

Village of Owego Board of Trustees Meeting
Minutes of July 27, 2009

The second regular Village of Owego Board of Trustees Meeting for the month of July was held on Monday, July 27, 2009, at the Edward Hubbard Auditorium, 56 Main Street, Owego, NY beginning at 7:00 p.m. with the following people in attendance:

Mayor:	Edward Arrington
Trustees:	Grace Thomas Jane Woody Melody Patterson Connie Sternberg Michael Phelan Adam Jung
Clerk-Treasurer:	Lynne A. Mieczkowski
DPW Supt:	Jeff Soules
Police Chief:	Rick McCulskey
Fire Chief:	Edward Bidwell
WWTP:	Ron Horton
Village Attorney:	Irene Graven

Motion by Trustee Thomas seconded by Trustee Woody to approve the parade permit for Mr. Levi Frisbee (Rudin's Olde Tyme Farm Days) for 9-4-09.

Unanimously Approved

Motion by Trustee Patterson seconded by Trustee Phelan approving the Justice Court Assistance Program grant application be submitted from the Justice Court to the New York State Office of Court Administration and also authorizing the Mayor to sign all required and related documents. This motion is contingent on the Village Board reviewing / and approving the detailed construction plans.

Unanimously Approved

Motion by Trustee Sternberg seconded by Trustee Jung approving the purchase of hardware / software package.

- 1 – TZ 210 (Main Office)
- 3 – TZ 180 (for OPD/Justice, WWTP, and DPW)

Total Cost: \$4,918.00

Unanimously Approved

- Correspondence from NY State Housing Trust regarding awarded “Home Program” of \$400,000 for owner occupied residences

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

Unanimously Approved

Motion by Trustee Sternberg seconded by Trustee Patterson approving the June Treasurer’s Report.

Unanimously Approved

- Correspondence from Mr. Conlon, DEC – regarding Tioga Castings Site
- Review of end of fiscal year (2008-09) financial tentative information

Motion by Trustee Sternberg seconded by Trustee Jung approving the year end department transfers already received by the Clerk and also to include OPD’s and Fire Departments when received.

Unanimously Approved

Trustee Jung

No report.

Trustee Patterson

- Survey of Section 7 in Evergreen Cemetery

Motion by Trustee Patterson seconded by Trustee Jung to designate the center area of Section 7 in Evergreen Cemetery as a Historic Evergreen Cemetery Park like area and open the outer surrounding areas of said park in Section of Evergreen Cemetery. The boundaries of park are to be the same as indicated on the survey map supplied to the Village Board and Mayor.

Unanimously Approved

- Trustee Phelan, Patterson and Sternberg attended an Emergency Services Forum

Motion by Trustee Patterson seconded by Trustee Thomas approving the Village’s involvement (Fire Department) along with Tioga Opportunities and the Food Pantry of the Southern Tier to have a mobile food pantry held at the Owego Fire Station once a month during the winter months (November thru March).

Unanimously Approved

Trustee Phelan

- OHPC proposed grant/no further information
- Economic Development/discussion on Tioga Castings
- Gas Drilling
- 11/09 (Seminar scheduled on Marcellus Shale Summit)
- Pennysaver comments (there has been no discussion on paid fireman!)
- Violence in the workplace has been worked on since January 2009 or earlier, training is state mandated

Trustee Sternberg

- Flood Mitigation meeting today (7/27/09) – signs to be placed in Village locations
- Flood Maps to be released 9/09 – each municipality will have to adopt
- Flood Mitigation Group to have engineering firm complete Hydraulic Study
- “Angel” Action Group
- Property managers listings almost complete – lacking three
- Asbestos Survey for 495 main Street complete – waiting for report
- Status on 42-44 Temple (code issues)
- More than ten (10) closed properties – puts Village at risk

Trustee Thomas

July 15th bid opening for Spencer Ave/Depot Street project.

1. Allstate Power Vac, Inc. of Rahway, NY	\$301,153.40
2. Green Mountain Pipeline Service of Slingerlands, NY	\$561,561.00
3. Lash Contracting, Inc. of Latham, NY	\$342,750.00

Motion by Trustee Thomas seconded by Trustee Phelan to accept the lowest bid from Allstate Power Vac, Inc. of Rahway, New York in the amount of \$301,153.40 contingent upon approval by EPA.

Unanimously Approved

Motion by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Patterson to hold an executive session for personnel issues.

Unanimously Approved

Trustee Woody

Motion by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Phelan to rescind the following two (2) motions approved at the 5/18/2009 Village Board Meeting:

Motion by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Sternberg approving that under advisement, by the letter from Chief Taft, the Village Board go forward to change the Charter to read “company rosters cannot exceed 40 members with an exception given to life time members, and any other member the Village deems exempt. Trustees Woody, Phelan, Sternberg, Jung, Thomas voting aye. Trustee Patterson abstained.

Motion Carried

Motion by Trustee Woody seconded Trustee Phelan that the motion go forward with the proposed changes to the Charter to address life time members, active members and voting powers of the OFD. Trustees Jung, Woody, Phelan, Sternberg and Thomas voting aye. Trustee Patterson abstained.

Motion Carried

Fire Chief brought up that he had presented to the Village Board a 4 – part proposal that two people ignored.

- To rescind the motion made regarding the White By-Laws and give fire department back the Blue By-Laws
- To reinstate all terminated OFD members
- To change the Village Charter
- To have no number per company in the Charter

Any additional fire issues to be covered 8/3/09.

Mayor Arrington

- Schedule for OPD Officers (full-time/part-time stimulus monies requested for 3 officers
- Use of part-time for vacations, etc.
- Tioga Castings
- Riverwalk Funding

Village Attorney

- 42-44 Temple
- Village General Liability
- Local Law #4, 2009, “Weapons” Public Hearing to be scheduled

Motion by Trustee Sternberg seconded by Trustee Patterson to schedule Public Hearing for 8/17/09 on Local Law #4, 2009.

Unanimously Approved

Privilege of the floor was offered to those in attendance:

VBM -7-27-2009

Lee Dunham, village resident, inquired about how many plots in the expansion area in the cemetery. He also asked about privilege of the floor being at the beginning and end of each meeting.

Herb McDowell, village resident, asked about the schedule for the Violence in the Workplace Training, he also asked for more specifics on the proposed Local Law on “weapons”.

Rich Watkins stated the new Fire Chief did not create the problems the fire department is now going thru – he also spoke to the readers’ column in the Pennysaver – That really is how the people feel – The Village Board should be paying attention to the comments.

Rusty Fuller spoke on the White vs. Blue By-Laws. He asked the Village Board to rescind the prior motion made accepting the White By-Laws.

Into executive session at 9:50 p.m.

Motion by Trustee Patterson seconded by Trustee Woody to close executive session at 11:00 p.m.

Unanimously Approved

Motion by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Thomas authorizing the Mayor to offer employment to two (full-time) applicants as well as two (part-time) applicants at hourly rate discussed. Employment is contingent on drug screening test being passed.

Unanimously Approved

Motion by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Patterson authorizing the Mayor to terminate Superior Ambulance giving a 30-day notice.

Unanimously Approved

Motion by Trustee Jung seconded by Trustee Thomas to adjourn.

Unanimously Approved