

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

**May 23, 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 7:30 p.m. to set the agenda for the June 13th meeting.

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

**RESOLUTION # 99**

**Abstract of Claims**

Motion by Councilman Grasso

Seconded by Councilman Hodgkins

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board has approved the payment of bills as presented in Abstract #110, voucher numbers 274 - 288, in the amount of \$9,763.47.

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

**RESOLUTION # 100**

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Councilman Gay

Seconded by Councilman Grasso

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board has approved the Town Board Meeting Minutes from May 9, 2016.

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Bulk Item Pick-up begins this week. Residents were instructed to have their items out by yesterday. A list of acceptable items is available on the Town's website.

A public presentation on Renting Land for Solar Panels will be done by Cornell Cooperative Extension on May 25<sup>th</sup> at their office on West High Street in Ballston Spa.

The Town offices will be closed on Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup> in observance of Memorial Day.

There will be a Memorial Day Ceremony in Gideon Hawley Park at 2pm and a dedication of the new gazebo will be done at that time.

Founder's Day Weekend and Party in the Park are June 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. There is a 5k race on Saturday as well as Party in the Park. The parade and farmer's market will be held on Sunday. Check the website for a complete list of weekend activities. John Gay will invite veterans to ride on the veteran's float in the parade.

The annual Sundae on the Farm will be held at the Turning Point Dairy in Saratoga on June 12<sup>th</sup> from noon to 4pm.

## **DISCUSSION**

The Sales Tax report for the month was \$105,354.00 and the Mortgage Tax was \$10,443.50. The 6 month distribution amount was \$71,564.03.

Supervisor Grattidge said that some of the elected offices in the Town have a four year term and some have a two year term. He said if the Board was interested, he would like to find out the process to make them all 4 year terms. Councilman Grasso said he was in favor and the rest of the Board had no objection.

Supervisor Grattidge said that the Zoning Report for April was received.

Highway Superintendent Emerich gave the Board two quotes to have the Town Hall parking lot seal coated. The quotes include crack filling and restriping. The quote from East Coast Sealcoating was for \$2,550.00 and the quote from C.W. Sealcoating was for \$2,900.00.

## **RESOLUTION # 101**

### **Authorize Town Hall parking lot sealcoating by East Coast Sealcoating**

Motion by Councilman Gay

Seconded by Councilman Hodgkins

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes East Coast Sealcoating to provide sealcoating service including re-striping and crack filling to the Town Hall parking lot at a cost of \$2,550.00.

Roll Call: Councilman Gay: Aye; Councilman Grasso: Aye; Councilman Heritage: Aye; Councilman Hodgkins: Aye; Supervisor Grattidge: Aye. **CARRIED**

The Highway Superintendent will put up the Founder's Day banners this week. He will also make sure that the Park is mowed before the Memorial Day Ceremony.

Supervisor Grattidge said that the Board received a letter from a concerned resident on Peaceable Street, regarding Route 67. She noted that there have been 2 serious accidents on the road this year, and she would like to see if the Town could have the State do a study of the road for a possible speed limit reduction or way to get less tractor trailers to use the road. Supervisor Grattidge noted that the latest accident was caused by someone passing on a solid double line. He also said that there are plans to repave the section of Route 67 from 147 to Paisley Road this summer, and the new road may cause some people to drive faster. Councilmen Gay and Grasso said that they were in favor of a study. Councilman Grasso offered to draft the letter to the State. The Board had no objection.

The Tour De Cure will be traveling through Charlton early on Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Town has been notified that this year's equalization rate is 72%.

The Parks Committee gave the Board a quote from Wade's Tree Service for \$378.00 to have some dead branches trimmed from a tree in Elmer Smith Park.

## **RESOLUTION # 102**

### **Authorize tree trimming in Elmer Smith Park by Wade's Tree Service**

Motion by Councilman Grasso

Seconded by Councilman Heritage

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes Wade's Tree Service to provide tree trimming service in Elmer Smith Park at a cost of \$378.00.

Roll Call: Councilman Gay: Aye; Councilman Grasso: Aye; Councilman Heritage: Aye; Councilman Hodgkins: Aye; Supervisor Grattidge: Aye. **CARRIED**

Councilman Heritage said he met with the Parks Committee. They are getting a quote for wood to repair the picnic tables in Gideon Hawley Park. The floor boards in the gazebo need resealing, and the Committee will provide the name of the recommended sealer. Supervisor Grattidge said that he will ask the maintenance man to apply the sealer.

Councilman Grasso said that as part of the new Zoning Laws passed in 2015, it included reference to a Manure Management Plan for new building lots that plan to house horses to go before the Planning Board. The Manure Management Advisory Committee has put together an implementation guide and application. Attorney Van Vranken has reviewed the guide and made updates. Laurie Kruppenbacher read the following letter from the Committee:

Dear Supervisor Grattidge and Councilmen of the Town of Charlton.

Over the course of several meetings, we the manure management committee, have discussed the manure management zoning change as listed in the Town of Charlton Zoning Ordinance on page 26, subparagraph d., which reads as follows:

“d. The keeping of horses for uses other than those listed in paragraph c. above, shall only be allowed if a manure management plan is approved by the ZBA and/or Planning Board and all other requirements are met.”

As was requested by Councilman Grasso a written proposal was prepared by this committee for your review that would uphold the zoning. That proposal was forwarded to you via email by Councilman Grasso on April 28, 2016.

However, as the Manure Management Committee, we feel strongly that the correct course of action for the Town is to amend the Zoning Ordinance and remove the requirement for horse owners to submit an application and manure management plan. This is primarily due to the fact that State regulations are already in place that addresses manure management for agricultural districts. As part of investigating the best course of action, we have spoken to several state entities, government as well as industry advocates, which all cautioned us with regards to making additional zoning laws for agricultural practices.

To put this in perspective, two horses in a barn for 6 months typically generate approximately 9 cubic yards of horse manure. Bedding can also add to volume. Horse manure does not typically have much run off because of its dry matter content. Land application is one method of recycling that manure as a soil conditioner to grow useful pasture grasses or other crops. Horses in a field or paddock do a fairly good job of distributing manure on their own, fertilizing the field without requiring any storage. It is common sense to know you will need to deal with manure if you have horses, like knowing you have to deal with homework if you have children.

We are unaware of any instances where manure handling on small acreage having a few horses has become a problem in all of Saratoga County. Although we have developed a proposed Manure Management Plan as requested by the Board, we view this ordinance as placing additional unnecessary burden on the Town to monitor and enforce and as too restrictive to horse ownership in the Town of Charlton instead of continuing to welcome agriculture and horses in the Town of Charlton and Saratoga County.

Manure Management Committee

Mrs. Kruppenbacher said that the Committee has spoken with surrounding Towns and several State Agencies, and they do not recommend adding additional zoning laws to those already in place by the State. She stated that the Committee put together the implementation guide because they were asked to, but after doing the research and work on the project, they do not recommend putting the requirements in place. She said that the Committee recommends striking the requirement from the Zoning Law. Supervisor Grattidge said that what was talked about was the people having 1 or 2 horses, but what should have been put in there was if you were going to have a riding academy or boarding stable with multiple hoses. That would be the time when you would want to see a plan. Attorney Van Vranken said that this is not new, there already is a process in place for riding stables and it is handled by the Board of jurisdiction. Mark Chotkowski said that he is concerned with the proximity of manure and septic systems to wells and the contamination of well water. He would like to see research done on the setbacks for wells. Councilman Grasso said that the Committee has done a tremendous job, taking a hard look at what is in the zoning but also how it is going to be implemented, the rationale behind it and whether or not it is really warranted. Councilman Gay said that perhaps what needs to be done is to put in the wording that the Town will require compliance with any State regulations, Health Department, DEC, Ag and Markets etc. Supervisor Grattidge said that the Ordinance already reflects that the Town is accepting the DEC

and DOH rules for septic systems, and any changes that they make are automatic to the Town. The issue was discussed further, and it was mentioned that this would only pertain to land being subdivided and that usually the person subdividing land does not know the intended use of the land being sold off, so that would make it hard to enforce the requirement. Councilman Grasso said that he is for being less restrictive, not more. If the requirement can't be enforced, it probably shouldn't be in there. The Board did not take action tonight.

Councilman Gay thanked Laurie Kruppenbacher for the good Zoning Reports that she provides to the Board so that they can see what is going on in Charlton. He also reported that the Town of Ballston Library is still having problems with a roof leak.

Councilman Gay reported that John Morgan said the Honeywell controls at the pump house that control the flow of water that comes into the water system are not functioning properly. He said that Honeywell is coming next week to assess the issue.

Councilman Hodgkins reported that sufficient donations have been received to cover the expenses for Party in the Park and fireworks.

Saratoga County has finished the conversion of the Y intersection into a T intersection in the village. The Board appreciated that County handling the request and for doing a nice job.

Councilman Grasso asked Highway Superintendent Emerich to contact the County about the culvert pipe on Swaggertown Road that is creating a bump in the road and ask them to address it as soon as possible.

## **MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND AUTHORIZATIONS**

### **RESOLUTION #103**

#### **Founder's Day Resolution to Celebrate Charlton Historical Restorations**

Motion by Councilman Hodgkins  
Seconded by Councilman Gay

Roll Call: Councilman Gay: Aye; Councilman Grasso: Aye; Councilman Heritage: Aye; Councilman Hodgkins: Aye; Supervisor Grattidge: Aye. **CARRIED**

### TOWN OF CHARLTON Resolution No. 103

#### *Founder's Day Resolution to Celebrate*

### **CHARLTON HISTORICAL RESTORATIONS**

May 23, 2016

WHEREAS, the Town of Charlton has a significant rural American history, a part of which remains visible to this day as expressed in the Town's historic buildings and locations, and

WHEREAS, these buildings and places which remind us of the Town's agricultural heritage are continually subject to environmental occurrences which impact the integrity of the buildings and places reflecting this heritage, and

WHEREAS, the Town has been benefited during its history with many residents who have committed to maintain, repair or restore these buildings and places in order that they might be enjoyed and experienced by successive generations, including our own of today, and

WHEREAS, a prime example of this restoration activity is especially noticed in Charlton's Historic District, which includes several historic homes located along the Charlton hamlet's main street, and which buildings have been maintained and improved by several generations of Charlton residents, and

WHEREAS, the Town continues to enjoy other buildings of similar vintage located in the Town, including the Charlton Historical Society Museum located in the former St. Paul’s Episcopal Church built in 1804 and a one room schoolhouse built in 1859, and

WHEREAS, when the Society purchased the above noted church and schoolhouse several decades ago, these buildings were in very poor condition and the restoration of both of them was the result of contributions made by resident volunteers who spent many hundreds of hours in order to restore these historic buildings, and

WHEREAS, in 2015, maintenance and repair work continued to be provided the former church and schoolhouse, including painting the exterior of both buildings, replacement of the schoolhouse windows and the restoration of the unique and beautiful weathervane located on the Society Museum, and

WHEREAS, another example is now visible on the Charlton Freehold Presbyterian Church, where the restoration of the 160 year old bell tower can be seen, marking the results of a costly and time consuming restoration project taking several years to complete, and

WHEREAS, some buildings could not be restored and required replacement with new structures due to irremediable damage, including the Charlton Tavern and the gazebo and Veteran’s Board in the Gideon Hawley Park, and

WHEREAS, with so many historic structures still remaining in the Town, former Town Historian Frank Lafforthun, was able to form a committee in the 1980s to obtain photographs and a brief history of many of these structures that can now be found in the book entitled, “Lafforthun House Letters”, and

WHEREAS, Torben Aabo, an active leader in the Town in preserving and restoring historic buildings and documenting its history for over 30 years, has been selected to be the 2016 Charlton Founders Day Parade Grand Marshall, recognizing his work, together with over 40 community volunteers, in restoring and preserving the Charlton Historical Society’s schoolhouse and museum.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Charlton hereby designates June 4, 2016, as

**“CHARLTON HISTORIAL RESTORATIONS DAY”**

in grateful appreciation of the efforts, energies, talent and commitment by the residents of the Town of Charlton in maintaining and restoring the many historical buildings and places located within our Town.

So moved and approved by the Town Board on May 23, 2016.

Moved by	Councilman Hodgkins	Voting:	Councilman Gay	Aye
			Councilman Grasso	Aye
			Councilman Heritage	Aye
Seconded by	Councilman Gay		Councilman Hodgkins	Aye
			Supervisor Grattidge	Aye

I certify that this is a true and exact copy of this original as passed by the Town Board of the Town of Charlton on

Dated: May 23, 2016

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brenda Mills, Town Clerk

**RESOLUTION #104**

**A resolution authorizing the appointment of an intern to provide services under the Cornell Local Roads Pavement Management Program**

Motion by Councilman Hodgkins  
Seconded by Councilman Heritage

Roll Call: Councilman Gay: Aye; Councilman Grasso: Aye; Councilman Heritage: Aye; Councilman Hodgkins: Aye; Supervisor Grattidge: Aye. **CARRIED**

TOWN OF CHARLTON  
COUNTY OF SARATOGA  
STATE OF NEW YORK

RESOLUTION NO. 104

May 23, 2016

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF  
AN INTERN TO PROVIDE SERVICES UNDER THE  
CORNELL LOCAL ROADS PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Highway Superintendent Michael Emerich has requested that he be authorized to appoint an intern for the Cornell Local Roads Pavement Management Program, to begin on May 31, 2016 and terminating on July 31, 2016, with the possibility of extending the appointment in order for the intern to finish the local roads evaluation, and

WHEREAS, the intern will be paid at the rate of \$12.00 per hour and her program will also involve attending training at Cornell University for three (3) days, to be paid for by the Town of Charlton and at no cost to the intern.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Highway Superintendent, Michael Emerich, to make the appointment of Christa Agans to the internship program subject of this resolution, commencing on May 31, 2016, terminating on July 31, 2016 and which appointment shall be paid at the rate of \$12.00 per hour, with no other benefits other than the above-referenced Cornell University training session.

Moved by	Councilman Hodgkins	Voting:	Councilman Gay	Aye
			Councilman Grasso	Aye
Seconded by	Councilman Heritage		Councilman Heritage	Aye
			Councilman Hodgkins	Aye
			Supervisor Grattidge	Aye

I certify that this is a true and exact copy of this original as passed by the Town Board of the Town of Charlton on

Dated: May 23, 2016

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brenda Mills, Town Clerk

**RESOLUTION #105**

**Authorizing the purchase of a Speed Trailer from the Town of Milton for \$1,000.00**

Motion by Councilman Hodgkins

Seconded by Councilman Gay

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby authorizes the purchase of a Speed Trailer from the Town of Milton for a price of \$1,000.00.

Roll Call: Councilman Gay: Aye; Councilman Grasso: Aye; Councilman Heritage: Aye; Councilman Hodgkins: Aye; Supervisor Grattidge: Aye. **CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION #106**

**Adjournment of meeting**

Motion by Councilman Grasso

Seconded by Councilman Heritage

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. CARRIED

The Meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Mills  
Town Clerk