on the received Draft Stewardship Plan for the Historic Saratoga Washington on the Hudson Partnership on May 20, 2010 in the Village of Fort Edward, Washington County, and May 24, 2010 in the Village of Schuylerville, Saratoga County, and a presentation of the Plan was made and comments received at these public meetings, and

WHEREAS, the Partnership, at the meeting on June 28, 2010, since it is the only involved agency, declared itself lead agency for the Stewardship Plan for the Historic Saratoga Washington on the Hudson Partnership, and conducted a review for the purposes of SEQR, and

WHEREAS, the Partnership, at the meeting on June 28, 2010, received copies of the Environmental Assessment Long Form on June 28, 2010, and made the finding of a Negative Declaration under SEQRA for the Stewardship Plan for the Historic Saratoga Washington on the Hudson Partnership, and

WHEREAS, the Partnership received the Final Draft of the Stewardship Plan for the Historic Saratoga Washington on the Hudson Partnership and the Executive Summary on June 28, 2010 and selected to post the documents online for review and comment for a two week period at <http://upperhudsonpartnership.org>, and

WHEREAS, the Partnership, at the meeting on June 28, 2010, moved to send the Final Draft of the Stewardship Plan for the Historic Saratoga Washington on the Hudson Partnership to the communities within Partnership Area for individual approval, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

The Town of Saratoga resolves to approve the Stewardship Plan for the Historic Saratoga Washington on the Hudson Partnership.

On a motion by Councilman Fred Drumm and seconded by Councilman James Jennings the following **Resolution #10-65 – Granting an Easement to the Saratoga County Sewer District – Trask Lane** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – absent, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, and Councilman James Jennings - aye. Carried 4 – 0.

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that it is in the public interest to grant an easement in the Town right of way along Trask Lane, a Town highway, in order to permit the installation of public sewer lines, and

WHEREAS, Saratoga County Sewer District No. 1 is a public entity providing public sewer service to this area of the Town, it is now therefore

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is authorized to sign a permanent sewer easement along Trask Lane, a Town highway, in favor of Saratoga County Sewer District No. 1, for the

purpose of installing and maintaining public sewer service for residents of the Town, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the form of such easement shall be subject to prior review and approval by the Town Attorney.

On a motion by Supervisor Thomas Wood and seconded by Councilman Michael McLoughlin the following **Resolution #10-66 – Fund Transfer to Highway Buildings** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – absent, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, and Councilman James Jennings - aye. Carried 4 – 0.

RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga to transfer \$1,000 from Contingent Account #A1990.4 to Highway Buildings #A5132.4 to cover additional expenses.

On a motion by Councilman Fred Drumm and seconded by Councilman James Jennings the following **Resolution #10-67 – Fund Transfer to Increase CHIPS** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – absent, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, and Councilman James Jennings - aye. Carried 4 – 0.

RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga to transfer \$\$554.61 from Revenue Account # DB 3501 to increase appropriations in CHIPS #DB5112.2 to reflect an increase in 2010 NYS CHIPS funding.

Communications:

- ❖ **Ribbon Cutting- Towpath Trail – Wilbur Road- Thursday, July 22, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.**
- ❖ **NYS Department of Transportation announced that the Route 4 Bridge over the Hudson River will be closed beginning July 1 through the last week of August. Traffic will be directed to a signed detour route.**
- ❖ **Saratoga Battlefield Landscapes *Tour De Farm* will be Sunday, August 22, 2010. Visit www.agstewardship.org or www.saratogaplan.org for more information and to register for the scenic bike ride.**
- ❖ **Thank you to the town board for the Town of Saratoga Award for the most student council points from Alex Griffen.**
- ❖ **Thank you from the Schuylerville Area Food Emergency Relief (S.A.F.E.R.) Board of Directors for the \$750 donation originally presented to the Town of Saratoga by EOC-WIC and then donated to S.A.F.E.R.**

Privilege of the floor: John Deyoe, Clarence Fosdick, Julie Rodrigues, and Roger Sherman addressed the board.

Upcoming meetings:

- ❖ **Agenda meeting – Thursday, August 5, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.**

❖ **Regular town board meeting – Monday, August 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.**

Audit the Bills: On a motion by Councilman Fred Drumm and seconded by Councilman James Jennings the following **Resolution #10- 68 Approving the payment of bills in Abstract 7G** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – absent, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, and Councilman James Jennings - aye. Carried 4 – 0.

RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga that the bills be paid on Abstract #7 (07/12/2010) in the following amounts:

General Fund A	Voucher No. 211 through 244	\$ 44,047.79
General Fund B	Voucher No. 41 through 47	\$ 1,056.61
Highway Outside DB	Voucher No. 144 through 169	\$202,138.80
Joint Youth	Voucher No. 3	\$ 369.75
Schuyler Park H	Voucher No. 18 through 21	<u>\$ 4,743.50</u>
	Grand Total	<u>\$252,356.45</u>

A motion to adjourn at 9:08 p.m. was made by Councilman Fred Drumm and seconded by Councilman Michael McLoughlin. Supervisor Thomas Wood – aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan - absent, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, and Councilman James Jennings - aye. Carried 4 – 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth Drumm
Town Clerk