

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

**March 12, 2012  
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, Councilman Charles Hanehan- present, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – absent (arrived at 7:20 p.m.), and Councilman James Jennings - present

**Also present:** Deputy Town Clerk Linda McCabe, Town Attorney William Reynolds, Zoning Officer Gil Albert, Highway Superintendent Don Ormsby Jr., and other interested persons.

**Recognitions/Presentations/ Bid openings/ Public Hearings: None.**

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Councilman Charles Hanehan and seconded by Councilman James Jennings to accept the minutes of the February 13<sup>th</sup> regular meeting as written.

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

**Town Clerk's report for February 2012:** Fees paid to the NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets for the Animal Population Control Program \$98.00. Fees paid to New York D.E.C. for hunting and fishing licenses \$82.20. Fees paid to the New York State Health Department for Marriage licenses \$22.50. Dog license fees to Supervisor Thomas Wood \$420.00. Clerk fees to Supervisor Thomas Wood \$66.30. Total State, County, and Local Revenues received were \$689.00.

**Zoning Officer's report for February 2012:** Gil Albert reported: 3 Building Permits, 8 Building Inspections, 2 Certificates of Occupancy, 0 Orders to Remedy, 0 Fire inspections, 1 Complaint, 0 Building Permit Renewals, 1 Property Maintenance Inspection, and 0 misc. appointments. A check for \$150.00 was given to Supervisor Thomas Wood.

**Dog Control officer's report for February 2012:** The report was read by Supervisor Thomas Wood: answered 15 complaints, took 5 dogs to the shelter, 0 bite cases, traveled 214 miles, issued 8 warnings and 3 summons were issued.

**Councilman Michael McLoughlin arrived at 7:20 p.m.**

**Town Court report for February 2012:** The following were closed: 70 Vehicle & Traffic, 8 Criminal/Penal Law, 2 DEC/ENCON, 4 Dog cases, 1 DWI, 3 Town & Village

Ordinance, 0 Small Claims/Civil, 1 Eviction, 2 Bench trials, 1 (case transfer) Divestiture Form sent to County Court, 7 attended the Science of Speed School, 1 Defendant sentenced to probation, 48 hours of community service issued, 60 days of jail time issued, 5 Orders of Protection issued, and \$7,677.50 in fees were paid to the NY State Comptroller.

**Tax Collector's report:** No report.

**Historian's report:** Sean Kelleher submitted the following report:

I have been working the installation of an interpretive sign on the lawn at Town Hall. The sign is a low profile sign that commemorates the role that the USS Saratoga played in the War of 1812. The sign was awarded to the Town this past fall by the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership as part of their War of 1812 Interpretive Trail. I reviewed the sign installation with Schuylerville Mayor John Sherman (on 3/2) and his opinion is that there is not an issue as long as it is set back off Broad Street sidewalk. At the direction of the Town Supervisor, I have talked to the Highway Superintendent (on 3/1) about doing the installation which will require a hole to be dug, prepared with gravel, and installed involving a small amount of concrete.

I am continuing our efforts with the National Park Service on researching Saratoga from just before European occupation to the end of the American Revolution. The focus recently has been on Fort Hardy as the hope is to develop a computer model and artist drawings of the site. I have been in touch with Historians across the State and even as far as California as we try to gather all the primary source material that we can on the Fort. I am also researching applying for a grant that would result in a cultural landscape report of the Town Hall property. The goal of the project would be to find use of this property before it became a school. We have a blue and gold marker in front of the building that states this is site of the continental barracks. We know from diaries that various American troops were garrisoned in Saratoga during the later stages of the American Revolution. It is hoped that this type of a report could provide us with more information about the physical buildings and location that were part of the barracks.

The next meeting of the Old Saratoga Historical Association will be Thursday, March 22 at 7:30 pm at town hall. The speaker is Schuylerville Historian Krissy Saddlemire on the houses of Pearl Street.

The next meeting of Heritage Hunters is Saturday, March 17, at 1p.m. at the Town of Saratoga Town Hall. Program speaker will be Chuck D'Imperio discussing his book "Great Graves of Upstate New York", a fun and fact filled trivia book focusing on the lives and deaths of 70 great American legends.

**Assessor's report:** No report.

**Highway Superintendent's report:** Highway Superintendent Don Ormsby Jr. reported:

- ❖ Russell Road repair is moving forward.
- ❖ Patching potholes
- ❖ Truck maintenance is ongoing.
- ❖ Brush hogging along Hanehan Road

**Supervisor's report:**

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT FEBRUARY 2012**

**GENERAL FUND – TOWNWIDE (A FUND)**

Balance on hand FEB. 1	\$ 713,040.82
FEB. Revenues	+ 585,624.96
FEB. Disbursements	- <u>118,907.25</u>
Balance FEB. 29	\$ 1,179,758.53

**GENERAL FUND – OUTSIDE VILLAGE (B FUND)**

Balance on hand FEB. 1	\$ 620,979.37
FEB. Revenues	+ 1,148.75
FEB. Disbursements	- <u>4,294.33</u>
Balance FEB. 29	\$ 617,833.79

**HIGHWAY FUND – OUTSIDE VILLAGE (DB FUND)**

Balance on hand FEB. 1	\$1,044,491.36
FEB. Revenues	+ 85,677.00
FEB. Disbursements	- <u>64,418.09</u>
Balance FEB. 29	\$ 1,065,750.27

SCHUYLER PARK CAPITAL PROJECT FEB. 29 \$ 94,272.62

YOUTH RECREATION & SERVICE FEB. 29 \$ 1,669.33

HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE FEB. 29 \$ 12,843.59

BUILDING RESERVE FEB. 29 \$ 125,680.67

SCENIC BY WAYS GRANT FEB. 29 \$ 310.27

PARK RESERVE FEB. 29 \$ 51,956.55

CDBG2 FUND FEB. 29 \$ 0.00

❖ **Sales Tax Received – February 2012 - \$85,677**

❖ **January Mortgage Tax - \$14,496.32**

**Public comments on agenda items: The following residents** addressed the board speaking in favor of the Victory Mill Project and for the town's passage of NYS RPTL Section 485a: **Village of Victory Trustee Pat Dewey and George Sullivan.**

**Committee reports:**

**Landfill:** No report.

**Insurance:** No report.

**Youth:** No report.

**Senior Citizens:** Councilman James Jennings reported for the Old Saratoga Seniors. They met on February 15<sup>th</sup> with 46 members attending. Councilman Michael McLoughlin spoke on S.A.F.E.R. (Schuylerville Area Food Emergency Relief).

The Old Saratoga Seniors met on March 7<sup>th</sup> with 48 members attending. The June birthday party was discussed.

**Parks/Schuylers Park Committee:** No report. Supervisor Thomas Wood noted that with the mild winter he has seen many residents using the playground at the park.

**Office of Emergency Management: Sherry Doubleday** reported that hands only CPR training was given to Town Clerk Ruth Drumm and Deputy Linda McCabe. She is hoping to train the court personnel and the town board next. She added that their insignia will be given to Carol Hammer of Sunflower Graphix to be used on a banner and t-shirts.

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

**GSES, QSFD, SLPID/SLA, SCFB Reports:  
GENERAL SCHUYLER EMERGENCY SQUAD:  
Town of Saratoga and Town of Northumberland:**

Total number of calls for February 2012	48
Town of Saratoga	19
Town of Northumberland	6
Village of Schuylerville	12
Village of Victory Mills	7
Mutual Aid calls	4

Chris Benn reported that they will be holding an open CPR class the second week in May and they will be hosting a blood drive. Their Valentine's rose sale was successful and they will have vendors selling items for Easter and a bake sale on March 24<sup>th</sup>. He added that they will be covering the Regattas scheduled in April and May along with summer concerts.

**Old business:**

**Victory Mill Project- Uri Kaufman, Riverview Realty,** is proposing an apartment building in the Victory Mill consisting of 98 units. There will be 18 one bedroom apartments, 62 two bedroom, and 18 three bedroom apartments. A pre-school is planned at the first floor for 3 and 4 year olds. He has asked for tax relief under NYS Real Property Tax Law Section 485a. This law freezes the property taxes at the pre-conversion level for eight years, with a gradual phasing out of the exemption after that so that by year thirteen it is taxed at its fair market valuation. There was much discussion by the board and residents. Clarification is needed. There are still questions as to whether the threshold amount in the RPTL Section 485a is just a qualifier of the project or is an amount up to that the assessment can be raised as the project is built. Town Attorney Bill Reynolds will pull the bill jacket from the NYS Library which spells out the purpose and intent of the law.

On a motion by Councilman James Jennings and seconded by Councilman Michael McLoughlin the following **Resolution# 12-41 To Draft a Law – NYS RPTL Section**

**485a** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - no, Councilman Fred Drumm – absent, Councilman Charles Hanehan – aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilman James Jennings – aye Carried 3 – 1.

**WHEREAS**, Uri Kaufman of River View Realty, has requested participation by the Town of Saratoga in the NYS Real Property Tax Law Section 485a; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the town board directs Attorney William Reynolds to draft a proposed Local Law on NYS Real Property Tax Law Section 485a on which a Public Hearing will be held.

**New business:**

On a motion by Councilman James Jennings and seconded by Councilman Michael McLoughlin the following **Resolution# 12-42 Accept Proposal for Carpeting – Tenant Suite 203** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – absent, Councilman Charles Hanehan – aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilman James Jennings – aye Carried 4 – 0.

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga has recognized the need for the replacement of old carpet in the tenant wing, Suite 203, reception area and 1 E suite; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga received proposals as follows (using prevailing wage rates):

- **Greenwich Floor Covering, 1169 State Rt. 29, Greenwich, NY 12834:**
  - ✓ **\$3,770 for broadloom in office and foyer**
  - ✓ **\$4,254 for broadloom in office and carpet tile in foyer**
  
- **Carpetland, 78 Church Street, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866:**
  - ✓ **\$2,797 for broadloom in office and foyer**
  - ✓ **\$3,405 for broadloom in office and carpet tile in foyer**

; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the lowest proposal from **Carpetland, 78 Church Street, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 for \$2,797 for broadloom in the office and foyer** be accepted pending review and approval by Town Attorney William Reynolds.

**Zoning Map** – Supervisor Thomas Wood explained that Clarence Fosdick has been working with Tracy Clothier, LA Group, on updating our Zoning District Map. There were changes and clarifications needed to the map according to changes made over the years. After review by the boards, a Zoning Law Amendment adopting the Zoning District Map will be drafted.

**Communications:**

- ❖ **Sixth Annual “Take a Shot for Breast Cancer” event on March 18<sup>th</sup>, Alcove Marina, 866 Route 4 South, Schuylerville, NY, 695-6079.**
- ❖ **The Saratoga County Department of Public Works sent letters of thanks to Timothy Lago and Mary Ratzner for their participation in the Saratoga County Adopt a Highway Program.**
- ❖ **The Village of Victory Board of Trustees sent a letter of thanks to Highway Superintendent Don Ormsby Jr., the town highway foreman and the crew for their recent mechanical assistance when the Village’s GMC main heavy duty vehicle used for plowing that needed rear brake repair. The Village of Victory Board of Trustees extended its thanks and**

**appreciation for the continued cooperation with the Town of Saratoga Town Board and its Highway Department.**

- ❖ **S.A.F.E.R. will be hosting a Spaghetti Dinner at the SCS Elementary School on March 15<sup>th</sup> from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

**Privilege of the floor:**

**Geraldine Freedman** addressed the board with questions on the NYS RPTL Section 485a.

**George Sullivan and Victory Trustee Pat Dewey** spoke in favor of the Victory Mill Project.

**Tim Raymond** expressed his concerns over the Revaluation Project and the process being used in reassessing. He has found many anomalies with many unfairly assessed. He encouraged the board to check for flaws.

**George Sullivan** addressed the board with questions regarding the Equalization rate and how it is established.

**Upcoming meetings:**

- ❖ **Agenda meeting – Thursday, April 5, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.**
- ❖ **Regular town board meeting – Monday, April 9, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Audit the Bills:** On a motion by Councilman Charles Hanehan and seconded by Councilman James Jennings the following **Resolution #12-43 Approving the payment of bills in Abstract 3G** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – absent, Councilman Charles Hanehan – aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilman James Jennings – aye Carried 4 – 0.

**RESOLVED**, by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga to authorize payment of the bills listed in Abstract 3G (03/12/2012) in the following amounts: General A \$15,029.97, General B \$7,644.06, and Highway Outside DB \$10,350.36 for a total of \$33,024.39.

**A motion to adjourn at 8:59 p.m.** was made by Councilman Charles Hanehan and seconded by Councilman James Jennings. Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – absent, Councilman Charles Hanehan – aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilman James Jennings – aye Carried 4 – 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth Drumm  
Town Clerk