

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

**November 6, 2014
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 - present, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – present, Councilman Charles Hanehan- absent, Councilman James Jennings – present

Also present: Deputy Town Clerk Linda McCabe, Zoning Officer Gil Albert, Town Attorney Bill Reynolds, Highway Superintendent Don Ormsby Jr., Sherry Doubleday, Ronalee Myers, Jim Miers, Pamela Barber, John Barber, Thomas R. Drew Sr., and Caitlin Johnston of the Greenwich Journal Salem Press

Recognitions/Presentations/ Bid openings/ Public Hearings:

Veterans' Recognitions: Supervisor Thomas Wood presented Robert Lang's daughters, Ronalee Myers and Pamela Barber, the following resolutions:

On a motion by Supervisor Thomas Wood and seconded by Councilman Fred Drumm the following **Resolution #14-105 William D. Lang** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – absent, Councilman James Jennings – aye.

Carried 4 – 0.

WHEREAS, William Donald Lang was the son born to Frank H. and Evelyn M. (Summer) Lang on October 7, 1931 in the Town of Greenwich, NY; and

WHEREAS, he was raised and educated in the Village of Schuylerville, Town of Saratoga; graduating from Schuylerville High School class of 1949; and

WHEREAS, he entered in the Navy on January 2nd, 1951, and attended several Hospital Corpsman Schools; and

WHEREAS, he was assigned to the United States Naval Hospital in Norman, Oklahoma for 22 months and then transferred to El Toro, California and assigned to the First Marine Air Wing in California and after four months deployed with the air wing to Korea where they provided close air support, resupply, and medivac for marine ground forces; and

WHEREAS, he was then assigned to the United States Naval Hospital in Yokosuka, Japan; and

WHEREAS, after serving 3 years, 10 months, and 22 days he was honorably discharged on November 23rd, 1954 from Treasure Island, California; and

WHEREAS, he received the National Defense Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, Korean Service Medal, and the United Nations Medal; and

WHEREAS, following his discharge from the Navy he worked at Miller's Pharmacy and Bullard Orchards in Schuylerville and then went to work for the General Electric Company in Fort Edward where he worked as a Plastic Film Operator for 33 years retiring in 1988; and

WHEREAS, he was married to Patricia A. York in Glens Falls, NY on April 12, 1957, moved to Queensbury, NY and with his wife raised his children Robert W. Lang, Diana Lang Smith, Timothy Lang, and Bryan Lang; and

WHEREAS, he was a devoted husband and father and his family was his life; and

WHEREAS, he was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting, fishing, backpacking, camping and farming especially making maple syrup; and

WHEREAS, he died on November 19, 2001 at the age of 70 years; and

WHEREAS, he was a loyal and dedicated servant to his family, community and country always giving and serving everyone in any capacity that he could; now therefore be it **RESOLVED**, that the Town of Saratoga extends our belated condolences to all of the members of the Lang Family; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga does hereby recognize and honor to the highest degree possible William Donald Lang for his patriotism, devotion, service and sacrifice for his country; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town of Saratoga will never let his name and the sacrifice that he made for his country be forgotten and that he will always be held in the highest esteem and remembered as one of the Town of Saratoga's best.

On a motion by Supervisor Thomas Wood and seconded by Councilman Fred Drumm the following **Resolution #14-106 Robert Morris Lang** was adopted by vote:

Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – absent, Councilman James Jennings – aye. Carried 4 – 0.

WHEREAS, Robert Morris Lang was the son born to Frank H. and Evelyn M. (Summer) Lang on January 18, 1922 in Glens Falls, NY; and

WHEREAS, he was raised and educated in the Village of Schuylerville, Town of Saratoga; graduating from Schuylerville High School class of 1941; and

WHEREAS, he entered in the Navy in Albany, NY on May 18, 1942, and attended Aircraft Radio School; and

WHEREAS, he was assigned to Naval Air Bases in Florida, Virginia, New York, Louisiana, and California; and

WHEREAS, after serving 5 years 10 months and 7 days he was honorably discharged on March 24th, 1948 from San Diego, California; and

WHEREAS, he received The World War II Victory Medal; and

WHEREAS, following his discharge from the Navy he was proprietor of Lang Hardware, and for periods of time worked at Prudential Insurance Company, Bullard Orchards, the Grand Union, General Electric Company, Schneible and Shepard Lumber Yard, Schuylerville Central School, and The Town of Saratoga; and

WHEREAS, he was active in the Schuylerville community serving as member, Post Commander, Deputy Commander, Adjutant to the County American Legion and Finance Officer of Schuylerville American Legion Post 278, President and Vice President of the Schuyler Hose Fire Department, Trustee of the Village of Schuylerville, member of the Schuylerville/Victory Water Board, member of Schuylerville Lions Club; and

WHEREAS, he served the Town of Saratoga as Tax Collector, Building Inspector, Zoning Officer, and Fire Marshall; was active in the Green Sabres Drum and Bugle Corps; was Vestry of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Schuylerville; was a member of the Prospect Hill Cemetery Board, and on the executive committee of the Saratoga Muzzle Loading Club; and

WHEREAS, he was married to Eleanor M. Phillips Burns on December 31, 1949 and with his wife raised his children Ronalee Lang Myers and Pamela Lang Barber, and was a loyal and dedicated servant to his family, community and country always giving and serving everyone in any capacity that he could; and

WHEREAS, he died at the age of 78 on July 25th, 2000; now therefore be it **RESOLVED**, that the Town of Saratoga extends our belated condolences to all of the members of the Lang Family; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga does hereby recognize and honor to the highest degree possible Robert Morris Lang for his patriotism, devotion, service and sacrifice for his country; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town of Saratoga will never let his name and the sacrifice that he made for his country be forgotten and that he will always be held in the highest esteem and remembered as a member of the greatest generation and one of the Town of Saratoga's best.

Bid Opening at agenda meeting October 30th for the 16 Ton Trailer - No bids received.

Public Hearing - 2015 Budget: Supervisor Thomas Wood reported that the board has been working on the budget since August. He explained that the budget is our best estimate of appropriations and receipts for the coming year. He then reviewed some basic information concerning the proposed 2015 budget. He noted that a cost of living salary increase for employees of 1.5% is included. Spending was cut from many departments and he is budgeting closer to actual costs. He noted that it is a lean and responsible budget. The total town budget increased \$37,059 or 1.5%. The budget reflects an increase of \$.0068 cents per thousand of assessed value which is a modest increase and doesn't exceed the property tax cap. It brings the tax rate to \$1.1269 per thousand for 2015 up from \$1.1201 in 2014.

Proof of advertising in the *Saratogian* on October 29, 2014 having been furnished, Supervisor Thomas Wood opened the Public Hearing at 7:25 p.m. on the 2015 budget.

Thomas R. Drew Sr. spoke and inquired if the assessments are going up. Supervisor Thomas Wood responded, no.

On a motion by Supervisor Thomas Wood and seconded by Councilman Michael McLoughlin the public hearing was closed at 7:27 p.m. Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm - aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin - aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan - absent, Councilman James Jennings - aye. Carried 4 - 0.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Councilman Michael McLoughlin and seconded by Councilman James Jennings to accept the minutes of the October 15th regular meeting as written. Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm - aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin - aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan - absent, Councilman James Jennings - aye. Carried 4 - 0.

Town Clerk's report for October 2014: Fees paid to the NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets for the Animal Population Control Program \$64.00. Fees paid to New York D.E.C. for hunting and fishing licenses \$836.20. Dog license fees to Supervisor Thomas Wood \$273.00. Clerk fees to Supervisor Thomas Wood \$186.80. Total State and Local Revenues received were \$1,382.50.

Zoning Officer's report for October 2014: 18 Building Permits, 15 Building Inspections, 11 Certificates of Occupancy, 0 Junk Yard Permits, 2 Complaints, 0 Fire inspections, 1 Order to Remedy, 12 misc. appointments, 1 Building Permit Renewal, and 0 Property Maintenance Inspections. A check for \$6,569.40 was given to Supervisor Thomas Wood.

Dog Control Officer's report for October 2014: The report was read by Supervisor Thomas Wood: answered 17 complaints, took 0 dogs to the shelter, 1 bite case, issued 10 warnings, 2 summonses were issued, and traveled 84 miles.

Town Court report for October 2014: The following were closed: 32 Vehicle & Traffic, 16 Criminal/Penal Law, 4 DEC/ENCON, 1 Dog case, 1 DWI, 0 Town & Village Ordinance, 0 Small Claims/Civil, 3 Evictions, 0 Bench trials, 2 (case transfers) Divestiture Forms sent to County Court, 0 Defendant sentenced to probation, 0 hours of community service issued, 4 Orders of Protection issued, and \$8,312.50 in fees were paid to the NY State Comptroller.

Historian's report: No report.

Assessor's report: Victoria Hayner submitted the following for November:

The Assessor's Office continues to update the file as sales are completed. During the last month we have had 12 sales of which 9 were for residential properties, 2 for vacant properties and 1 a commercial (apt) property, 9 of those sales were valid sales and 3 were non-valid transactions.

We are preparing for the Exemption renewal season. Renewal applications will be mailed in mid-December. Exemptions must be filed with our office by March 1, 2015. If you have questions regarding exemptions, please call our office.

The Assessor's Office will be open Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM until December when we will be open 3 days (Tuesday through Thursday). I am in the office on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM. As always, I am willing to set up appointments if necessary.

Highway Superintendent's report for October:

- ❖ Have been addressing potholes and roadside garbage
- ❖ Shoulder repairs
- ❖ Delineators repaired or replaced
- ❖ Beaver dam on Southard Rd
- ❖ Re-graded Swamp Rd with millings, milling machine and calcium on east end
- ❖ Finished north end of towpath trail
- ❖ Loaned small roller with operator to Northumberland for two days of road shimming
- ❖ Main trucks have had maintenance completed and plow frames installed.
- ❖ Have received our new used bucket truck

- ❖ Crew attended two training seminars, safety during snow and ice removal and drive to survive dealing with speed and different road conditions.
- ❖ The new boiler is in service and we will be putting out a bid for propane.

Supervisor's report: SUPERVISOR'S REPORT OCTOBER 2014

GENERAL FUND – TOWNWIDE (A FUND)

Balance on hand OCT 1	\$ 848,321.77
OCT Revenues	+ 14,020.85
OCT Disbursements	- <u>86,708.72</u>
Balance OCT 31	\$ 775,633.90

GENERAL FUND – OUTSIDE VILLAGE (B FUND)

Balance on hand OCT 1	\$ 987,038.40
OCT Revenues	+ 130,631.90
OCT Disbursements	- <u>18,341.10</u>
Balance OCT 31	\$ 1,099,329.20

HIGHWAY FUND – OUTSIDE VILLAGE (DB FUND)

Balance on hand OCT 1	\$ 965,799.49
OCT Revenues	+ 9,219.23
OCT Disbursements	- <u>118,872.38</u>
Balance OCT 31	\$ 856,146.34

SCHUYLER PARK CAPITAL PROJECT OCT 31	\$ 199,886.81
YOUTH RECREATION & SERVICE OCT 31	\$ 3,296.23
HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE OCT 31	\$ 12,906.24
BUILDING RESERVE OCT 31	\$ 39,545.68
SCENIC BY WAYS GRANT OCT 31	\$ 310.77
PARK RESERVE OCT 31	\$ 51,956.55

- ❖ **Sales Tax Received – October 2014 - \$121,861**
- ❖ **Mortgage Tax Received – September 2014 - \$12,361.50**

Public comments on agenda items: Thomas R. Drew Sr. addressed the board.

Committee reports:

Landfill: Supervisor Thomas Wood reported that samples have been taken and Engineer Ken Martin is reviewing the results.

Insurance: MVP Gold- Phil Klein is meeting with retirees 65+ on November 13th at 9:30 a.m.

Youth: Councilman Michael McLoughlin reported that the Eagle Scout's Project is to renovate the basement of the Quaker Springs Methodist Church's Sunday School building. A Spaghetti Dinner is being held on Saturday, November 15th at the Schuylerville United Methodist Church from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. where free will donations will be accepted towards the project.

Senior Citizens: Councilman James Jennings reported that the **Old Saratoga Senior's** met on October 15th with 43 members attending. A tea cup auction was held. They met again on November 5th with 45 members attending the business meeting and pot luck luncheon. A trip to the Log Cabin, Holyoke, MA is planned for November 13th. The Christmas Party will be at the Saratoga National Golf Club on December 10th.

Park Committee: No report.

Office of Emergency Management: Sherry Doubleday reported that members of the OEM, Maggie Chipperno, Jean Driscoll, and herself spent Friday, October 31st sitting at the Glens Falls National Bank. Many people stopped by for information pamphlets, pens, and 2015 calendars. We received \$76 in donations for the calendars. The calendars will be available in the town office where donations will be accepted or call 378-2886 for calendars.

The OEM has been discussing a table top exercise regarding a dam breachment at the south end of the Village of Schuylerville. After talking with John Vallee and Ian Borling, there may not be a need because of no real emergency if a breachment does happen. They stated that with all their calculations, inundation maps and information if that were to happen the worst case scenario would be a two foot increase of water on the sewer plant building. I have not yet received the information they are sending, when it is received everyone will be informed.

GSES, QSFD Reports:

General Schuyler Emergency Squad: Supervisor Thomas Wood read the report supplied by Joann Hanna. The total number of calls in October was 53 as follows: 16 in the Town of Saratoga, 5 in the Town of Northumberland, 20 in the Village of Schuylerville, 2 in Victory Mills, 1 standbys for Wilton, 3 Mutual Aids for Wilton, 3 Mutual Aids for Easton/Greenwich and 3 Mutual Aids for the City of Saratoga Springs.

In October the Agency ran a successful Flu Shot Clinic with 20 shots administered. The clinic was sponsored by Rite Aid Pharmacy. We also participated in two Regattas on Saratoga Lake, numerous football games and the Fire Prevention Day at the Elementary School.

Quaker Springs Fire Department: Don Ormsby Jr. reported that they had 84 calls year-to-date.

Old business: None.

New business:

On a motion by Councilman Fred Drumm and seconded by Councilman Michael McLoughlin the following **Resolution #14-107 - Adoption of the 2015 Annual Town Budget** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – absent, Councilman James Jennings – aye. Carried 4 – 0.

WHEREAS, this Board having, on November 6, 2014 at 7:00 p.m., duly held a public hearing on the preliminary budget approved by this Board and filed with the Town Clerk for the fiscal year commencing January 1, 2015, and having heard all persons desiring to be heard in the matter, and the matter of the budget for this Town for such fiscal year having been fully discussed and considered, it is

RESOLVED, that said preliminary budget approved and filed as aforesaid, is hereby adopted and established as the annual budget for this Town for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2015, and that such annual budget as so adopted is detailed in the minutes of the proceedings of this Town Board, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk of this Town shall prepare and certify as provided by law, duplicate copies of said annual budget hereby adopted, and deliver one of such copies to the Supervisor of the Town, and that he shall present such copy to the Board of Legislators of the County as required by law.

The 2015 annual budget, in its entirety, is in the official minute book at the town clerk's office and on the website, townofsaratoga.com.

On a motion by Councilman James Jennings and seconded by Councilman Michael McLoughlin the following **Resolution #14-108 - Authorization for a Tax Bill Insert** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – absent, Councilman James Jennings – aye. Carried 4 – 0.

WHEREAS, the Town has received a request on behalf of the emergency service organizations in the Town to place an insert in the 2015 property tax billings encouraging new volunteers; and

WHEREAS, the Town wishes to support these organizations for the services they provide Town residents; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Tax Collector is authorized to insert an informational flyer in the 2015 tax bill mailings on behalf of the emergency service organizations in the Town. The form and content of such insert shall be approved by the Town Supervisor.

Communications:

- ❖ **Association of Towns' 2015 Training School and Annual Meeting, February 15 - 18, 2015- register by January 26, 2015**
- ❖ **Saratoga County Veterans Service Agency Trust Fund 5K Race – Saturday, November 8th, 2014 at Fort Hardy Park at 10:00 a.m. Register online at www.finishright.com.**

Privilege of the floor: Thomas R. Drew Sr. addressed the board.

Upcoming meetings:

- ❖ **Agenda meeting – Thursday, December 4, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.**
- ❖ **Regular town board meeting – Monday, December 8, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.**
- ❖ **Special Meeting – End of Year Audit of Bills – Tuesday, December 30, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.**

Audit the Bills: On a motion by Councilman Michael McLoughlin and seconded by Councilman James Jennings the following **Resolution #14-109 Approving the payment of bills in Abstract 11G** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Charles Hanehan – absent, 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 11G (11/6/2014) in the following amounts:

General Fund A	Voucher No. 351 through 380	\$ 17,413.02
General Fund B	Voucher No. 55 through 60	\$ 3,295.99
Highway DB	Voucher No. 186 through 199	\$ 15,753.31
Schuyler Park H	Voucher No. 25 through 28	\$ 21,280.51
HTFC MH	Voucher No. 32 through 34	\$ 25,953.00
	Grand Total	\$ 83,695.83

A motion to adjourn at 8:26 p.m. was made by Councilman Fred Drumm and seconded by Councilman James Jennings. Supervisor Thomas Wood – aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan - absent, Councilman James Jennings – aye Carried 4 – 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth L. Drumm
Town Clerk