

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

June 14, 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 7:30pm.

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

Supervisor Grattidge lead the pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Lippiello and seconded by Councilman Salisbury to accept the minutes of the Town Board Agenda Meeting held on June 1, 2010.

VOTE: All Ayes, No Nays. *CARRIED*

APPROVAL OF ABSTRACT

A motion was made by Councilman Verola and seconded by Councilman Gardner to accept General Fund claim numbers 1363-1399 as set forth in Abstract #111 in the amount of \$126,417.65.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays *CARRIED*

TOWN CLERKS REPORT

The Town Clerk reported taking in \$352.25 for the month of May. \$75.56 was paid to the Supervisor and \$276.59 was paid to other Governmental Agencies.

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

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays *CARRIED*

Supervisor Grattidge informed everyone that the Town received a second check in the amount of \$12,653.00 which is part of the Town Clerk's grant for the Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund.

SUPERVISORS REPORT

For the month of May I attended 5 Town meetings and 8 County meetings.
Some of the highlights of the month:

- Continued the planning for Party in the Park Family Day and Explore Charlton
- Attended a meeting of Sundae on the Farm that will be held in Charlton
- Attended the SEDC Annual Dinner
- Attended a County roundtable meeting by CEG
- Attended an Open House of the new Doctor's office in Charlton

Despite the occasional rain, Founder's Day Weekend was successful. There appeared to be record attendance at the Party in the Park fireworks.

	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>
<u>General</u>	89,421.54	22,811.73
<u>Highway</u>	88,673.95	20,084.14
<u>Water Dist. 1</u>	135.91	5,272.50
<u>Water Dist. 2</u>	0.00	143.78
<u>Town Hall Project</u>		
H-Fund	14.24	363.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Charlton Fire District #1 will hold an Informational Meeting on June 15th at 7:00pm regarding the new proposed Fire House. A Bond Referendum Vote will be held on Tuesday, July 13 from 6:00-9:00pm at the firehouse at 786 Charlton Road.

Sundae on the Farm is on June 20th from 12:00-4:00pm at the Arnold Haven Farm, 1298 Sacandaga Road, West Charlton.

On June 15th, John Kaska, a former Charlton resident will be honored at the Saratoga County's Memorial service for deceased veterans.

The Ellms Farm will be hosting a brewfest and beer tasting on June 19th. Supervisor Grattidge has been asked to be in attendance to promote Charlton.

COMMUNICATIONS

A letter was received from Congressman Scott Murphy's office concerning the 115kV transmission project by National Grid. He stated that he is aware that there are concerns from residents of several towns in his district. He has encouraged all entities involved to be cooperative and give residents the opportunities to voice their concerns. A copy of the letter is attached with all of the National Grid documentation in the Clerk's office.

Time Warner sent the Supervisor a letter informing him that a few channels will be repositioned.

A notice was received from New York State stating that the CHIPS money has been authorized to be released. The CHIPS money is for local highway programs. He also mentioned that he has documentation from New York State regarding early retirement for any employees that might be interested.

Supervisor Grattidge stated that the Town Board received a FOIL request from David Milne for budget, bond repayment and the Town's Annual Report. He turned the request over to the Town Clerk for processing.

Supervisor Grattidge received a letter from the Assessment Review Board and read it into the record. The letter addressed the grievances filed this year. A copy of the letter is attached.

DEPARTMENT & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Zoning – For May, 7 building permits were issued and 15 Certificates of Occupancy.

Communications – Chairwoman Lovie Bourne offered condolences to the family of Peter Olsen, who was a member of the Communication Committee and recently died while on a trip in New Mexico. She stated that the Committee is currently working on site mapping for the Town's website.

Planning – The Board met on May 17th and deliberated on 2 subdivision applications, and gave updates on 2 major subdivisions.

Constables – For the month of May there were 29 patrols.

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, PROCLAMATIONS AND AUTHORIZATIONS

A motion was made by Councilman Lippiello and seconded by Councilman Verola that Resolution No. 91 – A RESOLUTION TO HONOR THE ARNOLD FAMILY AND SUNDAE ON THE FARM 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 Lippiello and seconded by Councilman Verola that Resolution No. 92 – A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH STANDARD WORK DAYS FOR ELECTED AND APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS 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 Lippiello and seconded by Councilman Verola that Resolution No. 93 – A RESOLUTION TO APPOINT KIMBERLY A. CARON AS A MEMBER OF THE TOWN OF CHARLTON BOARD OF ASSESSORS be approved.

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

COUNCILMAN REPORTS

Councilman Verola mentioned that the lawn at Town Hall is full of weeds and needs attention. She volunteered to contact a few lawn care companies to get quotes and prices. The Board thought it was a good idea.

Councilman Lippiello thanked the Party in the Park volunteers and the Historical Society for their work in making the Founder's Day weekend a success.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Eva Butler said that a large bush in front of the Community Center is very overgrown and needs trimming.

Nancy Wilson said that she attended an email workshop with the Town Historian.

Laura Linder stated that she will have three assistants working with her this summer in the Historian's Office to get her records properly filed and accessible.

The meeting adjourned at 8:16pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Mills
Town Clerk

Attachment:

June 14, 2010

Alan Grattidge, Supervisor
Town of Charlton
758 Charlton Road
Charlton, New York 12019

Re: 2010 Board of Assessment Review
Summary of activities

Dear Supervisor Grattidge,

On May 18th the BAR members met with Charlton Town Assessors Lewis Morris and Rachel Holbrook. We wanted to get a sense of what we would be dealing with on Grievance Day. Lewis had been contacted by a number of Charlton residents regarding primarily clerical errors and a few unequal or excessive assessments. These resulted in 14 "adjustments": 8 corrections to inventory, 4 errors in essential facts, and 2 late senior citizen exemptions.

During our afternoon and evening Grievance sessions, we met with 12 Charlton residents, presenting 13 grievances based on unequal or excessive assessments. Residents have information on grievance procedures available to them. However, some either don't know this or don't bother to provide the required supporting data for their grievance. Later, Lewis was able to provide additional supporting data where needed for our deliberations.

The BAR met at the Charlton Community Center on June 1st for 4 hours and again on June 3rd for 3 hours. Our deliberations and final decisions were more difficult and time consuming than usual. Of the 13 grievances we lowered 6 assessments, 7 have no change in assessments, 2 of them because they did not own the property by the taxable status date of March 1st 2010.

I did the required paperwork and mailed our Determinations on June 7th. On June 10th I gave a Summary of Determinations to Lewis with a copy for the Saratoga County Real Property Tax Services and turned over all the original paperwork to Town Clerk Brenda Mills.

As stated last year, once again the process has highlighted the fact that Charlton needs a complete reassessment. Again it became very evident that there are too many assessment inequities, both too low and too high. The disparity increases each year. Also as stated before, we are strongly in favor of a single, well-qualified assessor.

Respectfully submitted,



Eva Butler, Chairman
Board of Assessment Review