

Village of Owego Board of Trustees Meeting
Minutes of May 3, 2010

The regular meeting of the Village of Owego Board of Trustees was held on Monday, May 3, 2010 at 20 Elm Street, Owego, NY, starting at 7:00 p.m. The following people were in attendance:

Mayor:	Edward L. Arrington
Trustees:	Connie Sternberg
	Jane Woody
	Tom Clark
	Ken Smith
	Ann Lockwood
	Jim Legursky
Clerk-Treasurer:	Rod Marchewka
DPW Supt:	Jeff Soules
WWTP Supt.:	Ron Horton
Police Chief:	Rick McCulskey
Fire Chief:	Ed Bidwell
Village Attorney:	Irene Graven

Insert "A" Visitor's List

The neighborhood improvement committee presented a slide show/power point on rental properties inspected by code enforcement James Mead.

Mr. Mead outlined properties that were sub-standard. The problem is that he may not inspect properties unless invited in by the tenant or landlord.

Mr. Mike Santore gave the board an outline of a proposal for a rental inspection program.

There are 365 non-owner occupied rental units.

Mike Santore, Marilyn Oachs, Nathan Kennedy, Ron Pasto, Melody Patterson, Connie Sternberg make up the Neighborhood Improvement Committee.

Mission Statement Development and recommendation of a plan that gives the Village of Owego an effective means of dealing with neighborhood blight, vacant buildings, protection and safe guarding the rights, health, and safety of landlords, tenants, and the community as a whole.

The recommendations of the committee are:

- 1) Certificates of Occupancy for each rental unit
- 2) Inspection of every rental unit

The committee also recommends the following minimum requirements:

- 1) Adequate heating units capable of maintaining 68 degrees from September 15th to May 30th of each year. Non-vented heaters such as any fuel fired units (i.e. kerosene, propane or natural gas), shall not be the primary source of heat.
- 2) Adequate supply of hot and cold water. All plumbing fixtures shall be in good working order.
- 3) Electrical equipment, wiring and appliances shall be installed and maintained in a safe and approved manner. Extension cords shall not be used in place of permanent wiring. Electrical wiring and equipment shall be protected against excessive current by properly rated over current devices. Disconnect panel(s) must be labeled. Electrical outlets and switches shall be properly mounted, covered and in good working order.
- 4) Mechanical appliances including, but not limited to, stoves and furnaces shall be in safe and working condition. Gas service shall have black iron pipe supply lines through floor penetrations.
- 5) Smoke detectors shall be installed, operational and properly placed, to include one smoke alarm in each bedroom, one smoke alarm in hallway outside of bedrooms (if two story) and on each story including basement. Recommended placement is on the ceiling. If smoke detectors must be on a wall, they shall be no closer than four(4) inches from ceiling or not further than twelve (12) inches from ceiling. One carbon monoxide detector shall be installed, operational and properly placed at each level of occupancy. In the event of new construction, all smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors shall be hardwired.

Motion by Trustee Sternberg, seconded by Trustee Lockwood, to accept a Local Law consisting of all 15 sections for a rental inspection program as submitted by the Neighborhood Improvement Committee, to be done at the May 24, 2010 meeting.

Discussion 1: Trustee Smith would like time to review and to talk to some landlords.

Discussion 2 as follows:

- 1) **Amount of time this would take to implement**
- 2) **Possible liability to village if some thing should happen after a property was inspected and approved**
- 3) **Fees for program**

Unanimously Approved

Motion of Trustee Sternberg, seconded by Trustee Woody, to approve Annual Minutes of April 5, 2010.

Unanimously Approved

Motion by Trustee Smith, seconded by Trustee Clark, to approve the Minutes of April 19, 2010.

Motion by Trustee Sternberg, seconded by Trustee Woody to table motion on minutes.

Unanimously Approved

Motion by Trustee Clark, seconded by Trustee Lockwood, to approve the expenditure of \$3,700.00 to improve and expand the Village of Owego Website by Cyber City.

Unanimously Approved

Privilege of the Floor:

Lee Dunham, 330 Main Street, on the following issues:

- 1) Doggie Bags for the village parks (gave demonstration)
- 2) The open space on Front Street (burned out building lot) should be addressed as it is an eye sore

John Lisak, West Avenue, on the following issue:

- 1) Asked if the Superior Well Head site had a site plan review?
- 2) SEQR impact review?

Richard Watkins, 27 Ross Street, is concerned about truck traffic on Main, Erie, Front, Ross, John, etc. More should be done to keep big trucks on the truck route and not on side streets. Discussed sign on underpass posted one (1) foot less than actual height as per State Law.

Bob Bassett, from the Charles H. Bassett Youth Foundation, 34 ½ Lake Street discussed the following:

Take Pride in Owego Day was held May 1, 2010 from 10:00 a.m. until Noon.
He would like to thank the following youth for their help:

- 1) Christian Kowalski Reynolds
- 2) Spencer Thoman
- 3) Brian Keener

The mayor and trustees signed certificates of appreciation thanking them for their efforts.

Bob Bassett also mentioned Brianna Cart who founded Angles Over Iraq. Brianna was named one of the National Top Ten Youth Volunteers sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and has been selected to receive The Prudential Spirit of Community Award. She received a \$5,000.00 scholarship and \$5,000.00 for a charity of her choice.

Rusty Fuller, Liberty Street, on public hearings, proper home work must be done before a public hearing, so that things are not passed without proper knowledge and review by Village Board Members.

Clerk Treasurer

Motion by Trustee Clark, seconded by Trustee Smith, to approve Resolution #0503 as submitted below:

RESOLUTION NUMBER 0503

Authorizing the implementation, and funding in the first instance 100% of the Federal-aid eligible costs, of a transportation Federal-aid project, and appropriating funds therefore.

WHEREAS, a Project for the Village of Owego Riverwalk Project, Village of Owego, Tioga County, PIN 6753.58 (“the Project”) is eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs of such program to be borne at the ratio of Federal funds and non-Federal funds; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Owego desires to advance the Project by making a commitment of 100% of the Federal and non-Federal share of the costs of the Preliminary Engineering, Right-of-Way and Construction and Construction Supervision and Inspection work; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Owego has previously executed Supplemental Agreements #1, #2 and Master Federal/Local Aid Agreement (D022319) and has appropriated \$600,000 and \$1,552,999 for a total of \$2,152,999; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Village of Owego Board, duly convened does hereby

RESOLVED, that the Village of Owego hereby approves subject project; and it is hereby further

RESOLVED, that the Village of Owego Board hereby authorizes the Village of Owego to pay in the first instance 100% of the Federal and non-Federal share of the costs of the Preliminary Engineering, Right-of-Way, and Construction and Construction Supervision and Inspection work for the Project or portions thereof; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the sum of \$71,790 is here by appropriated from _____ [or, appropriated pursuant to _____] and made available to cover the cost increase participation in the above phase of the Project; and it is further

RESOLVED, that in the event the full Federal and non-Federal share costs of the project exceeds the amount appropriated above, the Village of Owego Board shall convene as soon as possible to appropriate said excess amount immediately upon the notification by the New York State Department of Transportation thereof, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Mayor of the Village of Owego be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests for Federal-aid and/or Marchiselli-aid on behalf of the Village of Owego with the New York State Department of Transportation in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project and providing for the administration of the Project and the Municipality’s first instance funding of project costs and permanent funding of the local share of Federal-aid and State-aid eligible Project costs and all Project costs within appropriations therefore that are not so eligible, and it is further

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution is filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it is any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project, and it is further

RESOLVED, this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

_____ Yes
_____ Nos
_____ Absent

Unanimously Approved

VBM 5-3-2010

Motion, by Trustee Sternberg, seconded by Trustee Woody, to approve payment of bills as per Voucher Summary Report dated April 30, 2010.

Unanimously Approved

Motion by Trustee Woody, seconded by Trustee Smith, to approve transfers as submitted:

MAY 3, 2010 BOARD APPROVED TRANSFERS

FROM/TO	ACCOUNT #	ACCOUNT NAME	AMOUNT
FROM:	A.3090	STATE GRANTS	\$9,962.15
FROM:	A.3090	STATE GRANTS	\$55,908.74
TO:	A.6989.40.405	RIVERWALK	\$65,870.89
FROM:	A.3090	STATE GRANTS	\$370.72
			BUCKLE UP NY
	A.3090	STATE GRANTS	\$1,482.88
			SELEVTICE TRAFFICE ENFORCEMENT
	A.3120.10.120	PART TIME SALARIES	\$1,853.60

Unanimously Approved

Letter written by Cindy Motter, VFW Ladies Auxiliary, requesting police department fill identity kits for each child who attends the Kid's Picnic Saturday, July 24, 2010 at Marvin Park from Noon until 4:00 p.m.

Police Chief McCulskey would not guarantee coverage due to staffing shortages.

For the May 24th agenda – Giovanni Santacroce to address board on desire to do something to honor Ryan Thomas Roofner, a skateboarder who passed away after a car accident. An event would be held at the Owego Skate Park in Marvin Park.

Trustee Clark

Thanks to DPW Superintendent Jeff Soules and his entire staff for a great job on work done on the soft ball fields.

Trustee Legursky

Discussed the following:

- 1) Questioned the fact that the Special Board Meeting for Fire Department issues was listed as a trustee meeting. Mr. Legursky said he was not notified of the meeting until he read about it in the paper
- 2) Meeting rules and rules for conducting a meeting
- 3) Liability of entering into a contract without proper authority. Authority is personally liable either for the debt or to the village for the money or property, as relates to hiring Lynne Mieczkowski to work on village grants and business

Mayor Arrington disagreed about not giving proper notice, trustees were notified.

Ann Lockwood

Asked why did donations go from \$800 to \$500 for the Strawberry Festival and other events sponsored by the Historic Owego Marketplace?

VBM 5-3-2010

Trustee Smith

Discussed working on needed village items such as:

- 1) Budgets
- 2) Sewer/Sewer Equipment
- 3) Work shops to improve understanding of upcoming problems facing the Village of Owego

Motion by Trustee Smith, seconded by Trustee Lockwood, to have a work session, day or evening, to look at all things concerning the Village.

Unanimously Approved

Trustee Sternberg

Motion by Trustee Sternberg, seconded by Trustee Smith, to go into executive session to discuss personnel issues.

Unanimously Approved

Trustee Woody

Requested an attorney/client meeting.

Irene Graven

Charter Amendment meeting is May 10, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at 56 Main Street, Owego, NY 13827.

Meet with Chief Bidwell on alcohol agreement for the Fire Convention

Mayor Arrington

May 10, 2010 board meeting with Special Meeting with Bernier Carr Engineers regarding the upgrades at the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Rezoning of old high school building on Elm Street is with the school not Mr. Hilldale.

Discussion of memo to Mayor from Ron Horton regarding Lynn's Barber Shop as follows:

Date 4/22/10

To: Mayor Arrington, Sewer Commissioner

From: Ron Horton, Supt. WWTP

Re: Lynn's Barber Shop

Ed,

The owner of Lynn's Barber Shop will be presenting to the board a request to take over the sewer line that serves his property and two others. This is currently a private system. Lynn informed me that when he bought the property in 1976 his request that the village take over the line was rejected.

I would recommend the following action be required of the property owners before the board acts on this request:

- 1) The line be completely televised to assess its condition and a copy of the video-tape be provided to the village for our review
- 2) Clean-outs be installed outside the houses for access
- 3) Any questions on easements for access to the properties are addressed

VBM 5-3-2010

When this review is complete and the question of easements has been addressed the village board will be able to determine what if any additional action should be taken.

Ron

Chief Ed Bidwell

- 1) Ladder truck now back in service
- 2) Regarding citations from PESH – working on record keeping, department needs to know where they are as far as training goes

Motion by Trustee Woody, seconded by Trustee Lockwood, to send #803 out for auction.

Unanimously Approved

Chief McCluskey

This was police week. Village hosted monument and flag raising ceremony. A memorial service was held in Draper Park at the new Monument for Fallen Officers. Thanks to Phil Knapp for money to buy the monument.

Public Comments:

Striley – village could possibly use Binghamton college students to help with goal planning for the village. A 3rd party may be helpful.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Executive session held.

Back in regular session at 10:05 p.m. No action taken.

Motion by Trustee Woody, seconded by Trustee Sternberg, to adjourn. Trustees, Woody, Lockwood, Clark, Smith, and Legursky voted Yes. Trustee Sternberg voted No.

Motion carried