

Village of Owego Board of Trustees Meeting
Minutes of November 16, 2009

The regular Village of Owego Board of Trustees Meeting was held on Monday, November 16, 2009 at the DPW Annex, 20 Elm Street, Owego, NY beginning at 7:00 p.m., with the following people in attendance:

Mayor:	Edward Arrington
Trustees:	Jane Woody Connie Sternberg Melody Patterson Grace Thomas
Deputy C/T:	Lynne Mieczkowski
DPW Supt:	Jeff Soules
Police Chief:	Rick McCulskey
Village Attorney:	Irene Graven
Absent:	WWTP Superintendent Ron Horton Fire Chief Ed Bidwell Trustee Erik Young Trustee Adam Jung

Insert "A" Visitor's List

The meeting was opened at 7:00 p.m. with the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Stella Reschke from Tioga County Tourism spoke to the Village Board requesting them to reconsider the Village's (Police Protection) support for Lights on the River on 12-4-09. The Marketplace and TC Tourism do not have funding to pay for the police protection.

Motion by Trustee Thomas seconded by Trustee Woody to rescind the prior motion made by Village Board regarding payment of police support for the Lights on the River.

Unanimously Approved

John Hogan, village resident and REAP representative for the Village of Owego requested the Village Board offer monetary support to help the REAP Board continue with projects. Currently REAP has a small amount of funds for submitting grants, etc. REAP in the past has helped with several projects in the Village (i.e., develop a master plan for Owego, Waverly & Newark Valley Villages in the downtown business district that will guide in the revitalization and renovate the Owego Historic Bank Building for an Arts Center; replace condemned well at Marvin Park; as well as other projects. REAP is currently trying to get funding to establish a financial program to stimulate rehabilitation program for substandard

housing in some Village neighborhoods; to repair and extend the sewer and water lines inside the Village; cleanup work at the old creamery site; build restroom facilities at Marvin Park – some of these projects are on hold due to lack of funds to go out and get funds. The Village Board will look at the request when preparing the 2010 Budget.

Privilege of the floor was offered to those in attendance:

Kevin Millar, Front Street resident, stated that the Street Tree Inventory results will be presented to the Village Board on Monday, November 30, 2009, at a special scheduled meeting; also Cornell Cooperative Extension is sponsoring a Marcellus Gas Summit on 11-30-09. Also, on 12-3-09 Chris Burber will be speaking at the Hubbard Auditorium at 7:00 p.m. on Marcellus Gas Drilling in Tioga County.

Clerk Treasurer

Motion by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Thomas approving the minutes from the 10-5-09 and 10-19-09 Village Board Meetings.

Unanimously Approved

Motion by Trustee Sternberg seconded by Trustee Woody approving the October Treasurer's Report as submitted.

Unanimously Approved

Motion by Trustee Patterson seconded by Trustee Woody to accept the quote from Guagliardo Plumbing and Heating at \$13,360 and \$8,340. Trustees Patterson, Thomas, and Mayor Arrington voted aye. Trustees Woody and Sternberg voted nay.

Motion Defeated

Village Board directed DPW Superintendent to get two more quotes on boiler for Fire House –

A special meeting will be called to schedule a meeting regarding boiler quotes.

- Food Bank will be held on 11-18-09 from 1:00 to 2:30 at the Fire Department

Trustee Jung

Absent

Trustee Young

Absent

Trustee Sternberg

- No report on Flood Mitigation
- Utility Costs
- 42-44 Temple Street/paperwork served for demolition
- Neighborhood Committee Meetings being held
- Signs for no weapons in Village Buildings – to be up by end of week

Trustee Thomas

Status on Slip lining Spencer & Depot.

Trustee Woody

- Zoning Board Meeting (looking for a 6th committee member)
- Fire Convention – July 2010 “use of alcohol in Draper” above is a Local Law
- Election Committee results

Motion by Trustee Sternberg seconded by Trustee Woody to have the Village Election Committee review their recommendations again and make a recommendation on how they can provide full access for handicapped voters. Trustees Woody and Sternberg voting aye. Trustees Patterson, Thomas and Mayor Arrington voting nay.

Motion Defeated

Motion by Trustee Woody to hold an executive session on a personal issue.

Mayor Arrington requested Trustee Woody meet with the Personnel Committee to discuss issue first.

Motion Withdrawn

- Trustee Woody asked if any complaints have been submitted to the Village relative to Violence in the Workplace?

Mayor's Report

- Correspondence received from Village resident James Striley regarding company on end of Delphine Street/West Avenue – Insert “B”

DPW Superintendent Jeff Soules reviewed the 200 West Avenue property issues – Insert “C”

- Project Sunlight – 11/19/09 – 56 Main Street
- Holiday Food Drive – Chamber of Commerce/Tioga Opportunities
- Lights on the River – 12/4/09

- Riverwalk Grand Opening being scheduled
- 11-30-09 Special Meeting on Tree Survey

Village Attorney

- Comments from Violence in Workplace being typed and will be disseminated to the Village Board

Motion by Trustee Sternberg seconded by Trustee Patterson to schedule a public hearing for Local Law #5, Ice & Snow on 12-5-09.

Unanimously Approved

- 42-44 Temple – agents for owner were served on 11/10/09 – agents have until 11/20/09

Motion by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Patterson approving the memo of understanding with Dr. Keith Nichols and Village of Owego; also authorizing Mayor Arrington to sign all related paperwork.

Unanimously Approved

Privilege of the floor was opened:

Mr. James Striley addressed the Village Board regarding letter read during 11/16 meeting. Mr. Striley stated he was not against the business owners at this property (200 West Avenue) nor the desire to make money nor the creation of jobs. He is concerned about the fill/flood zone – wear and tear on the roads and from the heavy equipment being used for transporting. There will be a decrease in value of residents' homes. No resident has been notified about any of the activity going on at this site.

DPW Superintendent to meet with Mr. Striley on concerns. He also will contact the neighboring residents.

Mr. Rich Watkins, 27 Ross Street, addressed the Village Board – asked if anyone remembered a meeting with a gentleman in Candor at a gas drilling meeting last December. The gentleman had spoken to actions and preemptive measures that municipalities could take to protect the infrastructure and municipal roads once all of this activity begins.

The Village Attorney spoke to the issues brought up by Mr. Watkins. Attorney Graven is meeting regularly with all municipal attorneys between Broome and Tioga County; the Village Board has passed a resolution to encourage all legislators, state and local level officials to the state legislators to pass enabling legislation to allow the municipalities to do something regarding roads – imposing remediation fees and impact fees. At this time municipalities have no authority to legislate any type of remediation fee or impact fee on any industries that are traveling our roads. DEC has pre-empted all of that at this time.

All agreements are being looked at by Broome and Tioga County – The Village of Owego is working at this issue very vigorously. We are not turning a blind eye to these issues.

VBM 11-16-2009

Kevin Millar asked that the zoning map be reviewed for some possible changes to be made (i.e., industrial property).

Lee Dunham, Main Street resident, inquired about the lighting of the Riverwalk – will this be in place by 12-4-09?

Nick Ruiz, resident of 28 Armstrong Place asked if there are signs already at the Riverwalk area – about pets/skateboards, etc. Yes, there is.

Motion by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Thomas to adjourn the meeting.

Unanimously Approved