

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

**December 14, 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- present, Councilwoman Betty Koval - present, and Councilman Michael McLoughlin – absent Also present: Deputy Town Clerk Linda McCabe, Town Attorney William Reynolds, Highway Superintendent Dave Hall, Town Historian Sean Kelleher, Tax Collector Jim Gorham, and many other interested members of the public.

**Recognitions/Presentations/ Bid openings/ Public Hearings:**

**Supervisor Thomas Wood presented Councilwoman Betty Koval with Resolution #09-101 – 232<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the First American Thanksgiving**

On a motion by Supervisor Thomas Wood and seconded by Councilman Fred Drumm the following **Resolution #09-101 – 232<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the First American Thanksgiving is Dedicated to Betty Koval and adopted by vote:** Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – aye, Councilwoman Betty Koval – abstained, and Councilman Michael McLoughlin – absent. Carried 3– 0.

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Saratoga wishes to honor Betty Koval for her efforts in the community: and

**WHEREAS**, Betty Koval has been a long time resident of the Town of Saratoga; and  
**WHEREAS**, Betty Koval has given generously of her time and talents to public service for over thirty years; and

**WHEREAS**, Betty Koval grew up in Porter Corners and graduated from Saratoga Springs High School, Ellis Hospital and Syracuse University; and

**WHEREAS**, Betty Koval worked as a public Health Nursing Supervisor for Saratoga County; and

**WHEREAS**, Betty Koval taught practical nursing at Saratoga BOCES for five years; and

**WHEREAS**, Betty Koval served on the Saratoga County Farm Bureau Board of Directors for many years holding every office within the county organization; and

**WHEREAS**, Betty Koval served as a 4H club leader; and

**WHEREAS**, Betty Koval has served as a Town Councilperson for four years on the town of Saratoga Town Board; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Saratoga wishes to remember that the First National Day of Thanksgiving was declared by the Continental Congress on December 18, 1777 to commemorate the American Victory at Saratoga; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga express our sincere thanks and appreciation to Betty Koval for her loyal and devoted dedication as a public officer; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that we extend our best wishes to Betty Koval for a long, healthy, and happy future; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the day of December 18, 2009, the 232<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the First American Thanksgiving, is hereby dedicated to Betty Koval in grateful recognition by the Town Board of The Town of Saratoga on behalf of all the residents of the town; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that these expressions of gratitude be made a permanent record of the minutes of this meeting.

In witness whereof, we have here unto set our hands and affixed the seal of the Town of Saratoga.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Councilman Charles Hanehan and seconded by Councilwoman Betty Koval to accept the minutes of the November 5<sup>th</sup> regular meeting as written. Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm - aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan - aye, Councilwoman Betty Koval - aye, and Councilman Michael McLoughlin - absent. Carried 4- 0.

**Town Clerk's report for November 2009:** Ruth Drumm reported: Fees paid to the County Treasurer for Dog Licenses \$31.72. Fees paid to the NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets for the spay/neuter program \$6.00. Fees paid to New York D.E.C. for hunting and fishing licenses \$406.29. Fees paid to the New York State Health Department for Marriage licenses \$0.00. Dog license fees to Supervisor Thomas Wood \$93.28. Clerk fees to Supervisor Thomas Wood \$114.96. Total State, County, and Local Revenues received were \$652.25.

**Zoning Officer's report for November 2009:** Supervisor Thomas Wood read Zoning Officer Gil Albert's report: 5 Building Permits, 0 Building Permit Renewals, 15 Building Inspections, 3 COs, 0 Junk Yard Permits, 3 Complaints, and 2 misc. A check for \$861.50 was given to Supervisor Thomas Wood.

**Dog Control Officer's report for November 2009:** Supervisor Thomas Wood read the report for DCO Ed Cross. He answered 15 complaints, traveled 52 miles, issued 7 warnings, took 0 dogs to the shelter, and 5 summonses were issued.

**Town Court report for November 2009:** The following were closed: 85 Vehicle & Traffic, 15 Criminal/Penal Law, 4 DEC/ENCON, 3 Dog cases, 3 DWIs, 0 Town & Village Ordinance, 0 Small Claims/Civil, 1 Eviction, 0 Bench trials, 0 attended the Science of Speed School, 0 Defendants sentenced to probation, 0 hours of community service issued, 0 days of jail time issued, 3 Divestiture Forms (case transfers) sent to County Court, 3 Orders of Protection issued, and \$8,661.50 in fees were paid to the NY State Comptroller.

**Tax Collector's report: Tax Collector Jim Gorham** reported that he expects the bills in this week and will mail them out shortly. He stated that he has attended County meetings and a BAS software meeting. He added that bills and payments could be available online for resident's convenience; a quote on the cost is being obtained.

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

There is little to report in the last month. I would like to thank Deputy Historian Pat Peck for her efforts during the past year. As we look forward to the New Year, we are planning on keeping our current programs but I am very excited about a new project that Pat has opened the door on. As you may know, Pat is an avid genealogist and is on the Board of Directors of Heritage Hunters of Saratoga County. For the next year, through Pat's efforts the Town is going to host the Heritage Hunters monthly meeting and annual conference. The Historian's office is going to build upon that with a series called Heritage Saturdays in Old Saratoga. We have a partnership already developed with the Old Saratoga Historical Association, the library, Village of Victory and we are hopeful that others will join us in the future. We are planning talks, displays and tours in the community to encourage the participants in the Heritage Hunters programs and others to come to the region for a complete day. Our hope is that people will shop and have lunch so not only will they learn about the region's rich history, but they will be able to help create a heritage tourism economic benefit for the community. This is a very exciting project to expand the opportunities in the community through the use of this great Town Hall.

**Assessor's report:** Assessor Victoria Hayner submitted the following report for December 2009.

November was a busy month getting ready for the annual exemption renewal time. All renewals have been addressed and are ready to mail. Senior exemptions and agricultural exemption renewals will be mailed to all property owners who filed last year on December 10<sup>th</sup>. Renewal forms need to be filed in our new office at 12 Spring Street before March 1, 2010.

Sales continue to be processed for the town in addition to the updating of Building permits applications and Certificate of Occupancy's that were issued in November. During the month of November we processed 9 sales of which 5 were valid sales and 4 were invalid sales. Of these sales 5 properties were residential properties and 4 vacant parcels.

Effective December 10<sup>th</sup>, Danielle Haas has resigned her position as the Assessor Clerk. An advertisement for a new clerk will be put in the newspaper.

The Assessor's Office is open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM or appointments may be scheduled at other times if necessary.

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

- ❖ We will be working on brush trimming and patching of roads when the weather permits.
- ❖ A Fire & Burglar Alarm System for the storage building has been installed.
- ❖ Charlie Robinson will be retiring; January 8<sup>th</sup> is his last day at work.

**Supervisor's report:** Supervisor Thomas Wood presented his financial report as follows:

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT NOVEMBER 2009

GENERAL FUND – TOWNWIDE (A FUND)

Balance on hand Nov. 1	\$ 994,185.51
Nov. Revenues	+ 90,795.63
Nov. Disbursements	- 75,397.20
Nov. Revenues (Sch. Pk.)	+ 44,796.00
Nov. Disb. (Sch. Pk.)	- 3,344.59
Balance Nov. 30	\$ 1,051,035.35

(Includes Schuyler Park Reserve Funds)

GENERAL FUND – OUTSIDE VILLAGE (B FUND)

Balance on hand Nov. 1	\$ 384,132.81
Nov. Revenues	+ 2,405.00
Nov. Disbursements	- 1,959.91
Balance Nov. 30	\$ 384,577.90

HIGHWAY FUND – OUTSIDE VILLAGE (DB FUND)

Balance on hand Nov. 1	\$ 809,912.12
Nov. Revenues	+ 80,885.00
Nov. Disbursements	- 68,818.19
Balance Nov. 30	\$ 821,978.93

YOUTH RECREATION & SERVICE Nov. 30 \$ 1,910.04

HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE Nov. 30 \$ 911.04

BUILDING RESERVE Nov. 30 \$ 149,133.84

SCENIC BY WAYS GRANT Nov. 30 \$ 308.70

- ❖ **November Sales Tax Revenue - \$80,885.00, \$944,191 year-to-date**
- ❖ **Mortgage Tax Revenue - \$73,231.70, total for 2009 - \$143,487.43**
- ❖ **Rental Income - \$95,986.05 year-to-date**
- ❖ **Food Pantry – shelving set up with SCSD student volunteers with Pam Driscoll overseeing**

**Public comments on agenda items:** Roger Sherman, Jim Jennings, and John Deyoe addressed the board.

**Committee reports:**

**Landfill: No report.**

**Insurance: No report.**

**Youth: No report.**

**Senior Citizens:** Councilwoman Betty Koval reported that the **Quaker Springs Senior Citizens** met on November 9<sup>th</sup>, approximately 42 members attended. Virginia Cornell did a presentation regarding the Hoover Dam, which crosses the Colorado River, its history and how the project was originally developed. A new Hoover Dam bypass is currently being built. Members met today. They brought cans of food which will be donated to the local food pantry. This is a holiday custom of the Quaker Springs' Seniors. John and Lillian Bodnar played and sang for the group following dinner.

**The Old Saratoga Seniors** met on November 18<sup>th</sup>, with 54 members attending. A tea cup auction followed the luncheon. On December 1<sup>st</sup> members attended the Christmas Show at the Georgian Motel in Lake George. The Christmas Dinner scheduled for December 9<sup>th</sup> was cancelled due to inclement weather and will be rescheduled at the first meeting in January.

**Parks: Laurie Griffen submitted the following report:**

**Schuylers Park Committee Monthly Report to Town of Saratoga Town Board**

We had a successful fall, thanks in large part to the mild late season weather. The following summarizes our progress since our last report, as well as the remaining timeline:

Site Work:

- Additional organic material spread and incorporated by the local farming community
- Tommell Associates completed survey and set grade stakes
- Morris Excavation completed final grade of the field
- Seeded the north slope.
- Installed the electric service.
- Installed the water pump.
- Irrigation system bid was awarded to Rainbow Lawn Sprinklers. The system was installed and is fully operational.
- Had a volunteer work day to hang fabric on the perimeter fencing
- Anvil Fencing installed the baseball and softball backstops and fencing.
- Dennis Flynn and the BOCES program cleared the hiking trails.
- Installed 316,000 sq ft of sod on the playing fields and immediate surrounds. Many thanks to the numerous volunteers who made this possible, namely Drumm & Ayres Turf Services, Brookside Nursery and Grasshopper Gardens, all of whom donated time, labor and equipment to complete the project. Thanks also goes to the many community members as well as staff, coaches and students at Schuylerville Central School, including FFA classes and the Honor Society, for their time and help.

Non-Site Work:

- We are working on an upgrade of our web site to improve the site in general, make it more interactive and informative and hopefully incorporate pay pal and scheduling into the site.

- Working with the school on a newsletter to keep everyone apprised of the progress.
- Continuing communication with the school and OSAA, receiving input from both regarding their field needs, suggestions, etc.
- The *Friends of Schuyler Park* held a successful garage sale during the town wide garage sale. All items were donated and they netted approx. \$1600. They held their annual meeting last week and elected a new slate of officers. They have applied for a couple of grants for the next phase of the project (pavilion and playground) and have several fundraising events and activities planned for winter and spring.
- Working with Stewarts and their PR person Tom Malay regarding a press conference and grand opening ceremonies for the spring.

The following items remain to be completed first thing in the spring to reach our goal (and commitment to the school and OSAA) of having the fields playable in the spring:

- Complete baseball and softball infields, baselines, etc with appropriate materials
- Complete initial phase of this project with stone in the driveways and parking lots.
- Develop a maintenance schedule, plan, and budget
- Develop a scheduling and use program and system

**Emergency Management Office (EMO): Emergency Operations Coordinator  
Sherry Doubleday submitted the following report:**

A Red Cross Training Session was held today. Part one was on sheltering, and part two covered mass care. She stated that materials on this training will be given to Quaker Springs and David Nevins' auxiliary. At the next meeting, Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., discussions will take place on who will do what in an emergency.

**Committee to Honor Volunteer Firefighters & Emergency Medical Service**

**Workers:** Sean Kelleher reported that another load of bricks have been received and are displayed in the lobby of the town hall. It is not too late to order bricks; the placing of one more order is anticipated.

**GSES, QSFD, SLPID/SLA, SCFB Reports:**

**Quaker Springs Fire Department (QSFD):** Marty Hanehan reported:

The Quaker Springs Substation which will be called Station 2 and is nearly complete and will be in use as soon as we can wrap up the punch list. Depending on if all goes as planned, and there are no other unforeseen issues that arise, it will be in use this year. The officers have come up with a plan for which apparatus will be housed there, and which personnel will respond there. The Building Committee has been working closely with the Architect to keep this process moving as quickly as we can. The Building Committee, Officers, and the Auxiliary are all working together to furnish all the additional needs to get this building up and running ASAP. The Town can be proud that we have a state of the art facility added to our Firefighting infrastructure. This building will also act as an Emergency shelter during Emergencies. It has an automatic generator for this purpose. At this time we do not plan on using it for any outside events do to the minimum amount of parking. This was the plan from the start and is why we call it a substation.

**SLPID/SLA:** Doug Niles formally welcomed the presence of the Quaker Springs Fire Department's substation on Route 9P. He reported that SLIPD and SLA is made up of volunteers and new members are always welcome. He noted that Lake level research continues. He added that they are trying to see if a portion of the State's boat launch fees could be shared with SLPID to help defer costs of the weed control project.

**Old business:**

Supervisor Thomas Wood gave an update on the Wilbur Road Towpath. Wet weather slowed the progress this fall. They finished clearing to the town line, the first coat of stone is down and the parking and trail entranceway has been paved. The project will be finished in the spring. The long range plan is to have a trail system from Waterford to Whitehall.

**New business:**

On a motion by Councilman Fred Drumm and seconded by Councilwoman Betty Koval the following **Resolution #09-102- Accept Audit Findings** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – aye, Councilwoman Betty Koval – aye, and Councilman Michael McLoughlin – absent. Carried 4 – 0.

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga had the Town's 2008 financial operations and procedures audited by Richard DiNolpho, CPA, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga has reviewed the findings, therefore be it,

**RESOLVED**, by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga to accept the findings as presented (the audit is on file in the Town Clerk's office).

On a motion by Councilman Charles Hanehan and seconded by Councilman Fred Drumm the following **Resolution #09-103 –Approval to Enter into an Agreement for Emergency Medical Services with General Schuyler Emergency Squad** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – aye, Councilwoman Betty Koval – aye, and Councilman Michael McLoughlin – absent. Carried 4 – 0.

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga is authorized by virtue of Section 122 (B) of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York to provide general ambulance service for the town, and

**WHEREAS**, the **GENERAL SCHUYLER EMERGENCY SQUAD** has trained and experienced personnel and is certified by the Department of Health of the State of New York as an ambulance service, and

**WHEREAS**, the GSES is desirous of furnishing emergency medical services to the town under the terms and conditions set forth in the EMS agreement, now therefore be it,

**RESOLVED** by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga to authorize entering into the EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) AGREEMENT with the **GENERAL SCHUYLER EMERGENCY SQUAD**, for a term of January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010 and will provide consideration in the amount of \$273,426.00. The full agreement is on file in the office of the Town Clerk.

On a motion by Councilwoman Betty Koval and seconded by Councilman Charles Hanehan the following **Resolution #09-104 – Approval to Enter into a Contract for Fire Protection with the Village of Victory** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas

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

**RESOLVED** by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga to authorize entering into the fire protection contract with the Village of Victory, for a term of January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010 and will provide consideration to the Village of Victory in the amount of \$11,900.70. The full agreement is on file in the office of the Town Clerk.

On a motion by Councilman Fred Drumm and seconded by Councilwoman Betty Koval the following **Resolution #09-105 – Approval to Enter into a Contract for Fire Protection with the Village of Schuylerville** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – aye, Councilwoman Betty Koval – aye, and Councilman Michael McLoughlin – absent. Carried 4 – 0.

**RESOLVED** by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga to authorize entering into the fire protection contract with the Village of Schuylerville, for a term of January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010 and will provide consideration to the Village of Schuylerville in the amount of \$33,871.24. The full agreement is on file in the office of the Town Clerk.

On a motion by Councilman Fred Drumm and seconded by Councilman Charles Hanehan the following **Resolution #09-106 Temporary Appointment - Assessor's Clerk** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – aye, Councilwoman Betty Koval – aye, and Councilman Michael McLoughlin – absent. Carried 4 – 0.

**WHEREAS**, the Assessor is in need of a part-time clerk due to the resignation of Danielle Haas; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga to appoint Sean Kelleher as the temporary, part-time Assessor's clerk effective December 14, 2009 at the rate of \$14.38 per hour.

On a motion by Councilman Fred Drumm and seconded by Councilwoman Betty Koval the following **Resolution #09-107 Break-out of Fire District Assessments** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – aye, Councilwoman Betty Koval – aye, and Councilman Michael McLoughlin – absent. Carried 4 – 0.

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Saratoga desires to accurately record the values of the properties in the Town of Saratoga served by the David Nevins Fire Department and the Schuyler Hose Fire Department; and

**WHEREAS**, the Saratoga County Office of Real Property Tax Service requires a resolution from the Town of Saratoga for the purpose of assigning special district code numbers for use in placing on the V4 file; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Town of Saratoga authorizes Saratoga County Office of Real Property Tax Service to break out FD031 Fire Protection District Service into the parcels served by the David Nevins Fire Department and the parcels served by the Schuyler Hose Fire Department.

On a motion by Councilman Fred Drumm and seconded by Councilwoman Betty Koval the following **Resolution #09-108 Legal Action against Roland Ronish** was adopted by

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

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga authorizes Town Attorney William Reynolds to bring necessary legal action against Roland Ronish for Local Law violations.

**Communications:**

- ❖ **Thank you from Marlene Bissell, Hudson Crossing Park, for the \$300 donation for daffodil bulbs at Hudson Crossing Play Garden.**

**Privilege of the floor: Roger Sherman and Frank Merrill addressed the board.**

**Upcoming meetings:**

- ❖ **Special town board meeting – Wednesday, December 30, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. (End-of-Year Audit of Bills)**
- ❖ **Agenda meeting – Thursday, January 7, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.**
- ❖ **Regular town board meeting – Monday, January 11, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Audit the Bills:** On a motion by Councilman Fred Drumm and seconded by Councilwoman Betty Koval the following **Resolution #09-109- Approving the payment of bills in Abstract 12G** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan – aye, Councilwoman Betty Koval – aye, and Councilman Michael McLoughlin – absent. Carried 4 – 0.

**RESOLVED**, by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga to authorize payment of the bills listed in Abstract 12G (12/14/2009) in the following amounts: General A \$58,149.14, General B \$1,082.58, Schuyler Park H \$76,790.48 and Highway Outside DB \$21,456.22 for a total of \$157,478.42.

**A motion to adjourn at 8:43 p.m.** was made by Councilman Charles Hanehan and seconded by Councilwoman Betty Koval. Supervisor Thomas Wood – aye, Councilman Fred Drumm – aye, Councilman Charles Hanehan - aye, Councilwoman Betty Koval – aye, and Councilman Michael McLoughlin - absent. Carried 4 – 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth Drumm  
Town Clerk