

**Town of Charlton
Saratoga County
Town Board Agenda Meeting**

January 25th, 2016

The Agenda Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Charlton, Saratoga County, New York was held at the Charlton Town Hall, 758 Charlton Rd, Charlton, NY and called to order by Supervisor Grattidge at 7:57 p.m. to set the agenda for the February 8th Meeting.

Present: Councilman Gay, Councilman Grasso, Councilman Heritage, Councilman Hodgkins, Supervisor Grattidge, Town Clerk Brenda Mills.

RESOLUTION #54

Abstract of Claims

Motion by Councilman Gay

Seconded by Councilman Hodgkins

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board has approved the payment of bills as presented in Abstract #102, voucher numbers 35 – 62, in the amount of \$448,004.78.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. **CARRIED.**

RESOLUTION #55

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Councilman Heritage

Seconded by Councilman Hodgkins

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board has approved the Town Board Meeting Minutes from January 11, 2016.

Vote: 4 Ayes, Grasso Abstained, No Nays. **CARRIED**

DISCUSSION

The Sales Tax report for the month has not yet been received. The Mortgage Tax was \$16,694.22.

Supervisor Grattidge confirmed that the annual contract with Planning Board Attorney William Keniry has been signed for this year.

Supervisor Grattidge said that he and Highway Superintendent Mike Emerich were contacted by the NYSDOT to have the Town enter into a shared service agreement with the State for an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00. Mr. Emerich said that he entered the Town's Hydro seeder to be used by the State if needed.

RESOLUTION #56

Authorize the Highway Superintendent to enter into a shared services agreement with NYSDOT

Motion by Councilman Grasso

Seconded by Councilman Gay

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes the Highway Superintendent to sign a shared services agreement with NYSDOT with an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00.

Vote: All Ayes. **CARRIED.**

Supervisor Grattidge said that Councilman Hodgkins has finished the Highway Department inventory list of equipment. The Board discussed whether or not they wanted the replacement cost of items listed as the value for the items purchased from the surplus program, or the actual cost of the items. The example was given of the tub grinder that is listed with a replacement value of \$150,000 but the Town only paid \$400 for it. The Board agreed that they would probably not replace some of the equipment, and definitely not at the full replacement cost. They noted that the equipment purchases scheduled for this year are less than the life cycle cost.

The Highway Superintendent had given the Board specifications for a new medium duty pick-up truck that he would like to purchase to replace a 2001 truck. The purchase must go out to bid. Superintendent Emerich said that once the legal notice of the bid is published in the newspaper, it is broadcasted out to truck dealers.

RESOLUTION #57

Authorize the Town Attorney to prepare a resolution to send out a bid notice for a new Highway Department pick-up truck.

Motion by Councilman Grasso

Seconded by Councilman Hodgkins

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes the Town Attorney to prepare a resolution for the February 8th Town Board meeting, that authorizes the Highway Superintendent to send out a bid notice for the purchase of a new medium duty pick-up truck for the Highway Department.

Vote: All Ayes. **CARRIED.**

Councilman Gay said that he met with the Town's Insurance Broker, Dave Meager, and reviewed the insurance coverage for 2016. The Councilman noted that the premium charged is only \$385 different from the estimated premium that was budgeted for. Supervisor Grattidge said that the good news is that part of the premium quoted comes from the Water Department, so the premium is actually a couple thousand dollars less than the budgeted amount. Councilman Gay asked the Board to consider increasing our existing two million dollar umbrella coverage to three million dollars. The additional coverage would cost \$825 for this year. The Board did not take action on increasing the coverage, and asked Mr. Emerich to review the list of highway equipment that is covered by the insurance.

Councilman Gay said that the Water Department has prepared a list of vendors and suppliers that they use as well as other information that will be useful upon John Morgan's retirement. The Councilman thanked Mr. Morgan and Kim Caron for doing a nice job on the list.

Supervisor Grattidge said that Mr. Morgan has received a new replacement mixer for the water tower, but must wait for the old mixer to unthaw before the new one can be installed.

Supervisor Grattidge confirmed that the Zoning Administrator, Bob Gizzi, has made arrangements with the Town of Ballston Building Inspector to cover needed inspections while Mr. Gizzi is on vacation. The Supervisor said that the Town has done this before and this reciprocal agreement seems to benefit both Towns.

Supervisor Grattidge said that the Board has received a copy of a letter that was sent to Charlton Oil.

Supervisor Grattidge said that he has received three letters/e-mails from residents in support of placing cell antennas on the water tower. The letters from Mr. Maguffin, Mr. Glasser and Mr. Vandenburg will be put on record when a Public Hearing is held on the cell antenna installation.

Supervisor Grattidge said that anyone who drives a Town vehicle must complete a 6 hour defensive driving class every three years. The Town has sponsored the class in the past and paid for Town employees to take the class. Committee members and their spouses have been welcomed at their own expense. The Town Clerk will schedule the class at Town Hall and also have a back-up date in case of snow. Supervisor Grattidge said that the Town will not be providing lunch for the participants.

RESOLUTION #58

Authorize the set-up and expense for the Town Employees to take the 6 hour defensive driving class.

Motion by Councilman Hodgkins
Seconded by Councilman Heritage

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes the Town Clerk to set up a 6 hour defensive driving class at Town Hall and authorizes the expense for the Town employees to take the class.

Vote: All Ayes. **CARRIED.**

Councilman Hodgkins said that he and Councilman Gay attended the Association of Towns training classes in mid-January. While there, he listened to information regarding the Cornell Road Program that the Town is planning to utilize this year. Mike Emerich said that he will get the recommended qualifications for the college intern that will be hired for the project. Councilman Grasso would like the job posting listed on the Town website.

Mike Emerich said that the Highway Department plans to improve Consaul Road and Western Avenue this summer, and this will be listed in the Highway Agreement that he is currently preparing for the Town Board.

Councilman Hodgkins asked the Board if they wanted to have any discussion about the feedback from the Open Meeting tonight. Supervisor Grattidge stated that one of the next steps would be to sign a lease agreement with Verizon because they are looking for a commitment from the Town before they do a site plan review etc. The Supervisor said that he and Councilman Grasso can have another meeting with them and get some answers to questions that came up tonight, and then report back to the Board. If the Town wants the Board to look at alternative sights, the Town would not be involved, as it would be on someone else's property. The Town would not benefit from the revenue. The Town is caught in between, nobody wants it in their neighborhood, but everybody wants it somewhere. Supervisor Grattidge said that the water tower is still going to be there whether there is a 10 foot extension on it or not, so most of what was heard tonight, other than the health concerns of radio frequencies, which is at such a low level. The technology has been around for a long time and has improved over the past 25 years. Supervisor Grattidge said that the Board has to consider are they asking the tower to do too much, are there too many activities because it is in a residential neighborhood. We are not building a cell tower, but rather using an existing structure. A lot of what our comprehensive plan is built on and what a lot of people have said is that if there is an existing structure, you should use it as opposed to building a new one. Supervisor Grattidge said that the new design does not look like a cell tower. Councilman Hodgkins said he does not feel that the look should be an issue, and he feels that after a week people won't pay attention to it. Supervisor Grattidge said that he doesn't see how adding a 10 foot extension on the water tower will have effect on values. Councilman Grasso said that one thing that he realizes is that the tower will go somewhere, either on Town property or somewhere else. Also, there may be a second installation further west, which raises the question as to whether there is a better location that covers both. Councilman Grasso suggested that the Board go back to Airosmith and give them the opportunity to answer the concerns. He stated he is less concerned with the loss of revenue but more concerned that the best location is determined. Supervisor Grattidge suggested that they continue to gather information. All Board members were in favor of continuing the dialogue with Airosmith.

The Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Mills
Town Clerk