

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

**August 10, 2009
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- absent, Councilwoman Betty Koval - present, and Councilman Michael McLoughlin – present

Also present: Deputy Town Clerk Linda McCabe, Town Attorney William Reynolds, Zoning Officer Gil Albert, Highway Superintendent Dave Hall, Historian Sean Kelleher, and other interested persons.

Recognitions/Presentations/ Bid openings/ Public Hearings: None

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Councilwoman Betty Koval and seconded by Councilman Michael McLoughlin to accept the minutes of the July 13th regular meeting as written.

Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – absent, Councilwoman Betty Koval – aye, and Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye. Carried 4 – 0.

Town Clerk's report for July 2009: Fees paid to the County Treasurer for Dog Licenses \$92.82. Fees paid to the NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets for the spay/neuter program \$24.00. Fees paid to New York D.E.C. for hunting and fishing licenses \$240.61. Fees paid to the New York State Health Department for Marriage licenses \$112.50. Dog license fees to Supervisor Thomas Wood \$262.18. Clerk fees to Supervisor Thomas Wood \$289.89. Total State, County, and Local Revenues received were \$1,022.00.

Zoning Officer's July 2009 report: Gil Albert reported: 7 Building Permits, 14 Building Inspections, 5 Certificates of Occupancy, 0 Fire inspections, 0 Orders to Remedy, 0 Junk Yard Permits, 2 Complaints, 4 misc., 1 Property Maintenance Inspection, and 3 Building Permit Renewals. A check for \$2,963.75 was given to Supervisor Thomas Wood.

Dog Control officer's report for July 2009: Ed Cross' report was read by Supervisor Thomas Wood: answered 32 complaints, took 3 dogs to the shelter, 3 bite cases, issued 18 warnings, 1 summons and traveled 260 miles.

Town Court report for July 2009: Supervisor Thomas Wood read the report and the following were closed: 102 Vehicle & Traffic, 12 Criminal/Penal Law, 4 DEC/ENCON, 2 Dog cases, 1 DWI, 0 Town & Village Ordinance, 2 Small Claim/Civil, 2 Evictions, 0 Bench trials, 0 (case transfer) Divestiture Forms sent to County Court, 6 attended the Science of Speed School, 0 Defendants sentenced to probation, 5 hours of community service issued, 30 days of jail time issued, 4 Orders of Protection issued, and \$6,227.50 in fees were paid to the NY State Comptroller.

Town Historian: Sean Kelleher submitted the following report:

We just finished up Historical Week and a display at the County Fair. This year, I have tried to do more with publicity because one of the roles of the Historian according to the State is tourism promotion. Publicity for events has become more difficult in recent years due to the changes in our society in regards to where we gather information. This year, we set up information on Facebook, the County Quad Blog, the County Chamber Web site, the web sites for the various municipalities and the Schuylerville Area Chamber of Commerce. In addition we did posters and press releases to the newspaper. This new media is supposed to be an improvement however it becomes more difficult to get information out.

**Monthly Report of the Town of Saratoga Hudson-Fulton-Champlain
Quadricentennial Celebration Committee**

There were 12 activities during the 9 days of Historical Week with the Town and Villages Quadricentennial Celebration. In addition, the Town participated with the Supervisors' display at the County Fair.

Assessor's report: Supervisor Thomas Wood reported that he received notification from the State of New York Office of Real Property Services that the final 2009 State Equalization Rate will be 64%, down from 65% last year.

Highway Superintendent's report:

Highway Superintendent Dave Hall reported that the new truck has been ordered. He stated that the paving of Mezera Road is scheduled for August 17th. The shoulders will be done on the roads when the machine is available. Ditching and replacing of culverts is ongoing. The cleaning out of the storm water and retention ponds on Trask Lane has been completed and it is ready to be closed out. Today is officially Leon Derby's last day and a new employee will be hired soon.

Supervisor's report:

Financial Report: SUPERVISOR'S REPORT JULY 2009

GENERAL FUND – TOWNWIDE (A FUND)

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Balance on hand JULY 1 | \$ 1,261,119.30 |
| JULY Revenues | + 5,715.76 |
| JULY Disbursements | - 44,263.81 |
| Balance JULY 31 | \$ 1,222,571.25 |

GENERAL FUND – OUTSIDE VILLAGE (B FUND)

| | |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Balance on hand JULY 1 | \$ 265,003.97 |
| JULY Revenues | + 1,514.42 |
| JULY Disbursements | - 3,734.78 |
| Balance JULY 31 | \$ 262,783.61 |

HIGHWAY FUND – OUTSIDE VILLAGE (DB FUND)

| | |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Balance on hand JULY 1 | \$ 756,691.61 |
| JULY Revenues | +101,808.76 |
| JULY Disbursements | -112,173.34 |
| Balance JULY 31 | \$ 746,327.03 |

YOUTH RECREATION & SERVICE JULY 31 \$ 5,631.17

HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE JULY 31 \$ 909.13

BUILDING RESERVE JULY 31 \$ 148,884.82

SCENIC BY WAYS GRANT JULY 31 \$ 308.51

- ❖ Sales Tax Received – July 2009 - \$101,499.00
- ❖ Mortgage Tax Credit for June - \$7,593
- ❖ Tenant Update – Supervisor Thomas Wood reported that he has received the rent for the Saratoga Lab space from June 15th to August 15th in the amount of \$4,766. The bankruptcy trustee, John Aquino, stated that they will continue to pay rent until we are able to take control of the space.
- ❖ Supervisor Thomas Wood added that we have been paid \$16,612.46 by the NYS Office of Emergency Management for ice storm cost reimbursements.
- ❖ The \$115,000 August bond payment will be wired tomorrow. This completes year one payments with only 19 more years to go.
- ❖ Last Friday Joe Finan, Superintendent of the National Park Service, and Assemblyman Steven Englebright inspected the old town hall building, their commitment to purchase the property remains solid and a sale is imminent.

Public comments on agenda items: The following residents addressed the board on agenda items: Roger Sherman, John Deyoe, and Clarence Fosdick.

Committee reports:

Landfill: Supervisor Thomas Wood stated that the NYS DEC has agreed that testing 2x a year will be adequate for the dump site resulting in a real savings.

Insurance: SEFCU and Adirondack Trust Ins. both gave presentations of their proposals for Liability coverage for the town at the agenda meeting. The RFP's were opened with SEFCU proposing \$36,291.74 and Adirondack Trust Ins. proposing \$32,529.68.

Youth: Supervisor Thomas Wood reported that the Swimming Program raps up this week with 130 participating in the two summer sessions. Councilman Michael McLoughlin added that the Hudson Crossing's Cardboard Boat Race last weekend at Lock 5 was a success and a great time for all.

Senior Citizens: Councilwoman Betty Koval reported that the **Quaker Springs Seniors** will meet again in September. A trip is planned for October 7th to Herkimer where they will visit a gift shop, take a boat ride, and visit a cheese factory.

The **Schuylerville Senior Citizens'** will meet at the town hall on August 25th and regular meetings will resume in the fall.

Schuyler Park Committee: Laurie Griffen, Co-Chair, submitted the following:

The Schuyler Park Committee did not have a July monthly meeting due to everyone's busy schedules and lack of a quorum.

The storm water retention pond area is complete. Thanks to Bill Morris and Bob Swartwout of Morris Excavating for the site work and Ian Murray and Brookside Nursery for seeding and mulching the site.

The entrance road way has been established. Thank you to Dave Hall and his crew for their assistance with the stone.

Morris Excavating will be back on site this month to complete the final grade work.

We are working on finalizing irrigation specifications so that work can be completed this fall.

National Incident Management System (NIMS): Jim Miers reported that he has spoken with a representative of Saratoga Bridges and she will be sending over a draft of a presentation that they would like to make to first responders on how to handle people with disabilities with an emphasis on Autism. He added that they are planning a full curriculum of First Aid and Red Cross courses for the fall and winter.

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

GSES, QSFD, SLPID/SLA, SCFB Reports:

Quaker Springs Fire Department: Stephen Bodnar reported that the fire department responded to 6 calls in July. They had a large water rescue drill with neighboring fire companies on Saratoga Lake on July 18th. The fire police squad worked at the parade for the Hudson Mohawk Convention in Mechanicville. They participated in the Turning Point Parade. They have two new Class A firefighters and other members are attending ongoing schools. The Commissioners have begun work on the 2010 budget. The substation is progressing and the roof is on. The next Commissioner's meeting is September 20th at 8:00 p.m.

General Schuyler Emergency Squad: Lois White read the following report as follows:

- ❖ Answered 17 calls in the town for the month of July.
- ❖ Accepted 3 new volunteers.

- ❖ We will be holding a PYX 106 Comedy Show Fundraiser on August 15th at 7:00 p.m. at the Rod and Gun Club in Victory Mills. There will be music before the show by Tony Weils from 4 – 6 p.m.
- ❖ We participated in the Turning Point Festivities and Parade this past weekend.
- ❖ We are planning our annual coin drop for August 15th as well this year.

Saratoga Lake Protection and Improvement District: **Doug Niles** reported that at the Saratoga Lake Association's meeting in July, past President Wilma Kost was recognized. He noted that the variations in the level of the Lake have been incredible this year. A study is being conducted at 5 sites monitoring the level and flow with the results going to the Power Authority that runs the dam at his property. He invited the board to come to see the dam and the changes there. He noted that it takes the lake 3 to 4 days to adjust to a change made at the dam.

Old business:

Supervisor Thomas Wood reported that a **Building Use Policy** is needed. Supervisor Thomas Wood, Councilwoman Betty Koval and Town Clerk Ruth Drumm will work on drafting a policy.

New business:

On a motion by Councilman Fred Drumm and seconded by Councilman Michael McLoughlin the following **Resolution #09-73 Accept Contract Proposal for Liability Insurance – Adirondack Trust Ins.** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – absent, Councilwoman Betty Koval – aye, and Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye. Carried 4 – 0.

WHEREAS, the Liability Insurance for the Town of Saratoga is up for renewal and a Request for Proposals for insurance coverage has been advertised;

RESOLVED, that the contract proposal from Adirondack Trust Insurance be accepted in the amount of \$32,529.68 for the term of one year, 8/13/2009 – 8/13/2010.

On a motion by Councilman Fred Drumm and seconded by Councilman Michael McLoughlin the following **Resolution #09-74 – Purchase of Development Rights– Lewandowski** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – absent, Councilwoman Betty Koval – aye, and Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye. Carried 4 – 0.

WHEREAS, Joe Lewandowski landowner in the Town of Saratoga, intends to participate in the Saratoga County Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program seeking to permanently preserve 68+/- acres of active farmland on DeGarmo 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 Lewandowski 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 Lewandowski 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 Michael McLoughlin and seconded by Councilman Fred Drumm the following **Resolution #09-75 – Amending Abstract #7G (Resolution #09-72)** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanahan – absent, Councilwoman Betty Koval – aye, and Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye. Carried 4 – 0.

RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga to amend the July Abstract 7G as follows to reflect 50% completion payments not 100%:

Voucher #09-005CD from \$3,520 to \$2,150; Voucher #09-006CD from \$3520 to \$2,150; Voucher #09-007CD from \$19,620 to \$9,810; Voucher #09-008CD from \$13,900 to \$6,950. Total HUD from \$43,560 to \$24,060.

On a motion by Councilman Fred Drumm and seconded by Councilwoman Betty Koval the following **Resolution #09-76 – Transfer of Funds** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanahan – absent, Councilwoman Betty Koval – aye, and Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye. Carried 4 – 0.

RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga to transfer \$201.03 from Contingency Account A1990.4 to Joint Youth Account A7145.4 and to transfer \$1,301.03 from Joint Youth A7145.4 to Joint Youth Program Fund increasing Y7320.4 by \$653.03 and Y7320.1 by \$648.00.

Supervisor Thomas Wood announced that the Hazardous Waste Collection Day will be on October 17th. Registration forms are available at the Town Clerk's office.

Supervisor Thomas Wood stated that the first Budget Workshop will be held on August 26th at 7:00 p.m.

Communications:

- ❖ **Saratoga County Office for the Aging – Elderly Nutrition Program - Farmer's Market Coupons for persons age 60 and over who are income eligible and residents of Saratoga County will be available at the Town of Saratoga's meal site on August 17th from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Call 884-4100 with questions.**

- ❖ **No Cost Cancer Screenings for Uninsured Men and Women -The Bellevue Mobile Van at Schuylerville Family Health – Saturday, September 12th from 10 am – 2 pm. Call 695-3668 for an appointment.**
- ❖ **Azi Stark sent a Thank you card to the town board for the Scholarship he received.**

Privilege of the floor: The following residents addressed the board: John Deyoe, Jim Miers, Roger Sherman, Doug Niles and Gil Albert.

Upcoming meetings:

- ❖ **Budget Workshop – Wednesday, August 26, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.**
- ❖ **Agenda meeting – Thursday, September 10, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.**
- ❖ **Regular town board meeting – September 14, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.**

Audit the Bills: On a motion by Councilman Fred Drumm and seconded by Councilwoman Betty Koval the following **Resolution #09- 75 Approving the payment of bills in Abstract 8G** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – absent, Councilwoman Betty Koval – aye, and Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye. Carried 4 – 0.

RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga to authorize payment of the bills listed in Abstract 8G (08/10/2009) in the following amounts: General A \$14,589.53, General B \$4,982.08, Youth \$2,461.64, Schuyler Park \$11,916.90, and Highway Outside DB \$41,880.76 for a total of \$75,830.91.

A motion to adjourn at 8:32 p.m. was made by Councilman Fred Drumm and seconded by Councilwoman Betty Koval. Supervisor Thomas Wood – aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan - absent, Councilwoman Betty Koval – aye, and Councilman Michael McLoughlin - aye. Carried 4 – 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth Drumm
Town Clerk