

Village of Owego Board of Trustees Meeting  
Minutes of October 3, 2011

The regular meeting of the Village of Owego Board of Trustees was held on Monday, October 3, 2011 at 2354 State Rte. 434, Apalachin, NY. The following people were in attendance:

Mayor:	Ed Arrington
Trustees:	Tom Clark
	Earl Hartman
	Jim Legursky
	Ann Lockwood
	Kevin Millar
	Doug Worden
Clerk-Treasurer:	Rod Marchewka
Police Sargent:	Chuck Hogancamp
Acting Village Attorney:	Robert McKertich
WWTP Supt.	Ron Horton
DPW Supt.	Jeff Soules

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Arrington followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Privilege of the Floor:

No one spoke.

Mayor Arrington:

Flood Update:

- State of Emergency has been lifted.
- Police cars still on loan from the state police. The village has purchased a new police car – it is being fitted for electronics.
- New York State Thruway Authority is doing a heck of a job for the village
- Attended FEMA Meeting – the village is signed up with FEMA
- Rod Scott from, Patterson Structural Moving and Shoring, LLC, is scheduled to talk at a meeting that will be held at 56 Main Street in the Hubbard Auditorium at 7:00 p.m. He will be discussing raising buildings above the flood elevation
- Concerns about the village running out of money – do to extra expenses incurred by the flood. To date \$121,000 has been spent on flood related expenses (that was not budgeted for)
- The county will pay for food items dropped off at the county gravel pit
- The village has approximately \$240,000 from the CDGB Fund that we can utilize for flood expenses
- FEMA help for a village building that had no insurance is a one time thing
- Additional flood insurance for village buildings is over \$48,000 – that was not budgeted for
- Inflection Energy has made an offer to match funding for half the price of two police cars so we are looking for a corporation match
- Ron Horton has looked into sale of scrap such as electric panels – assortment of junk to get rid of

**Motion** by Trustee Clark, seconded by Trustee Lockwood, to declare flood damaged village equipment as surplus and allow the village to send it equipment to the scrap yard.

**Motion** by Trustee Millar, seconded by Trustee Hartman, to amend prior motion to include ambulance that was out for bids, but was also flooded. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Clark, Hartman, Legursky, Lockwood, Millar, Worden, and Mayor Arrington voted aye.

Motion Adopted 7-0

**Vote on previous motion - Roll Call Vote: Trustees Clark, Hartman, Lockwood, Millar, Worden, and Mayor Arrington voted aye. Trustee Legursky abstained.**

Motion Adopted 6-0-1

SEWER-Supt. Ron Horton

Flood update:

- Belfor Property Restoration did a fantastic job on the vehicle garage – removed siding and insulation and put in new insulation and resided it. Out of 13 buildings 11 were underwater because of flooding

DPW- Supt. Soules

Flood update:

- DPW gutted, dried out, reinsulated and new sheet rock put up
- 1,200 tons of debris picked up so far
- For every dollar spent, the village will be responsible for 12 ½%
- \$67,000 spent on tipping fees
- \$49,000 spent on contractors

OPD-Sgt Hogancamp:

Flood update:

- Both damaged cars up and running
- New police car has been picked up and is in the garage for electronic work

**Motion** by Trustee Lockwood, seconded by Trustee Millar, that Jeff Soules be authorized to hire 3 part-time seasonal workers for 20 weeks to help with flood clean up. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Clark, Hartman, Lockwood, Millar, Worden, and Mayor Arrington voted aye. Trustee Legursky abstained.

Motion Adopted 6-0-1

Clerk:

**Motion** by Trustee Hartman, seconded by Trustee Worden, to approve the transfers as submitted below:

**BOARD REQUESTED BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND TRANSFERS OCTOBER 3, 2011**

FROM/TO	ACCOUNT #	ACCOUNT NAME	AMOUNT
<b>AMENDMENTS</b>			
FROM:	A.3090.00.000	STATE GRANTS	\$700,000.00
TO:	A.6989.40.427	RESTORE NY III	\$700,000.00

FROM:	A.3090.00.000	STATE GRANTS	\$45,033.30
TO:	A.3410.40.140	CONTRACTOR SERVICES	\$45,033.30

APPROVED AT 10/3/11 BOARD MEETING

**Roll Call Vote: Trustees Clark, Hartman, Lockwood, Millar, Worden, and Mayor Arrington voted aye. Trustee Legursky abstained.**

**Motion Adopted 6-0-1**

**Motion by Trustee Millar, seconded by Trustee Worden, to approve September bills as submitted. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Clark, Hartman, Lockwood, Millar, Worden, and Mayor Arrington voted aye. Trustee Legursky abstained.**

**Motion Adopted 6-0-1**

- Discussion on Stackmore Lane Land Exchange – need more information and a written request from Weitzman’s with a map

**Motion by Trustee Millar, seconded by Trustee Clark, to approve payment for a bill that has been on hold for Hancock and Estabrook for attorney fees. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Clark, Hartman, Lockwood, Millar, Worden, and Mayor Arrington voted aye. Trustee Legursky abstained.**

**Motion Adopted 6-0-1**

**Motion by Trustee Millar, seconded by Trustee Lockwood, that Shaun & Kari Brown of 89 Franklin Street be allowed to have the village be subordinate (CDBG mortgage lien) to Chemung Canal Bank so that the Browns may refinance. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Lockwood, Millar, Worden, and Mayor Arrington voted aye. Trustee Clark voted to pass then changed vote to a no. Trustee Legursky abstained.**

**Motion Adopted 5-1-1**

- Liquor License Renewal – Cellar Restaurant – no concerns or complaints (per OPD)
- Lights on the River - the village board would like more information on cost get in touch with HOM and also Stella Reschke from Tourism and report back
- Additional flood insurance is \$48,000 plus, village to set up a workshop meeting to discuss this issue as soon as all parties can attend
- Short and long term borrowing – discussion on Ban & Ran process – it can take several months to complete
- EFC has a 0% loan for sewer plants – up to \$1,000,000
- Trustee Millar to report back to board on the record retention cost and money that may be covered by FEMA

**Motion by Trustee Hartman, seconded by Trustee Lockwood, to approve entering into a contract with National Fire Adjustment at 4% - Mayor may try to negotiate a lower rate – this contract is to help on the insurance & FEMA paperwork and recovery. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Hartman, Lockwood, Millar, and Mayor Arrington voted aye. Trustees Clark and Worden voted no. Trustee Legursky abstained.**

**Motion Adopted 4-2-1**

Trustee/Commissioner Reports:

*Trustee Hartman:*

### **Commissioner Report Summaries**

Village of Owego, New York

Earl Hartman Trustee Ward 2/ Commissioner to: DPW, OFD, Planning

Date: **October 3, 2011**  
to File

Note

(Note: Electronic copies of full reports have been filed with the Mayor, Clerk, Treasurer, all Trustees, DPW, and OFD.)

1.

**OFD:** Nearly all circuit breakers being evaluated and most likely will be are being replaced in primary panels in Central Station's basement level. I am looking at a future program to move these panels out of the basement to avoid this problem in the next flood.

The Fire Board needs to look at how they will reconfigure the Central station to remove critical or high expense replacement space functions from basement.

The bunkers suits were compromised during the flood and are being evaluated by the insurance company for replacements (\$105-\$110K). It should be noted that until the bunker suits are replaced or professionally cleaned and recertified they cannot be used for fire-fighting. The insurance company will be providing temporary bunker suits until ours are replaced. Bob Williams is coordinating this effort. There is confusion on insurance coverage and an independent adjustor has been hired out of Fire Department Funds to aggressively challenge the insurance company's positions. Chief Franz has assigned this to Bob Williams.

**Fire Board:** Board meeting will be on Wed. Oct 5<sup>th</sup>. Report on at next meeting.

**Hydrants:** No action until public meeting is rescheduled.

2. **DPW/Codes:** Self-explanatory. Jeff and his crew are either actively working clean up or trying to get their project log caught up. The last thing Jeff needs at this point is another "what are you doing" voice in his ear right now.

3. **Planning & Zoning:** Next meeting TBD

Submitted by: Earl Hartman  
Trustee/ Commissioner

Cc: Mayor Arrington, Trustees: Clark, Legursky, Lockwood, Millar, Worden, Clerk Marchewka

**Motion by Trustee Hartman, seconded by Trustee Lockwood, to go into executive session to discuss personnel issues. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Clark, Hartman, Lockwood, Millar, Worden, and Mayor Arrington voted aye. Trustee Legursky abstained.**

**Motion Adopted 6-0-1**

**Motion by Trustee Legursky, seconded by Trustee Lockwood, to hire the Law Firm of Coughlin & Gerhart as the permanent attorneys for the village.**

**Motion by Trustee Clark, seconded by Trustee Millar, to table this motion until next meeting because the personnel committee (which meets tomorrow) has not met on this issue. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Clark, Millar, and Mayor Arrington voted aye. Trustee Hartman abstained. Trustees Legursky, Lockwood, and Worden voted no.**

**Motion Failed 3-3-1**

- Trustee Millar wanted to know if a cost was considered on this Decision.

**Vote on full time attorney – Roll Call Vote: Trustees Hartman, Legursky, Lockwood, and Worden voted aye. Trustee Clark abstained. Trustee Millar voted no.**

**Motion Adopted 4-1-1**

**Motion made by Trustee Legursky to abolish the village - died for lack of a second.**

**Motion by Trustee Lockwood, seconded by Trustee Hartman, to revisit grant for 90 Temple Street (Congressman Hinchey's Office) and asking the mayor to contact Congressman Hinchey and see if grant money can be used for flood related expenses and do away with the matching part of the grant. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Hartman, Lockwood, Worden voted aye. Trustee Clark and Mayor Arrington voted no. Trustees Legursky and Millar abstained.**

**Motion Failed 3-2-2**

- Need to be holding these Village of Owego Board Meetings back in the village – check on the availability of 56 Main Street
- Trustee Millar – need to set up workshop on various village issues – most important need to review the flood insurance for village owned buildings
- October 11, 2011 – 6:00 p.m. – 56 Main Street – flood mitigation meeting with Rod Scott on raising houses above flood levels
- Village should look into a code red type emergency notification system. The fire horn on top of the central fire station should be fixed as an additional warning devise

Privilege of the Floor:

Officer Tim Colgan (PBA) – What is the status on replacement of police chief? Mayor responded – no action taken yet – It is part of personnel committee recommendations.

Lee Dunham – 330 Main Street – People on the flats were notified – I personally called them and police and fire went door to door. Can the village ask for more help with the clean up by state crews?

Halloween – Letter (copy below) received recommending Halloween be held at the high school parking lot.

Cynthia A. Motter  
858 Day Hollow Road  
Owego, NY 13827

October 3, 2011

Village Board of Trustees  
Village of Owego  
178 Main Street  
Owego, NY 13827

Dear Village Board:

With the devastating flooding that took place on September 7, 2011 many families are displaced from their homes and the children have been displaced from their school. It will be a long time before they are able to return to their homes and our children are able to attend their own school.

I know Halloween is a month away, but myself, as a member of the T.C. Kids Picnic Committee and Chris Bangle, a school teacher at O-A Elementary School and the O-A PTO are putting together a “Trunk or Treat” for the community.

As I stated many families will not be in their homes and the children will be unable to go “house to house”. We are going to have people come to the OFA parking lot and set up so that the children can go around and get treats.

We will also be having cotton candy, popcorn, donuts and cider. We will be asking area businesses to donate money for candy as we know that some people will not have the funds to purchase candy.

At this time, we are not sure what we are doing for a parade, but are thinking that we would have them start at the Elementary School and walk up the High School driveway; therefore they will only be on George Street for a very short time.

The Tioga County Kids Picnic Committee and the Owego-Apalachin PTO think it is important that now more than ever we need to give our children some normalcy in their lives.

Sincerely,  
Cynthia A. Motter

Attorney Bob McKertich:

- License agreement for sewer department and south side resident for agreement on getting a survey

Into executive session at 9:45 – back in regular session at 10:00 p.m. – no action taken.

Meeting adjourned at 10:01 p.m.