

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

August 30, 2010

The Agenda 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 7:35 pm.

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

Supervisor Grattidge announced that this meeting is to set the Agenda for the regular meeting of the Town Board on Monday, September 13, 2010.

APPROVAL OF ABSTRACT

A motion was made by Councilman Verola and seconded by Councilman Gardner to accept General Fund claim numbers 1543 - 1571 as set forth in Abstract #116 in the amount of \$ 34,706.71, and General Fund claim numbers 908 – 910 as set forth in Abstract #99108 in the amount of \$227.47.

VOTE: All Ayes, No Nays. CARRIED

Supervisor Grattidge noted again for the record that no vouchers were turned in by Mike Emerich, Highway Superintendent, and many vendors have called about past due invoices. He asked Councilman Verola to speak with Mr. Emerich. Councilman Verola said that she has spoken to him in the past, and when he returns from vacation she will speak with him again.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Verola and seconded by Councilman Gardner to accept the minutes of the Town Board Meeting held on August 9, 2010.

Vote: Councilman Gardner: Aye, Councilman Lippiello: Abstained, Councilman Salisbury: Abstained, Councilman Verola: Aye, Supervisor Grattidge: Aye CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town offices will be closed September 6th in observance of Labor Day.

Explore Charlton weekend is coming up on September 18th and 19th. There will be tours of local farms, open house at the Town Hall and the Charlton Historical Society Museum, walking tour of the Historic District, etc.

A free concert sponsored by Saratoga County featuring the Air Force Band of Liberty will be September 25th at 3pm. Free tickets are available at the Town Clerk's office.

DISCUSSION

The August Sales Tax was \$100,522, which is up 11% from last year. The Mortgage Tax was \$7,253.50.

Supervisor Grattidge said that the Town has received a check from Saratoga County in the amount of \$2,200 for the Youth Week Grant. The money was used to pay for Party in the Park, which along with donations for fireworks, covered all expenses for the event.

Supervisor Grattidge said that the bids for the repairs at the Highway Garage were opened August 27th. The Town Engineer has recommended that the Town accept the bid from Capital Masonry.

Torben Aabo who is a member of the Friends of the Corben Farm group, addressed the Board. The group would like the Town Board to pass a resolution in support of their efforts to have the Corben property maintained. Councilman Verola said that as a private citizen, she has signed their petition in support of the maintenance of the property. Attorney Van Vranken asked what are the Friends of the Corben Farm? Mr. Aabo said that the Friends are a group of Charlton residents that have noticed the deterioration of the farm. They found the Corben will that states that there is \$500,000 in a trust fund for the upkeep of the property. Trustco Bank is the trustee of the property. Nothing is being done to keep up the property. They are afraid that the trustees are not doing enough, and waiting too long. Mr. Aabo confirmed that the group is an Ad-hoc group. There is no money being requested from the Town. They just want the Board to support their request to have the trustee maintain the property. Mr. Aabo said right now it is a beautification issue, but in a few years will be a safety issue. Councilman Gardner asked if there are other properties in Charlton that face the same issue? Is this something that the Board should get involved in? Councilman Verola said that beauty is in the eye of the beholder, and this sounds like a beautification issue. Is it right to hold this property to a standard that others are not held to? Attorney Van Vranken agreed with Councilman Verola, and said that this group really has no right to have any say about how the property is maintained. Mr. Aabo said that the will states that the property must be maintained and Trustco Bank is not doing that. Supervisor Grattidge said he thought that the Board should hold this discussion until the next agenda meeting, by which time he will try to get a copy of the will. Attorney Van Vranken said that if there are 300 friends of the Corben Farm, maybe they could come up with money for an attorney. Town support in the form of a resolution would not hold much clout. It would be symbolic, but not meaningful.

The Charlton Seniors have requested permission from the Town Board to install window blinds on the meeting room windows at the Community Center. The Seniors have agreed to pay for the blinds.

Supervisor Grattidge said that he would like to ask the Technology Committee to put together their recommendations and quotes for a sound/recording system for the meeting room. He suggested that the Town Board members attend the next Technology Committee meeting.

The Town Clerk said she is in contact with other Town Clerks regarding the dog licensing issue. The details have not been finalized at this point.

The Election Custodian, Bob Killeen, said he has been working with the Board of Elections on the best way to set up for upcoming elections. There will be a primary on September 14, 2010.

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND AUTHORIZATIONS

A motion was made by Councilman Lippiello and seconded by Councilman Verola that Resolution No. 101 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A TRANSFER OF FUNDS NECESSARY TO PAY FOR THE COST OF E-NABLE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE NEW COMPUTER SYSTEM IN THE NEW TOWN HALL be approved.

Roll call vote: Councilman Gardner: Aye, Councilman Lippiello: Aye, Councilman Salisbury: Aye, Councilman Verola: Aye, Supervisor Grattidge: Aye *Approved*

A motion was made by Councilman Verola and seconded by Councilman Gardner that Resolution No. 102 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUPERVISOR TO ACCEPT THE BID OF KEVIN T. JOHNSON d/b/a CAPITAL MASONRY CONTRACTORS AND REGARDING CERTAIN REPAIRS TO A PORTION OF THE HIGHWAY GARAGE FACILITY be approved.

Roll call vote: Councilman Gardner: Aye, Councilman Lippiello: Aye, Councilman Salisbury: Aye, Councilman Verola: Aye, Supervisor Grattidge: Aye *Approved*

A motion was made by Councilman Verola and seconded by Councilman Lippiello that Resolution No. 103 – A RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM CONTINGENCY TO ENGINEERING be approved.

Discussion: Councilman Salisbury questioned the way that the Town accounts for Escrow Funds. He said that money coming in for escrow is going into revenue. Councilman Gardner said that escrow accounts are generated from subdivisions, so why are we constantly running out of money? Supervisor Grattidge said that when you do your budget, you have to estimate engineering fees.

Roll call vote: Councilman Gardner: Aye, Councilman Lippiello: Aye, Councilman Salisbury: Aye, Councilman Verola: Aye, Supervisor Grattidge: Aye *Approved*

A motion was made by Councilman Verola and seconded by Councilman Lippiello that Resolution No. 104 – A RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM CONTINGENCY TO DRAINAGE be approved.

Roll call vote: Councilman Gardner: Aye, Councilman Lippiello: Aye, Councilman Salisbury: Aye, Councilman Verola: Aye, Supervisor Grattidge: Aye *Approved*

A motion was made by Councilman Verola and seconded by Councilman Lippiello that Resolution No. 105 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHARLTON SENIORS TO HAVE WINDOW BLINDS INSTALLED AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER be approved.

Roll call vote: Councilman Gardner: Aye, Councilman Lippiello: Aye, Councilman Salisbury: Aye, Councilman Verola: Aye, Supervisor Grattidge: Aye *Approved*

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Mills
Town Clerk