

Village of Owego Board of Trustees Meeting
Minutes of October 5, 2009

The regular Village of Owego Board of Trustees Meeting was held on Monday, October 5, 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:	Adam Jung Jane Woody Connie Sternberg Melody Patterson Grace Thomas
Clerk-Treasurer:	Lynne A. Mieczkowski
DPW Supt:	Jeff Soules
Police Chief:	Rick McCulskey
WWTP:	Ron Horton
Village Attorney:	Irene Graven
Fire Chief:	Ed Bidwell

The meeting was opened at 7:00 p.m. by the Mayor.

Mr. Harold Abrams spoke to the Village Board regarding erecting a small mausoleum in Evergreen Cemetery this would be a double stacked mausoleum in Section 7 – approximately 8 foot long, by 3 ½ feet wide – by 72 or 80 inches high. Individuals requesting this mausoleum are in the process of purchasing 6 spaces. Can something be done in Section 7 to allow these individuals to put up a two place mausoleum? A committee has been formed to review this request. Trustee Patterson, Trustee Sternberg, and DPW Superintendent Soules will review the request and meet with the Cemetery Committee; before bringing a decision back to the Village Board.

Privilege of the floor was offered to those in attendance:

Mr. Robert Skope, owner of 495 E. Main Street, addressed the Village Board regarding his property at 495 E. Main Street. The due date for demolition of this property was up on 10/2/09. Mr. Skope has been working on tearing it down; he stated that he has completed 75% of the demo. Mr. Skope wants another extension to complete the tear down.

DPW Supt. Soules spoke to the demolition of 495 E Main Street. He stated to the board that he felt that the building is not 75% completed. Also, there would be no extension to the deadline date given, at least 120 days have already been granted to Mr. Skope.

Mr. Joseph Fuller told Brian Sternberg (Village resident) to take the camera off him before he would begin to speak. Mr. Sternberg or anyone else has the right to video tape the meeting. Mr. Fuller's concern is a local newspaper article regarding Federal Bill for funds for a flood study.

Maurice Hinchey should be contacted to get more attention drawn to "Flood Prevention" not just the buy-out process. Mayor Arrington will meet off line with Mr. Fuller.

Motion by Trustee Thomas seconded by Trustee Sternberg allowing the Crop Walk to be held in the Village of Owego on October 11, 2008, starting at the Presbyterian Church on Temple Street.

Unanimously Approved

Clerk Treasurer

Motion by Trustee Sternberg seconded by Trustee Thomas approving the minutes of 8-17-09.

Unanimously Approved

Correspondence from Tioga County Tourism in regard to the 12/4/09 Lights on the River Festival.

Motion by Trustee Sternberg seconded by Trustee Patterson approving the minutes of 9/8/09 contingent on correction being done on Page 2; Drum changed to Dram.

Unanimously Approved

- Correspondence received from Tiahwaga Community Players regarding their intention to renew their on premises alcohol beverage license
- Correspondence from Millennium Pipe Line
- Correspondence from Tioga County Tourism regarding "Lights on the River" (12/4/09)
- Submission from the Committee for Election changes for Trustees review. Committee will present at the 10/19/09 Village Board Meeting
- End of year financial information presented by Clerk Treasurer (encumbrances & fund balance)

Motion by Trustee Sternberg seconded by Trustee Jung approving the encumbrance list for 2009/2010 budget.

Unanimously Approved

Motion by Trustee Sternberg seconded by Trustee Patterson approving the payment of bills.

Unanimously Approved

- Submission of end of year July 2009 Treasurer's Report

Trustee Jung

No Report

Trustee Patterson

- DPW will be completing new line markings on Lake Street by 10-9-09
- Chip sealing mountain road in process

Trustee Sternberg

- Time Warner Cable Renewal (will have report at next meeting 10-19-09)
- Flood Mitigation Meeting (Focus needs to be on Flood Prevention. Installation of flood hazard signs will bring an awareness to the issue)
- Entire flood mitigation roster should be re-visited
- Review of July Expense Report
- Requested cost of fire physicals from Chief Bidwell – 32 completed physicals, approximately 80 left to be completed/most green tags are done

Motion by Trustee Sternberg seconded by Trustee Woody approving the Village of Owego demolish the structure at 495 E. Main; estimated cost to be \$9500.00 – This cost to be expended from A3620.40.094.

Unanimously Approved

Motion by Trustee Sternberg seconded by Trustee Jung authorizing the Village Attorney to draft a Local Law to amend the fee structure for failure to remove snow and ice (sidewalks).

Unanimously Approved

- Squad membership/EMT's/drivers (need categories identified/cannot bring new people in at this time)

Motion by Trustee Thomas seconded by Trustee Patterson to accept the second lowest bid amount from RMV Construction Services, Inc., Lockport, NY, amount \$9,750.00 for roof repair on sewer garage shop. Funds to be expended from Sewer Preventative Maintenance Account.

Unanimously Approved

Motion by Trustee Thomas seconded by Trustee Woody to accept the second lowest bid amount from RMV Construction Services, Inc. from Lockport, NY, for roof repair to the William Street pump station, amount to be \$13,325.00; to be expended from Sewer Preventative Maintenance.

Unanimously Approved

Trustee Woody

- Ice skating rink package

- 10-13-09 Planning & Zoning Meeting
- Report on Fire Membership information requested of Chief Bidwell – this is not completed (per Chief Bidwell)

Motion by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Sternberg requesting of Chief Bidwell a current printout of Owego Fire Members by Company. Trustee Woody requesting information be presented to the Village Board by 10-19-09.

Motion by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Jung to amend prior motion to state first meeting in November. Amendment withdrawn by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Jung.

Trustees Woody, Sternberg, Jung, Thomas voting aye; Mayor Arrington voting nay.

Motion Carried

Village Attorney spoke to the Fire Members issue and that the Chief may have some difficulty in presenting the list because there is no definition of categories of membership. The attorney has been recommending that something be put in place to define those categories so it would make it easier to get the list together, so the Fire Department has categories of members or associates of the Fire Department.

Motion by Trustee Jung seconded by Trustee Thomas to amend the prior motion by stating that the Fire Members list being requested by Trustee Woody be presented to the Village Board at the 1st Village Board Meeting after Chief Bidwell receives total trained listing from the Mayor.

Trustees Woody, Sternberg, Thomas, and Jung voting aye, Trustee Patterson voting nay.

- Posting of “No Smoking” and “No Alcohol” signs
- Posting of by-laws from June

Motion by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Sternberg to hold an executive session to discuss personnel issue.

Unanimously Approved

Fire Department

- Live Burn on West Division Street

Motion by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Patterson authorizing the Fire Chief to do a live burn on West Division Street (to include three buildings) on said property. This burn to be done contingent on the filing of the asbestos report. Burn to be done in compliance with state sanctioned live burns. Trustees Patterson, Jung, Woody, and Mayor Arrington voting aye. Trustees Thomas and Sternberg abstained.

Motion Carried

- Ladder Truck #841 out for repair Campville Ladder on automatic call

- Fire Department/Town of Owego Contract
- Status of new EMT's

Mayor Arrington

- Physicals for fire personnel/EMT drivers
- Department of Labor
- Work Place Violence issues
- Riverwalk 65/70% complete
- WPV Training preliminary data:
 - 132 did not take course
 - 91 Life (OFD Members)
 - 2 PT OPD Officers
 - 1 ZBA
 - 1 OHPC
 - 33 Fire Members
 - 1 Cemetery Committee
 - 3 Seasonal (DPW)

21 Training Classes were held (Saturday, Sunday, weekdays and evenings).

Committee to be formed to review all comments from Violence in the Workplace Sessions. Members of the committee to be Trustee Jung, Trustee Sternberg, Trustee Patterson Trustee Jung to be Chair. This committee will meet with Chief Williams, the trainer, for Violence in the Workplace.

Trustee candidates to replace Michael Phelan (Ward 2) are:

Nathan Kennedy
Erik Young

Candidate will have to run in the March election.

Motion by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Jung approving the appointment of Erik Young to the position of Trustee Ward 2.

Unanimously Approved

Village Attorney

Motion by Trustee Jung seconded by Trustee Sternberg to schedule a hearing to determine if 42-44 Temple Street should be demolished or repaired; hearing date based on availability of the engineer.

Unanimously Approved

- Gas drilling/DEC report information

VBM 10-05-2009

- Trustee Sternberg asked about the information (on physicals) being requested from Chief Bidwell

Privilege of the floor was offered. No one wished to address the board

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.