

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

March 12, 2012

The Regular meeting of the Town Board of Charlton, Saratoga County, New York was held at the Charlton Town Hall and called to order by Supervisor Grattidge at 7:30pm.

Supervisor Grattidge lead the pledge of Allegiance.

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

Excused: Councilman Salisbury

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Verola and seconded by Councilman Lippiello to accept the minutes of the Town Board Agenda Meeting held on February 27, 2012.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. CARRIED

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR FOR AGENDA ITEMS

No one spoke.

APPROVAL OF ABSTRACT

A motion was made by Councilman Verola and seconded by Councilman Lippiello to accept General Fund claim numbers 158 – 167 and 169- 193 with the amended amount of \$11,758.90 as set forth in Abstract #105, amending the Abstract to remove voucher #168 from Napa Auto Parts until further documentation is received.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. CARRIED

TOWN CLERKS REPORT

The Town Clerk reported taking in \$1,294.05 for the month of February. \$349.12 was paid to the Supervisor. \$944.93 was paid to other Governmental agencies.

A motion was made by Councilman Lippiello and seconded by Councilman Verola to accept the Town Clerk's report as read.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. CARRIED

The Town Clerk gave the Town Board a copy of a Park Application from the Old Timers for seasonal use of the Town's volleyball courts for Thursday Evenings from June 21st to September 13th from 6 p.m. to dark.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Verola and seconded by Councilman Gardner to authorize the seasonal use of the volleyball courts by the Old Timers on Thursday evenings.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays CARRIED

The Town Clerk gave the Town Board a copy of a Park Application from the BHBL Junior Baseball League for seasonal use of the Elmer Smith Park baseball field for usage Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to noon from April 3rd to June 30th.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Verola and seconded by Councilman Lippiello to authorize the seasonal use of the baseball field by the BHBL Junior Baseball League as requested.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays CARRIED

SUPERVISORS REPORT

The Revenues and Expense report for the month were not available at this time.

For the month of February, I attended 6 Town meetings and 17 County meetings.
Some of the highlights of the month:

- Attended normal Town meetings
- Attended the final session of the NYSAC Legislative Conference and heard the Governor speak on his agenda for the state
- Attended numerous meetings concerning the County Landfill and Nursing Home
- Reviewed the Town's Insurance Policies for 2012 with our Insurance Rep.
- Worked with the Electrician and the Head Constable on the planning of the new Radio system.
- Attended 2 planning meetings for the 2012 Sundae on the Farm
- Attended the Annual Association of Towns meeting in NYC
- Took a tour of the GE Dredging Project up in Fort Edwards

The Supervisor said that this year's Sundae on the Farm will be held in Charlton at the Dave Wood farm on Eastern Avenue on June 17th.

COMMUNICATIONS

An e-mail was received from Nanci Wilson thanking the Highway Department for the nice job that they did removing the snow during the recent storm.

An e-mail was received from the Department of Environmental Conservation regarding the recent audit of the Town's MS4 program. The town received a satisfactory rating for the program and was told that the Town has done an excellent job.

A letter was received from the Charlton School thanking the Planning Board, Jay Wilkinson and Sue York for their professionalism, assistance and approval of the design and plans for an addition to the school.

DEPARTMENT & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning Board – Councilman Verola reported that in February the Board met on February 20, and there were 3 application conferences, deliberations on one site plan review application and 2 subdivision applications, and discussion on a referral.

Dog Control – Councilman Verola reported that in February there were 8 dog complaints and 4 tickets issued and filed with the courts.

Zoning – Councilman Gardner reported that in February there were 3 building permits issued. They also closed out 56 old permits, of which 47 had no final inspections.

Emergency – Councilman Gardner said that he attended the Local Emergency Coordinators Meeting. Items discussed were the change in location of the Red Cross from Glens Falls to Albany, homeland security, reverse 911, and an overview of the tropical storm.

Constables – Councilman Lippiello reported in February there were 27 patrols, 18 complaints, 5 911 calls, 52 tickets were issued, and 2 EMT calls. The radio antenna for the new police radio is up now on the building, and the wiring still needs to be done.

Water – Councilman Lippiello said that there were problems with Cummins generator at the pump house. The Company has suggested more frequent, longer runs. There also was a preconstruction meeting for Deer Run and discussion of what was necessary to begin the water lines from Komar to Deer Run, which is scheduled to begin Monday, March 19th. Supervisor Grattidge said that Mike Emerich was at the preconstruction meeting reviewing the road conditions and the Town's expectations of how the roads are going to be dealt with. The contractor is supposed to be putting flyers in resident's mailboxes notifying them of the construction and the pipes that may be laying in their yards. Superintendent Morgan has concerns of how the pipefitting will be when the pipe is opened up. If the pipe needs fixing, it would be the Town's expense to pay for new materials.

Highway – Superintendent Emerich said that the Town was given an extremely high rating on their MS4 program. He noted that because of the mild winter, the Town used only 2,300 gallons of diesel fuel in January and February, as opposed to 3,500 gallons during the same period last year. Mr. Emerich stated that he has \$3,500 in checks that he has received from the sale of scrap metal. He asked the Board if that money could be put back into his sign budget. He also stated that he has 9 FEMA claims and has submitted 7 so far. He is currently working on finishing the Highway Agreement.

ECC – The annual roadside cleanup will be April 28th from 9 a.m. to noon, and the tree distribution will be from noon to 1 p.m.

ZORC – Mr. Schorr said that the draft copy of the new ordinance has been completed and sent to Attorney Van Vranken for legal review.

Seniors – Mr. Schorr said that the Seniors are requesting an additional set of keys to the Community Center for their Treasurer.

A ***motion*** was made by Councilman Verola and seconded by Councilman Lippiello to authorize the Town Clerk to have an additional set of keys made for the Seniors.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. Carried

Historian – Mrs. Linder said that this year the date for putting flags on graves in Charlton will be May 10th, with a rain date of May 15th.

Records Advisory Board – Councilmen Gardner and Verola met with Dennis Meadows from New York State Archives. He stated that he may be able to provide an intern for the summer to help the Clerk work on organizing the vault, and he may have a computer program that could assist the Town Clerk.

Community Center – Mr. Emerich said that the front railing at the Center is rotting off. He will get quotes on fixing and or replacing the railing. The Supervisor asked him to put signs on the railing warning not to lean on the railing.

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, PROCLAMATION AND AUTHORIZATIONS

A motion was made by Councilman Verola and seconded by Councilman Lippiello to authorize the Supervisor to sign the engagement letter for services from Environmental Design Partners.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays, Carried

A motion was made by Councilman Verola and seconded by Councilman Lippiello that Resolution No. 57 – A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE AGREEMENTS WITH NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDING SERVICES TO THE TOWN OF CHARLTON be approved.

Discussion: Councilman Gardner said that he feels that the Board should have more discussion and things should be added, but that would take another meeting, and he does not want to hold up the funding to the non-profits. Councilman Verola said that the non-profits are waiting on the funding and she feels that the Board should move forward with the agreements.

Roll Call Vote: Councilman Gardner: Aye, Councilman Lippiello: Aye, Councilman Salisbury: Absent, Councilman Verola: Aye, Supervisor Grattidge: Aye CARRIED

A motion was made by Councilman Verola and seconded by Councilman Gardner that Resolution No. 58 – A RESOLUTION TO ORDER POSTED ROADS IN THE TOWN OF CHARLTON WITH A FOUR TON GROSS WEIGHT LIMIT ON A TEMPORARY BASIS be approved.

Discussion: Councilman Lippiello asked if there was enough frost this year to be a problem. Mr. Emerich said that there were a few roads, mainly in West Charlton.

Roll Call Vote: Councilman Gardner: Aye, Councilman Lippiello: Aye, Councilman Salisbury: Absent, Councilman Verola: Aye, Supervisor Grattidge: Aye CARRIED

A motion was made Councilman Verola and seconded by Councilman Lippiello that Resolution No. 59 – A RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO A PLANNED MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT FOR THE TOWN OF CHARLTON WATER DISTRICT EMERGENCY STANDBY GENERATOR AND EQUIPMENT be approved.

Roll Call Vote: Councilman Gardner: Aye, Councilman Lippiello: Aye, Councilman Salisbury: Absent, Councilman Verola: Aye, Supervisor Grattidge: Aye CARRIED

COUNCILMAN REPORTS

Councilman Gardner said that he will be attending the 3 day Emergency Planning Course in April. He gave the Town Clerk information regarding the False Claims Act – Contractors and Sub-Contractors Records, which increases the retention period for construction records to ten years after project completion. He also stated that the MS-4 review was excellent.

Councilman Lippiello reminded that the deadline for newsletter articles is March 15th. There was a meeting last week for Party in the Park, and things are moving along. They are working on the climbing wall, helicopter, band, and the firemen have agreed to sell food at the event.

Councilman Verola said that she received a call from a resident on Sweetman Road regarding National Grid and that spraying of herbicides near the power line area. Supervisor Grattidge said that a few weeks ago, the DEC contacted National Grid and it was determined that they were not going to use those herbicides, especially at that time of the year. He is not aware if they are planning to use the herbicides later in the year. She also noted that there are a lot of bugs crawling on the back entrance of the Town Hall, and she suggested that maybe the Town should call an exterminator.

Town Clerk Brenda Mills said that she has received calls from residents wanting assistance with rabid animals or wildlife on their property. She was told that Dog Control could not answer to any calls except calls regarding dogs, and wanted to know what to tell residents. It is the resident's responsibility to call a trapper or wildlife company if they have a problem on their property. Dog Control can only handle dogs. The Supervisor asked to have the Dog Control Officer put together an article for the newsletter.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Martin Wilson – Mr. Wilson said that he has served on the Party in the Park Committee for several years, and he heard that the Board previously dropped Party in the Park. He feels that this is the biggest event that the Town puts on and why is there not more emphasis put on supporting it? He wanted to make sure that there would be money available to support the event. The Supervisor said that in the past money was raised from donations for the fireworks, and \$2,200 was received as a grant from the County for Youth Week. The Board knew that the grant would not be available this year. The Town anticipates raising the money needed through donations.

Supervisor Grattidge said that the event will go on and the bills will get paid. Councilman Lippiello thanked Mr. Wilson for the several years that he volunteered on the committee.

Kevin Keelan - Mr. Keelan gave the Board a copy of a report on Open Government. He is interested in moving Charlton forward in open government. He has heard it said that the people in Charlton do not care and he does not agree. He said he felt that the listening session that the Board held on March 10 was a great idea for communicating with the residents. He feels that the Communications position was important and does not feel that the Board should have cut the position as being non-essential. The website was not the only purpose of the Communications Committee. He feels that people do care and if they were made more aware of what was going on, they would get more involved.

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Mills
Town Clerk