

MINUTES OF THE SMITHVILLE TOWN BOARD

January 21, 2008

The regular meeting of the Smithville Town Board was called to order at 6pm Monday January 21, 2008 by Supervisor Allan Johnson. Present were the following:

Supervisor Allan Johnson
Boardmembers:
Kay Borne
Roger Connelly
Holly Mohr

Town Clerk Alison Owens
4 Town Highway employees
5 Historical Society members
Steve Bentley, Resident

Absent: Board member Vince Coletta

ADDITION TO AGENDA: Three items of Correspondence were added to the agenda.

MINUTES: The minutes of the December 17, 2007 meeting and the January 3, 2008 Organizational meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept both of these minutes was made by Councilwoman Borne, 2nd by Councilman Connelly. All four Board members; Borne, Connelly, Mohr, Johnson were in favor, Coletta absent, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

NB1: David Craine of Mang, Craine and Mirabito Insurance Co., Norwich NY was present to address the **Town's insurance needs** and answer questions. A summary of insurance was distributed to all present at the Board table. Copies of the cover letter and the quote summary back page are included in the archival copy of the minutes. The town carries liability limits of \$1 million plus excess liability limit of \$1 million. Equipment under five years of age is covered at replacement cost; equipment five years and over is covered at value only. Additional quotes for flood insurance and employee dishonesty/forgery were also included. A question about the general liability of Smithville compared to other municipalities was asked.

Questions were asked if either of the Town properties were located in the flood zone, and if they were, whether the Town would be required to purchase flood insurance. Mr. Craine said he would check into the flood zone for the Town of Smithville properties. Only properties with bank loans involved were required to purchase flood insurance.

Discussion also centered on deputy clerks and whether they should be bonded. Since the Town's tax warrant to be collected is now over \$1 million, and since the deputies often deal with deposits over \$20,000., it was decided to add the position of deputy clerk(s) for bonding.

Mr. Craine indicated he would also obtain a quote from Utica National Insurance to compare with Selective Insurance's projected renewal premium.

Another insurance agent, John Carlin, will also quote the Town's insurance policy.

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NB2: The Smithville Historical Society had previously asked if they would be able to store some records in the Community Center. The Manse, where their records have been stored, is not heated in the winter and Society members are not easily able to work with the records during that time. The Historical Society is applying for grant monies to extract information onto a computer. They have also asked for a display area within the building.

The Community Center Committee had previously been informed of their request and had approved the use of the stage to store a couple of filing cabinets and/or boxes and a table if needed. Similarly, the Grange had given permission for the Historical Society to use one of the bulletin boards upstairs for display purposes. The Community Center Committee did not approve their request to purchase additional tables for the downstairs but suggested rather they purchase a couple of tables from the funds available to them in the 2008 Town Budget.

The Historical Society asked if the Community Center Committee consisted of only Board members or if it consisted of members from the organizations within the Community as the Committee functioned with in the past. Supervisor Johnson replied at this time the Committee was comprised of Town Board members only.

Other items discussed were the security of the materials being stored and the status of the original chandelier. The Historical Society indicated they would make sure their items were stored securely with the use of locking filing cabinets. The chandelier is still in the process of being restored but it is hoped to be available by Smithville Day 2008.

NB3: Planning Board applicants

There were 2 applicants for the vacant position on the Planning Board. One applicant is a Smithville resident—Jackie Centerwall, Cummings Rd. and the other is a resident of the Village of Greene—Richard Beckwith, 12 Clinton St., Greene.

The Town Board considered the opinions of both Planning Board Chair Tim Hanna and Planning Board member Doug Garnar who both felt preference and consideration should be given first to someone who resided in Smithville. Town Board members also had similar thoughts. Mrs. Centerwall's letter of intent expressed her desire to make a contribution to the Town of Smithville. The following resolution was brought forth:

RESOLUTION # 2 (2008): APPOINT JACKIE CENTERWALL TO PLANNING BOARD

On a motion by Councilwoman Borne, 2nd by Councilwoman Mohr, the following resolution was:

ADOPTED

AYES: Borne, Connelly, Mohr, Johnson

NAYES: 0

ABSENT: Coletta

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RESOLVED to appoint Jackie Centerwall to the Planning Board for a 5 year term from Jan. 22, 2008-Dec. 31, 2012.

CORRESPONDENCE

C1: Attorney's final report for 2007 (should really be R6)

C2: 2008 Red Cross Lifeguard Course

C3: NYSEG re: Mercury vapor lamp ballasts

C4: Letter from Board of Elections: phone in election results

C5: LUCA: Census updates w/911 info being mailed to Town Clerks

C6: letter from Chenango County Board of Supervisors: Dog Quarantine until Apr. 30th

OLD BUSINESS:

OB1: Shared Services: A proposed agreement from Chenango County Dept. of Public Works was reviewed by Board members. Board members had questions about providing insurance for equipment rented and asked to table the issue until next month's meeting.

OB2: Red Cross Agreement: for use of the Community Center as a Disaster center has been signed and mailed in.

OB3: Genegantslet Fire Co. contract: is still being processed.

OB4: Employee Guidelines Package. All four Highway employees were present at the meeting to ask about the Guidelines package. The package was reviewed at the Jan. 3rd meeting but no action was taken. The Highway employees wanted to know where the Board stood on some of the issues and why they had not approved the Guidelines package. Board members felt the issues at hand such as uniform allowance, sick and personal time, and 10 hr. days vs. 8 hr. days needed to be discussed between the Highway employees and the Town Board and approved before the end of 2007. This did not happen. Supervisor Johnson indicated the Board wanted to have these Guidelines benefit the employees. It was suggested the issues needed to be worked on in 2008 so changes could be implemented for 2009. It was also suggested to see what other Towns had for an Employee Guidelines Package.

REPORTS:

R1: Planning Board—no report

R2: Assessor—report submitted

R3: Enforcement Officer—report submitted. The Enforcement Officer has been working with the owner of a failed septic system.

R4: Justice—there will be a Jury Trial on Wednesday February 6th in the Community Center.

R5: DCO—no report

R6: Att'y—report previously submitted

R7: Mitigation—no report

R8: Community Center—still working on obtaining a quote for the railing for the outside front steps.

R9: Playground—substitute Groundskeeper has yet to turn in application

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R10: Town Clerk—report submitted. The Supervisor's report should be reviewed and approved at Board meetings. Accounting of 2007 Town Clerk monies attached to report.

R11: Highway--report submitted. No date was given for the accident (4F). Board members expressed their feelings the Highway Superintendent should be present at the Board meetings.

GENERAL WARRANT:

General Warrant # 1, Vouchers # 1-13 in the amount of \$9,461.65, was submitted for payment. A motion to accept and pay these bills was made by Councilwoman Borne, 2nd by Councilwoman Mohr. All four Board members—Borne, Connelly, Mohr and Johnson in favor, motion carried. Councilman Coletta absent.

HIGHWAY WARRANT:

Highway Warrant # 1, Vouchers # 1-15 in the amount of \$11,547.06, was submitted for payment. A motion to accept and pay these bills was made by Councilman Connelly, 2nd by Councilwoman Borne. Three Board members—Borne, Connelly and Johnson in favor, Councilwoman Mohr against; Councilman Coletta absent. Motion carried.

Other:

The JRC has an unknown amount of concession stand profits from 2007. More info forthcoming.

There was no other business to come before the Board. The next meeting will be Feb. 18th at 6pm.

Alison B. Owens
Smithville Town Clerk