

Town of Murray Regular Board Meeting Minutes August 8, 2006

Present: Supervisor Henry Lehning, Councilmen Ed Bower, Lloyd Christ, John Morriss and Henry Wagner, Assessors Lynn Wood and Nick Quaranto, Highway/Water Superintendent Ed Morgan, Zoning Officer Lynda Woolston, Attorney Jeff Martin, Town Clerk Cindy Oliver, Highway/Water Clerk Karen Clark, residents Stanley Kemp, Richard Downey, George Karpenko, Taryn Hilliker, David Paul

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge to flag.

MOTION by Wagner, SECOND by Bower that July 11th public hearing and Town Board meeting minutes be approved and accepted as presented. CARRIED

Assessor

The Assessors have been out viewing community property, updating records for the update next year. Every property will be inspected for the revaluation. This has to be finished by March 1st.

The Article 7 Proceeding is definite as the Town has been served and the summons has already been answered. Lynn is in contact with the Town of Clarkson as this affects them also. We will be working with them and share the costs. The Board of Assessment Review granted Brockport Country Club owners a significant reduction in assessment. Even so, they are still looking for a more significant reduction. Attorney Jeff Martin thinks we need to defend this. A Preliminary Hearing is scheduled for September 25th.

Supervisor

The 2007 preliminary budget needs to be completed by September 30th. Department heads have been given their forms and Supervisor Lehning needs them returned to him by August 31st.

Supervisor Lehning has spoken to a representative from LaBella Engineers about setting up an informal meeting with one of their certified planners who is well versed in wind power. Supervisor Lehning thought it would be informative for the Board to meet with him as he could offer some insight to the procedures. He will set something up within the next month.

Supervisor Lehning and Ed Morgan attended the meeting with the Town of Gaines and the Water Authority last week. They are still in the talk stages. The possibility of something working out depends on the Town of Gaines doing further engineering and structural work.

The Village of Albion is forming a water advisory committee. The first meeting will be on August 22nd.

Supervisor Lehning and Clarendon Supervisor Richard Moy attended a public hearing regarding civil service tests. One position spoken about was Code Enforcement Officers. Only full-time Code Enforcement Officers need to take a civil service test. Part-time Code Enforcement Officers do not need to take one.

Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer

Lynda Woolston reported that she has had 3 major complaints that she is trying to resolve. 10 complaint letters have been sent out this month not including a letter to A&M Automotive regarding the number of vehicles there. Owner Tony Manno is not in compliance with his operating permit. Jeff Martin supplied Lynda with copies of past

correspondence to Mr. Manno and his attorney regarding this same matter. His attorney is out of town this week. When he returns we'll get a deadline set for getting the cars out of there. Councilman Christ said he spoke to Mr. Manno and was told he was now doing towing for the Sheriff's Department and this is one of the reasons for more vehicles. Jeff Martin said that the original permit allowed him to have 5 vehicles. The recent zoning changes allow him to have 5 vehicles per service bay. He has 3 bays so he is allowed 15 cars and whatever he can keep indoors. In 1999 Jeff wrote him a letter regarding this problem. He then came to the Board and asked to have more vehicles allowed. The Board told him to take care of what he had at that time and then they would address his request. Mr. Manno never did anything to take care of the original problem.

There are 2 people in the Town who've been operating a business without a permit for quite some time. Lynda is preparing packets with all information needed to come in front of the Planning Board. There are two new proposals to come through the Planning Board; 1 for truck sales and 1 for an RV park.

Building permits issued this year total 55. Kevin Diehl has been right on pace with permits for replacing mobile homes in his park.

Councilman Christ asked how George Karpenko is coming with the clean up of his property and questioned about the fence. Lynda said clean up is slow, but there is improvement and that is what she is looking for. As for the fence, Lynda doesn't want to push the issue of getting the fence back up. Presently he is not operating as a junkyard. If he is not going to be operating as a yard, then he doesn't need the fence. Mr. Karpenko was present and informed the Board that there will be no reason for a fence as he will be getting rid of everything. He will not be operating a junkyard once all is cleaned up.

Correspondence

-Minutes from the June County Planning Board meeting; Supervisor Lehning informed the Board that the Town of Murray does not have an alternate on this Board. Al Buell said he might be interested. Alternates are supposed to attend all meetings and would vote in our regular representative's place if he/she is not present.

-Minutes from August 1st Comprehensive Plan Committee meeting. Supervisor Lehning appeared at beginning of this meeting to thank the residents who have been volunteering their time.

-Loss report from insurance company. \$699 in claims from the first 6 months of the year.

-We had an insurance presentation from Tompkins Insurance last week. We will have another from Albion Agencies. We'll then compare the three and make a decision.

Legislature Kenneth Rush arrives.

Old Business

Payment in lieu of health insurance: Jeff passed out copies of the draft of the proposed local law. Listed were options for Section 4: *Amount of Payment* for the Board to consider. The Board can choose one of these options or come up with something else. Jeff explained Section 5: *Permissive Referendum*. Discussion regarding amount of payment and when the payment is issued. Employees choosing payment in lieu of health insurance must show proof every year that they have health insurance through another source. Board decided that the payment in lieu of health insurance will be one-half of the Town's cost of the policy that the employee is eligible for; family, 2-person or single). Payments will be made monthly. Jeff will mail revised copy to Board members. A public hearing will be scheduled for September 12th.

MOTION by Christ, SECOND by Bower introducing Local Law No. 4 of 2006 *Providing for Cash Payments in Lieu of Health Insurance Coverage to Eligible Employees of the Town of Murray* CARRIED

*Resolution on file in Town Clerk's office.

200th Anniversary Celebration: We asked for volunteers to serve on a celebration committee in the Town Newsletter. So far, we've had no volunteers although the

newsletter just went out a couple days ago. We will wait a week or so and then put an ad in the Suburban News asking for volunteers. Councilman Morriss said that David Dill is still interested in chairing this committee.

Re-billing – Town sign sponsors: Discussion about additional sponsors for the Town of Murray signs and the amount to re-bill the present sponsors. The last time, sponsors were billed \$135 per year for a 3-year agreement. The agreement states that when the 3 years are up and the person wants to continue there would be an extension fee to be determined by the Board. After discussion, it was decided that present sponsors who want to continue will be billed \$100 per year for a 3-year agreement.

Attorney Jeff Martin

The Germeo Article 7 Proceeding has been settled. Jeff is waiting to get a copy of the time stamped order. He will then calculate the refunds that are due to the different property owners by the Town, village and school then, it will be concluded.

Jeff is still waiting for Stu to give them the grant and loan amounts. Supervisor Lehning stated that Rural Development now requires a turn-down letter.

Kevin Diehl has inquired about putting an RV park and campground on the east end of the golf course to raise some additional revenue. We will probably see an application within the next 30 days.

Town Clerk

Cindy reported receipts for July totaled \$769. The general fund received \$400.70.

Cindy will be attending workshops in October and December sponsored by the New York State Archives. One is a Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund Grant Application Information Session and the other is Using State Archives Retention Schedules.

Saturday office hours are going well. It has been a lot busier and will probably pick up even more as hunting licenses go on sale Monday, August 14th.

Highway and Water Superintendent

Ed informed the Board about cost increases for asphalt; 52% increase, sealing/paving oil; 42% increase, fuel; 21% increase.

Ed spoke to Jim from Rural Development and it looks like we are definitely going to be getting the surplus grant money from Water District 10 and 11. Jim said he needs a resolution from the Town stating that we will be phasing in this radio meter reading system over the next 3 years. He wants some assurance from us that the whole town will eventually be using this system. Before this grant was available, Ed calculated that with us purchasing it without the grant it would have paid for itself in 3 years, just in hourly wages.

The Highway Superintendent's annual clam bake is August 17th and the County Republican picnic is this Sunday, August 13th at the Elk's Club. If anyone would like tickets, see Ed.

Last week Ed spoke to a woman from the State Historical Preservation Society about the permit for the cemetery fence. She was not very helpful and said she hasn't seen any paperwork regarding the fence. If we haven't heard anything from them by mid-September, Ed thinks we should just put it up.

MOTION by Wagner, SECOND by Christ that the Town commits to phase in the use of a standardized radio remote meter reading system for all of its existing water districts.

CARRIED *Resolution on file in Town Clerk's office

MOTION by Bower, SECOND by Morriss approving the Supervisor's financial report and that the following bills be approved and paid as follows: CARRIED

Highway Fund	Claims 233 - 260	Total	\$20,244.82
General Fund	Claims 257 - 288	Total	\$ 6,575.65
Water District No. 1	Claims 41 - 42	Total	\$ 410.75
Water District No. 2	Claims 47 - 49	Total	\$ 1,484.10
Water District No. 3	Claims 45 - 48	Total	\$ 81.78
Water District No. 4	Claims 33 - 35	Total	\$ 50.57
Water District No. 5	Claims 32 - 33	Total	\$ 20.57
Water District No. 6	Claims 47 - 50	Total	\$ 247.74
Water District No. 7	Claims 37 - 39	Total	\$ 50.57
Water District No. 8	Claims 36 - 38	Total	\$ 67.40
Water District No. 9	Claims 33 - 35	Total	\$ 50.57
Water District No. 10	Claims 49 - 54	Total	\$ 393.73
Water District No. 11	Claims 56 - 59	Total	\$ 1,744.12

Legislator Ken Rush announced that the open house for the new County dog pound is on Friday, August 11th from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

The wooden boat festival is this weekend; Saturday and Sunday.

Opened bids on the nursing home today. Some of the bids were a little high and some were where they should be.

Legislator Rush said the Legislators start their budget in September.

There will be another county auction in October for properties in back-taxes. Legislator Rush is not sure if the house on Fancher Road in Brockville will be put up for auction or put on the real estate market.

Regarding the status of a new jail; it is just in the discussion stage at this point. This will probably be close to a \$20,000,000 project.

Resident David Paul asked if there is a law that grass needs to be cut when it gets to a certain length. Lynda said the State Property Maintenance Law states that grass needs to be reasonably maintained to a depth of 150 feet.

David Paul spoke of the problems with his neighbor. They called the Sheriff's Department about Mr. Paul's trucks crossing the bridge. Lynda said she has spoken to his neighbor and based on her complaints Lynda didn't find that there were any violations on Mr. Paul's part.

Meeting recessed at 8:20 p.m. until August 15th at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia Oliver