

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

**July 12, 2010**

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 7:33pm.

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

Absent: Councilman Salisbury

Supervisor Grattidge lead the pledge of Allegiance.

**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 June 28, 2010.

VOTE: All Ayes, No Nays. *CARRIED*

**APPROVAL OF ABSTRACT**

A motion was made by Councilman Verola and seconded by Councilman Lippiello to accept General Fund claim numbers 1423-1464 as set forth in Abstract #113 in the amount of \$29,857.83, and claim numbers 904-907 as set forth in Abstract #99107 in the amount of \$503.34.

Discussion: The Board discussed making all utility bills prepaid in order to avoid late charges. The Board agreed. Supervisor Grattidge said that he still thinks that the Town should consider automatic payment of these bills in order to avoid late charges and eliminate postage costs.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays *CARRIED*

**TOWN CLERKS REPORT**

The Town Clerk reported taking in \$527.75 for the month of June. \$199.39 was paid to the Supervisor and \$328.36 was paid to other Governmental Agencies.

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

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays *CARRIED*

**SUPERVISORS REPORT**

For the month of June, I attended 4 Town meetings and 6 County meetings.  
Some of the highlights of the month:

- Attended all the Founders Day Activities, 5-K Run, Party in the Park, Parade
- Attended the 1st Saratoga Brewfest at Ellms Farm distributed Town information
- Attended Sundae on the Farm at the Arnoldhaven Farm
- Attended a CDTC meeting in Albany

	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>
<u>General</u>	23,504.73	91,032.83
<u>Highway</u>	70,775.00	53,806.60
<u>Water Dist. 1</u>	522.85	13,949.05
<u>Water Dist. 2</u>	97.83	135.90
<u>Town Hall Project</u>		
H-Fund	559.71	183,288.63

Supervisor Grattidge said that he has received a proposal from Tech II for renewal of the Cisco Firewall warranty. Mike Sullivan from E-Nable has recommended that the Town renew the warranty.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Verola and seconded by Councilman Lippiello to authorize the Supervisor to renew the firewall warranty with Tech II.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. *CARRIED*

Supervisor Grattidge said that an issue with Williamson Law needs to be worked out for the new accounting software. The Town is requesting that Williamson put several years of back accounting information into the software.

Supervisor Grattidge said that there is still approximately \$290 remaining in the Equipment portion of the Town Clerk's grant. The grant approved the purchase of desktop computers. He would like to have a desktop pc put in his office because he is currently using a laptop owned by the County. He can get a refurbished desktop pc from E-Nable for approximately \$400.

A motion was made by Councilman Verola and seconded by Councilman Gardner to authorize the Supervisor to purchase a desktop pc from E-Nable.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. *CARRIED*

Supervisor Grattidge said there recently was a meeting with the Deer Run contractors. Work should begin in August on the Swaggertown Road entrance.

Supervisor Grattidge said that he requested a quote from Dave Kenyon for control of the weeds at Town Hall.

Supervisor Grattidge met with Galway Ambulance. They are very concerned over their projected revenue shortages since the referendum vote was defeated in Galway.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There will be a Charlton Fire District #1 Bond Referendum Vote on Tuesday, July 13 from 6:00-9:00pm, at the firehouse at 786 Charlton Rd.

The Town and the Charlton Historical Society are sponsoring a free Summer Jazz Concert on Wednesday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

The Town has received the 2009 Audit of the Town's financial records from Councilman Salisbury. Supervisor Grattidge asked the Board to review the Audit for future discussion.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

### Highway - **General Operations**

- Replace culverts on Jenkins Rd and Maple Ave.
- Clean ditches on Jenkins Rd and Maple Ave.
- Patch holes around town on paved and dirt roads
- Grade dirt roads
- Grind Maple Ave and Jenkins Rd
- Mow parks
- Trimming trees
- Haul Stone

### **Equipment Repair**

- Misc. repairs to mowers and truck

### **Miscellaneous Items**

- Clean up from party in the park.

Councilman Lippiello asked Mike Emerich if he could start turning in his vouchers for vendor payment in a more timely manner as the Town receives numerous call from vendors regarding past due Highway Department bills. Mr. Emerich said that the Town previously cut a position in his department, so he is on the road and doesn't have time to do vouchers. He would like a part-time clerk. Councilman Verola said she would be okay with approving a part-time clerk. The Supervisor and Councilman Gardner felt that this issue should wait until budget time.

Zoning – In June, 14 building permits and 12 CO/CU's were issued.

Parks - Bob Lippiello said that they would like approval to have the Town Engineer review the design plans of a new bridge that Union College students developed several years ago. The Board had no objection.

Library – The Library is experiencing a very successful summer reading program with over 500 students participating. Town resident Joan Weaver has retired after 32 years of service.

Planning Board – The Board met on June 21<sup>st</sup>, and deliberated on 2 subdivision applications and reviewed one ZBA referral.

Water - Councilman Lippiello asked where the Town stands with the water switch over. The Supervisor said that a test was done last week, and there was no problem with the sprinkler system in Town Hall, however when they were equalizing the pressure, a service line was broken and had to be repaired. They are continuing to do tests and working on the pressure issues. Supervisor Grattidge said that water bills have been issued and payments are due by month end. Councilman Gardner said that the bookkeeper said there were approximately 24 late reading cards. Supervisor Grattidge said that there were a few fees that were waived in the last week because the people have very persuasive hardships. Councilmen Gardner and Verola questioned the policy for late water reading cards. Councilman Lippiello said that the \$85 late fee was put in place several years ago, and it seems to have worked to get more cards in. It is something that the Board will discuss further. Councilman Verola asked if Mr. Morgan is still working on the doors and roof at the pump house, The Supervisor did not have a current status.

ECC – Marv Schorr gave a reminder that the Household Hazardous Waste collection day is August 21, 2010.

Parks – Mr. Eggleston said that there have been a lot of park reservations so far this year.

Judges – Judge Ketchum that the courts have been very busy. In June, approximately \$10,000 in fines and surcharges were collected.

Communications Committee – Mrs. Bourne said that they are continuing their work on site mapping the website.

Historian - Laura Linder currently has 3 volunteers assisting her with making a listing of the contents of her office. The Historian requested that a key to her office be given to volunteer Nancy Wilson.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Verola and seconded by Councilman Gardner to authorize a key to the Historian's Office be given to Nancy Wilson to be used only during the Town Clerk's hours.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays, *CARRIED*

### **MOTIONS, RESOLUTION, PROCLAMATIONS AND AUTHORIZATIONS**

A motion was made by Councilman Verola and seconded by Councilman Lippiello that Resolution No. 96 – A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 81 AS APPROVED BY THE TOWN BOARD ON MAY 10, 2010 AUTHORIZING THE RECORDS MANAGEMENT OFFICER TO PROVIDE A KEY FOR USE BY THE TOWN JUSTICES AND THEIR CLERK IN ORDER TO ACCESS TOWN OF CHARLTON JUSTICE COURT RECORDS be approved.

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

A motion was made by Councilman Verola and seconded by Councilman Lippiello that Resolution No. 97 – A RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING FUNDS FOR ADDITIONAL COST OF CEMETERY FLAGS be approved.

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

Councilman Gardner said that on April 12<sup>th</sup>, Resolution Number 72 was passed regarding Facebook, and he asked the Supervisor for feedback about what had been done to remove the page. Supervisor Grattidge said that he mentioned on April 12<sup>th</sup>, the Town has no official connection to the Facebook page. A disclaimer was put on the Facebook page that said that the Town Board had no connection, had not authorized it, and was not involved in it. That is where the matter stands. Councilman Gardner said that the disclaimer is no longer on the page. He also said that whoever created it, was asked “if they had permission to create this page” and he does not understand how anyone could own the name Town of Charlton, other than the people of the Town of Charlton. He thinks that more discussion needs to be held about this subject.

### **COUNCILMAN REPORTS**

Councilman Gardner said that he thought that Councilman Salisbury’s Audit Report was very informative and gave some good topics to be discussed. Further comments were inaudible.

Councilman Verola asked if anything had been done as far as having name plates purchased for the Planning Board and ZBA, and she inquired about a microphone. The Town Clerk said that she had made name plates and wanted to get the Boards approval. The Supervisor said he had seen the name plates and thought that they looked very good. The Supervisor said that they gave the microphone project to the Technology Committee, which has not met yet.

Councilman Lippiello reminded residents about the Fire District vote. He also asked about the postage meter issue. Councilman Salisbury had looked into the costs and savings involved, so the Board will discuss the issue further upon his return. Supervisor Grattidge said that he thinks that the Town should seriously consider electronic bill pays.

### **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

Dennis Ceparano asked for a status of the acoustics for the meeting room. Supervisor Grattidge said that the Board will have to decide if they want to spend the money for studies or to start trying solutions.

Marv Schorr thanked the Highway Department employees for their hard work on paving Imperial Lane during the recent excruciating heat.

Vern Ketchum will forward the name of the Acoustical Engineer firm that he has used in the past.

Communications Committee member Kevin Stone said that they recent held a promotion to get residents to fill out a communications survey and sign up to receive the news bulletin. Members of the Communications Committee personally donated a \$50 gift certificate as a drawing prize of the residents that responded. Mr.

Stone gave the Supervisor a list of all the residents that responded, and each was assigned a ticket number. Councilman Gardner was asked to draw a ticket and the winning ticket belonged to Joanna Russell of Cook Road.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Mills  
Town Clerk