

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

April 29, 2013

The Agenda meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Charlton, Saratoga County, New York was held at the Charlton Town Hall and called to order by Supervisor Grattidge at 8:27 p.m. to set the agenda for the May 13th Town Board Meeting.

Present: Councilman Gardner, Councilman Lippiello, Councilman Salisbury, Councilman Verola, Supervisor Grattidge, Town Clerk Brenda Mills, Attorney Van Vranken.

RESOLUTION #79

Abstract of Claims

Motion by Councilman Verola

Seconded by Councilman Lippiello

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board has approved the payment of bills as presented in Abstract No. 108, voucher numbers 212 – 252 in the amount of \$36,124.53 and Abstract No. 4, vouchers number 7 & 8 in the amount of \$2,397.89 and Abstract No. 5, voucher number 9 in the amount of \$474.00.

Discussion: Councilman Gardner said that he did not sign voucher number 222 which includes the payment of health insurance for a retired employee because the policy for this has not been discussed.

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

RESOLUTION #80

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Councilman Verola

Seconded by Councilman Lippiello

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board has approved the Regular Meeting minutes from April 8, 2013.

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

DISCUSSION

Assessor Rachael Holbrook asked the Board for authorization to attend two 2 day courses at Cornell University in July at a cost of \$459.99 plus meals. This costs represents 50% of the total cost, as her other employer is paying 50%.

RESOLUTION #81

Authorization of expenses for Assessor Holbrook at Cornell University

Motion by Councilman Verola

Seconded by Councilman Lippiello

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes Assessor Rachael Holbrook to attend courses at Cornell University with a total cost not to exceed \$600.00.

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

Assessor Rachael Holbrook addressed the Board regarding Veteran's Disability Income. The Veteran's Disability income is not a taxable income and is not listed on their income tax returns. Those Veterans that just show their income tax returns as proof of income, do not have that income considered part of their total income for exemptions. Veterans that bring in their disability award letter and show it to the Assessors must have the

disability income considered as part of their total income. The Assessors are asking the Board to pass a resolution saying that even when they see the disability award letter, they do not have to use it as part of total income. Supervisor Grattidge asked the Clerk to make copies of the current Veteran's Exemption Law for the Board and they will review it and discuss the issue at a future meeting.

Assessor Rachael Holbrook reported that the Assessor's 2013 Assessment Change Report shows that in Charlton, 35 assessments were lowered by a total of \$980,051., 53 assessments were increased by a total of \$4,715,517., and 13 new assessments were added for 2,101,915.

Assessor Rachael Holbrook said that the Assessors would like to do away with Tuesday evening hours, as no one in their department is available to work that night. They proposed working one Tuesday night per month, no Tuesday nights but adding 1 hour to their day shifts, or if the Board wants them to have evening hours, they would like Thursday evenings. Supervisor Grattidge said that Court is Thursday nights and that is not a good night to have the Assessors Office open. He feels that Tuesday nights are important at least in the months when residents are filing for exemptions. He pointed out that the Town Clerk's Office and the Zoning Office are open Tuesday evenings and all have the same evening hours. The Board decided to wait to make their decision.

The Sales tax for the month was \$111,854 and the mortgage tax was \$7,692.37. Supervisor Grattidge said that the Key Bank custodial statement was received.

Peter Parker, President of the Charlton Seniors, requested authorization from the Town Board to have a 55 inch tv (provided by the Seniors) installed in the main meeting room at the Community Center. The Seniors have agreed that other users of the Center could use the tv. Supervisor Grattidge asked the Town Clerk to ask the maintenance man to assist the Seniors with the wall mount of the tv.

RESOLUTION #82

Authorization to allow the wall mount of a flat screen tv at the Community Center

Motion by Councilman Verola

Seconded by Councilman Lippiello

RESOLVED that the Charlton Seniors have purchased a 55 inch tv to be mounted at the Community Center.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes the 55 inch tv to be wall mounted on the north wall of the meeting room in the Community Center.

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

Supervisor Grattidge said that the theme for Founder's Day this year is "cultures working together". He will send the information that he received from the Historical Society to Attorney Van Vranken to write a proclamation.

Supervisor Grattidge said that Councilman Verola has provided the Board with copies of the Town Audits that were done. No Board members had questions or comments regarding the audits, so Attorney Van Vranken was asked to prepare a resolution for the next meeting to accept the audits.

Supervisor Grattidge said that he feels that the Board will need to address regulations for solar arrays for the different zones in Charlton, especially in the residential areas of Charlton because the lots are much smaller. Attorney Van Vranken gave the Board a 2nd draft of the Local Law for Solar Arrays. He asked the Board to review it, as probably more changes will need to be made. A second public hearing will be scheduled once all of the recommended changes are made.

Dawn Szurek sent the Board an email suggesting a program for public emergency training. Currently the training is being in done in Clifton Park. Supervisor Grattidge said that Clifton Park has a full-time Emergency person because of the size of the Town. He feels that because of the much smaller size of Charlton, and the fact that the volunteer firemen in Charlton do much of the same thing, that this program may not be the right fit for Charlton. Councilman Gardner said that it would be very expensive and he also feels that the firemen do a good job of this.

Councilman Verola said that she would like to re-establish the Communications Committee. She would like to see people with experience in communications on the committee. Councilman Lippiello suggested that she ask former member of the committee for their past ideas. Supervisor Grattidge asked Councilman Verola to bring suggested names to the May Agenda meeting.

Attorney Van Vranken left the meeting at 9:34 p.m.

Marv Schorr said that the roadside clean-up on April 27th was not well attended, however the electronic recycling program went very well. The tree distribution was also very popular. Councilman Verola agreed and said that she registered 153 cars to drop off electronic equipment, and there were additional cars that came in the north driveway.

RESOLUTION #83

Adjourn Meeting

Motion by Councilman Verola

Seconded by Councilman Gardner

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board be adjourned at 9:40 pm.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Mills
Town Clerk

