

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

**September 9, 2013
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 Charles Hanehan- present, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – absent (arrived at 7:18 p.m.), 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, Dan McCabe, Chris Benn, and Thomas R. Drew Sr.

Recognitions/Presentations/ Bid openings/ Public Hearings: None

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Councilman Fred Drumm and seconded by Councilman Charles Hanehan to accept the minutes of the August 12th regular meeting as written. Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – absent (arrived at 7:18 p.m.), Councilman James Jennings – aye. Carried 4 – 0.

Town Clerk's report for August 2013: Fees paid to the NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets for the Animal Population Control Program \$62.00. Fees paid to New York D.E.C. for hunting and fishing licenses \$1,487.33. Marriage license fees to the New York State Health Department \$0.00. Dog license fees to Supervisor Thomas Wood \$280.00. Clerk fees to Supervisor Thomas Wood \$127.92. Total State, County, and Local Revenues received were \$1,957.25. Hunting Licenses are on sale and Deer Management Permits must be applied for by close of business October 1st.

Zoning Officer's report for August 2013: 9 Building Permits, 13 Building Inspections, 9 Certificates of Occupancy, 1 Junk Yard Permit, 0 Complaints, 0 Fire inspections, 0 Orders to Remedy, 1 misc. appointments, 1 Building Permit Renewal, and 0 Property Maintenance Inspections. A check for \$1,430.00 was given to Supervisor Thomas Wood.

Dog Control Officer's report for August 2013: The report was read by Supervisor Thomas Wood: answered 18 complaints, took 0 dogs to the shelter, 3 bite cases, issued 9 warnings, 0 summons were issued and traveled 39 miles.

Town Court report for August 2013: The following were closed: 60 Vehicle & Traffic, 11 Criminal/Penal Law, 11 DEC/ENCON, 0 Dog cases, 3 DWIs, 0 Town & Village Ordinances, 1 Small Claim/Civil, 0 Evictions, 0 Bench trials, 1 (case transfer)

Divestiture Forms sent to County Court, 1 Defendant sentenced to probation, 10 hours of community service issued, 0 days of jail time issued, 3 Orders of Protection issued, and \$9,580.00 in fees were paid to the NY State Comptroller.

Historian's report: No report.

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

During the month of August our office processed 9 sales transfers. There were 5 valid transfers and 4 non-valid sales. They represented 8 residential properties and 1 vacant land properties.

Property owners currently receiving BASIC STAR will need to reverify their residency with NYS Dept of Taxation and Finance. Letters are being mailed to all property owners currently receiving that exemption explaining how they can reapply in order to receive the exemption in 2014. If anyone has questions or needs assistance in reapplying, I am available on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings and can be reached by telephone at 695-3644, ext. 312 or by email at assessortos@albany.twcba.com.

The Assessor's office is also looking into upgrading its computer system to Windows 7 as Microsoft and NYS will no longer supporting Windows XP after April 2014.

Highway Superintendent's report: Highway Superintendent Don Ormsby Jr. reported the following projects:

- Road side mowing is ongoing.
- Have been replacing and repairing signs.
- Had one man with the boom mower cutting brush back on the Towpath Road for the Hudson Crossing's future bike path.
- Paved Casey Road from Russell Road to County Road 69.
- Addressed shoulders on the south end of Hanehan Road.
- Replaced culverts on Evans Street, Hill Street, and Russell and Hanehan Road.
- Have been shimming Evans Street prepping for blacktop in Smithville. Tentative date for paving is September 16th.
- Replaced the torn flag at the garage.

Highway Superintendent Don Ormsby Jr. reported that one heating unit at the garage is not working and repairs with new parts could be made for \$5,000 or less. Sean Dooley has provided an estimate for two new units, with a switch to propane for efficiency and fuel cost savings. It was decided that it would need to be put out for bid. Supervisor Thomas Wood suggested Ken Martin, Engineer for the Town, would help with the specifications. Councilman Charles Hanehan asked where the money would come from and Supervisor Thomas Wood stated a fund transfer would be needed.

Supervisor's report: SUPERVISOR'S REPORT AUGUST 2013

GENERAL FUND – TOWNWIDE (A FUND)	
Balance on hand AUG 1	\$ 1,085,042.58
AUG Revenues	+ 21,441.79
AUG Disbursements	- 289,033.12
Balance AUG 31	\$ 817,451.25

GENERAL FUND – OUTSIDE VILLAGE (B FUND)

Balance on hand AUG 1	\$ 709,688.84
AUG Revenues	+ 18,450.74
AUG Disbursements	- <u>3,428.12</u>
Balance AUG 31	\$ 724,711.46

HIGHWAY FUND – OUTSIDE VILLAGE (DB FUND)

Balance on hand AUG 1	\$ 1,079,618.08
AUG Revenues	+ 86,841.35
AUG Disbursements	- <u>41,783.69</u>
Balance AUG 31	\$ 1,124,675.74

SCHUYLER PARK CAPITAL PROJECT AUG 31 \$ 148,883.02

YOUTH RECREATION & SERVICE AUG 31 \$ 1,390.84

HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE AUG 31 \$ 12,883.69

BUILDING RESERVE AUG 31 \$ 40,677.90

SCENIC BY WAYS GRANT AUG 31 \$ 310.53

PARK RESERVE AUG 31 \$ 51,956.55

CDBG2 FUND AUG 31 \$ 0.00

- ❖ **Sales Tax Received – August 2013 - \$102,873**
- ❖ **Mortgage Tax – July 2013 - \$13,303.50**

Public comments on agenda items: No one spoke.

Committee reports:

Landfill: No report.

Insurance: No report.

Youth: No report.

Senior Citizens: Councilman James Jennings reported that the Old Saratoga Seniors met September 4th for a picnic at the Fish Creek Rod & Gun Club with approximately 70 attending. They will resume meetings on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday's at the town hall.

Park Committee: No report.

Office of Emergency Management:

Sherry Doubleday reported that they will be at the Glens Falls National Bank from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday, September 27th. They will have a display of weather related emergencies, their new banner, order blanks for bricks and pens to hand out.

Sherry Doubleday stated that letters were sent out to area clubs and organizations asking for help recruiting additional committee members.

Sherry Doubleday added that she attended Stillwater's Emergency Preparedness' July meeting. They are very far ahead of most towns. She obtained a copy of their town plan for review.

GSES, QSFD, SLPID/SLA Reports:

General Schuyler Emergency Squad: Chris Benn reported that they had 52 calls in August; 24 in the Town of Saratoga; 4 in the Town of Northumberland; 17 in the Village of Schuylerville; 4 in the Village of Victory; and 2 Mutual Aid calls with Wilton and 1 with Stillwater.

Quaker Springs Fire Department: Chief Don Ormsby Jr. reported they have had 58 calls year-to-date.

Old business:

Supervisor Thomas Wood reported that notification was received from the NYS Office of Community Renewal (OCR) that the Town of Saratoga's 2010 NYS Community Development Block Grant (NYS CDBG) has been successfully completed.

Old town highway garage and old town hall update:

Supervisor Thomas Wood reported that Ken Martin has heard from the low bidder, D&S Excavating, and the proof of Worker's Compensation Insurance will be provided. After the proof of insurance is received, a predemolition meeting will be set. It is hoped that the town hall will be demolished in the last week of September and the highway garage the first week in October.

New business:

Supervisor Thomas Wood reported that the Food Pantry has requested improvements. Julie McBath, President of SAFER (Schuylerville Area Food Emergency Relief), has asked that the overhead door be insulated and an inside wall be constructed; that the floor needs to be sealed and painted as recommended when the Regional Food Bank inspected the pantry; and that the ceiling be lowered. Lowering the ceiling would help with the heating and cooling of the space. Councilman Michael McLoughlin gave a rough estimate that materials would be about \$500 for the first two items and \$500 for the dropped ceiling. After board discussion, it was decided to go forward with the first two. Julie McBath will take it to SAFER's board for the money needed for materials that could be raised through donations and fundraising. The labor will be provided by the town's maintenance man, Tim Blanchard. It is hoped that it can be done over the Columbus Day weekend in October.

The New York Tax Department has launched the Basic STAR Exemption Registration Program letters with instructions will be mailed to all.

On a motion by Councilman Charles Hanahan and seconded by Councilman Michael McLoughlin the following **Resolution #13-96- Authorization to Apply for a Grant for the Clearing of the Old Champlain Canal Trail from Germaine's to Garnsey's** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye,

Councilman Charles Hanehan – aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilman James Jennings – aye. Carried 5 – 0.

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga recognizes the need to seek grants and assistance to help with needed projects; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the application, at no cost to the town, for a grant for a Federal Lands Access Program Proposal for the clearing of the soon to be acquired Old Champlain Canal Trail from Germain's to Garnsey's.

On a motion by Councilman Fred Drumm and seconded by Councilman Michael McLoughlin the following **Resolution #13-97 – Fund Transfer - \$727.42 from Playgrounds & Rec Center B7140.4 to Y5031.9 Youth Fund - 2013 Swim Program** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilman James Jennings – aye. Carried 5 – 0.

RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga to transfer \$727.42 from Playgrounds & Recreational Centers B7140.4 to Youth Recreation and Services Fund Y5031.9 for the 2013 Youth Swim Program.

Supervisor Thomas Wood reported that Joan Gerhardt, GE Hudson River Dredging Project, communicated that the dredging is ahead of schedule. She identified 5 sections in the Town of Saratoga to be dredged next. They are south of the Route 29 bridge in Schuylerville and go as far down as Coveville. GE will be conducting a door-to-door program to all shoreline residents along the stretch of river where dredging will occur to inform them about the schedule and anticipated activities.

Communications:

- ❖ **Saratoga County Public Health Nursing Service** will be holding a Flu Clinic on Monday, October 7th from 9:00 am to 10:00 am at Town Hall, 12 Spring Street, Schuylerville. Appointments are necessary. Please call 695-3644 ext. 311 for an appointment.
- ❖ **The Saratoga County Agricultural Promotion Committee** thanks the Town of Saratoga for their part in the 18th annual *Sundae on the Farm* held at the McMahan of Saratoga Thoroughbreds in the Town of Saratoga.
- ❖ **Letter on behalf of the 3,500 members of The American Legion Saratoga County Committee** expressing support of the County's Honor A Deceased Veteran Program.

Privilege of the floor: No one spoke.

Upcoming meetings:

- ❖ **Budget Workshop – Tuesday, September 24th at 6:00 p.m.**
- ❖ **Agenda meeting – Thursday, October 10, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.**
- ❖ **Regular town board meeting – Wednesday, October 16, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. (Due to the Columbus Day Holiday on Monday)**

Audit the Bills: On a motion by Councilman Fred Drumm and seconded by Councilman James Jennings the following **Resolution #13-98 Approving the payment of bills in Abstract 9G** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilman James Jennings – aye Carried 5 – 0.

RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga to authorize payment of the bills listed in Abstract 9G (09/9/2013) in the following amounts:

General Fund A	Voucher No. 319 through	\$ 69,369.37
General Fund B	Voucher No. 39 through	\$ 576.92
Highway DB	Voucher No. 179 through	\$ 50,918.00
Schuyler Park H	Voucher No. 15 through	\$ 1,723.60
HRA CDPHP	Voucher No. 1	\$ 1.00
Youth	Voucher No.	\$ <u>1,666.00</u>
	Grand Total	\$ 124,254.89

A motion to adjourn at 8:23 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 - aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilman James Jennings – aye Carried 5 – 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth Drumm
Town Clerk