

Village of Owego Board of Trustees Meeting
Minutes of September 19, 2011

The regular meeting of the Village of Owego Board of Trustees was held on Monday, September 19, 2011 at 2354 State Rte. 434, Apalachin, NY. The following people were in attendance:

Mayor:	Ed Arrington
Trustees:	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
Absent:	Tom Clark
	Fire Chief Ed Franz

Due to the recent flooding the Village DPW was heavily flooded. We would like to thank the Town of Owego for allowing the village of Owego Board to meet at the Town Hall.

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

Privilege of the Floor:

Tim Sayers- from the Flats – does the village know anything about possible buying out flood damaged homes?
Mayor Arrington – not at this time – that would be up to FEMA.

Mayor Arrington:

Storm/Flooding Updates –

SEWER-

- William Streets and digester building were flooded
- \$74,000 in damages to generator and two transfer panels, electrical ordered
- \$36,000 electrical (transformers)
- Digester building is covered by insurance
- Two pumps to see if they can dry the wiring
- Get the money on a 0% loan – EFC will loan up to \$1,000,000 at 0%

DPW-

- Tipping fees – Taylor Garbage
- To date - \$50,000 – they would like to be paid weekly
- \$180,000 estimated in street repairs to River, Canal & Water Streets
- Sink holes (5 or more) estimated at \$30,000
- Skateboard Park equipment damaged

OPD-

- Two cars on loan from State Police
- 30-days from 9-16-2011
- Two cars in for repair – insurance department contacted
- Excessive overtime – maybe able to get reimbursement from FEMA

DAMAGES TO VILLAGE OFFICES FOR CLEAN UP DUE TO FLOODING & GROUND WATER-

- 178 Main Street - \$2,700.00
- 72 North Avenue Fire Department - \$36,168.00
- 90 Temple Street - \$21,700.00
- 20 Elm Street \$17,430.00
- TOTAL \$77,998.00
- Insurance Company notified and are addressing

OFD-

- 45 sets of turnout gear damaged in the flood. 43 sets belong to Owego, 2 sets to Newark Valley (Mutual Aid
- Insurance company to inspect within the next day or two – plan is to clean turnout gear – if gear cannot be cleaned, they will replace. Estimated cost for new is \$108,000.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Hire Bond Council- short term loan to address the bills such as tipping fees, equipment replacement not covered by insurance, etc \$300,000 - \$700,000
- Purchase two OPD vehicles, road repairs
- Suspend fees for building permits on homeowners homes until end of the year
- Governor announced an appliance purchase program for energy star appliances – \$8,000,000 – first come first serve basis

Thank you from the Mayor to Rich Watkins, Bob Layman, Scott Smith, Dave Thompson, and Mario's Pizza (Jerry & Angela).

Cindy to mail Rod's Report to me to cut and paste....

Sgt. Hogancamp:

- Stranded during the flood along with Ron Horton and Jeff Soules and three officers – spent the night at OPD
- Car #754 is a total loss due to the flood
- OPD worked great with the fire department – Chief Carney

DPW:

- Cleanup crews include NYS Thruway Authority, Broome Bituminous, Seal Coat, Tioga County, Town of Owego, Chandler Construction, and Taylor Garbage
- The cost of some of the private haulers is approximately \$200 per hour
- Clean up and safety are our main concerns right now
- FEMA should reimburse the village approximately 75% for expenses incurred during the flood clean up

- The DPW offices and the board room were trashed – lost files, computers, phones, copier, etc. Temporarily working out of a trailer parked at 20 Elm Street

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- Equipment lost including a 1 ton dump truck, mowers, a John Deer that was at the little league field and lots of smaller tools
- Code enforcement is working as calls come in
- We are going to be able to use flushers to help clean the streets – on loan from Town of Owego – Windsor Highway Department
- Structural engineers have been hired as needed to access any damages deemed necessary to review by an engineer
- The central fire station was checked twice – 15 structures check so far

WWTP:

- 7 out of 8 pump stations were flooded – William Street pump station had major flooding
- Five of six buildings flooded – digester, transfers, garage shop, and pole barn
- Back fence was destroyed (about 150' of chain link)
- Dump truck destroyed
- Bio-mass beginning to rebuild
- Need to be turned down by the insurance company before FEMA will take any action

Clerk:

9/7

- Office staff sent home at 1:00 p.m. due to flood – clerk-treasurer in office until 5:00 p.m.

9/8 thru 9/12

- Office closed due to flooding

9/13

- Office had no electric, phones, cable, alarm, or computers. Using a generator supplied by Cindy Motter emergency information list was typed and a list of electrical inspectors and NYSEG reconnect forms were copied and all were hand distributed throughout community by office staff
- Electric was turned on at approximately 3:00 p.m.
- Cindy Motter did payroll from home

9/14 – contacted Verizon Wireless to activate additional cell phones to provide necessary coverage for office

- Time Warner contacted to have phones forwarded to cell phones and set up appointment to have phone hardware in basement replaced
- Police files and old attorney files turned over to document reproducers for freeze drying and restoration
- Belfor removed debris from basement and cleaned basement
- Time Warner replaced equipment in basement
- The Computer Man called to evaluate computer system (router/sonic wall)

9/15

- Contacted Cornerstone to request service to connect phone line for alarm system

- With approval from Mayor had The Computer Man order and ship necessary parts overnight
- Cindy Motter completed payroll and Tioga State Bank agreed to cash payroll checks as a courtesy since Chemung Canal Trust was closed due to flood

9/16

- New alarm system installed
- Cornerstone completed work
- Phones restored to normal
- The Computer Man began work on computer system

9/17

- Office open 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. – The Computer Man completed install of equipment

9/19 – 9/23

- Kim Norton filled in at DPW

Motion by Trustee Lockwood, seconded by Trustee Millar, to table payment from Hancock & Estabrook until next board meeting. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Hartman, Legursky, Lockwood, Worden, and Millar voted aye. Motion Adopted 5-0

8:00 p.m. recess for five minutes – back in session at 8:05 p.m.

Motion by Trustee Lockwood, seconded by Trustee Worden, to approve Treasurer's Report for August as submitted. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Hartman, Legursky, Lockwood, Millar, Worden, and Mayor Arrington voted aye.

Motion Adopted 6-0

Commissioner's Report:

Trustee Lockwood – no report
Trustee Legursky – no report

Trustee Worden:

Preliminary report – Village of Owego damages over \$40,000,000 with 8 destroyed homes, 533 with major damage, 90 with minor damage and 93 with moderate damage

Trustee Hartman:

Commissioner Report Summaries

Village of Owego, New York
Earl Hartman Trustee Ward 2/ Commissioner to: DPW, OFD, Planning

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fairgrounds & grandstands are in condition to hold this event. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Hartman, Legursky, Lockwood, Millar, Worden, and Mayor Arrington voted aye.

Motion Adopted 6-0

Trustee Legursky thanked the Salvation Army, WEBO, Courier, Press, and Pennysaver (all news media) on helping cover the flood and get information out to the people of the Village of Owego.

Also commented on the people of the village never complaining - never being more proud of the people in the village.

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

Motion Adopted 6-0

Privilege of the Floor:

Tina Price – 557 East Front Street – thanks for all that the village is doing – must be pro-active to monitor what is happening up stream from Owego. What is happening that may add to the flooding problems? People need to have a reason to re-build.

Carl Jones – 126 Talcott Street - need more communication and information on the weather situation.

Connie Sternberg – 9 Orchard – what policy is Trustee Hartman working on concerning the fire department? Trustee Hartman – fire contracts with Weltonville.

Rich Watkins – 27 Ross Street – God Bless the people on Ross Street! No such thing as too much help – need bullhorns to announce messages.

Question on dog park – Mayor Arrington – no action taken on this at this time

9:00 p.m. into executive session

9:20 p.m. back in regular session

No action taken.

Motion by Trustee Lockwood, seconded by Trustee Millar, to adjourn.

Unanimously Approved