

Village of Owego Board of Trustees Meeting
Minutes of June 1, 2009

The regular Village of Owego Board of Trustees Meeting was held on Monday, June 1, 2009, at the DPW Annex, 20 Elm Street, Owego, with the following people in attendance:

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

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

James McDuffie, Delta Engineers, reviewed the Riverwalk bids, and where the Village is currently at with the project should the Village continue with the project, or pay back the money already spent?

Barb Thomas, DOT representative was also in attendance.

Paul Cole, EMS for the Village of Owego, was present to answer any questions regarding the EMS job description.

Motion by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Jung to accept the Village of Owego Emergency Medical Squad Technicians job description; and in addition authorized Mayor Arrington to work with Civil Service to establish minimum requirements.

Unanimously Approved

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A discussion on the controlling of overtime for the EMS personnel was held

Motion by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Jung approving the following new officers into the Fire Department:

The Annual Department Elections were held Wednesday, May 27, 2009. The following Officers were elected:

Chief – 871 – Edward Bidwell
Chief – 872 – Daniel Gavin
Chief – 873 – Tyler Boland
Deputy Chief – 874 – Chris Ward
Secretary – Kenneth Patterson
Treasurer – Brian Inscho

Unanimously Approved

Motion by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Phelan to accept the Owego Fire Department By-Laws dated 6-1-09 to be come effective immediately after approval. Trustees Woody, Phelan, Sternberg, Thomas voting aye. Trustee Jung abstained.

Motion Carried

- Pool opening/June 8th
- Ambulance Status

Motion by Trustee Jung seconded by Trustee Woody to accept the base bid from the lowest bidder contract for the Riverwalk Project, contingent on receiving the additional funds from the Federal Government.

Unanimously Approved

The following individuals presented to the Village Board on their interest in becoming a Village Trustee to replace the resigned Trustee for Ward II. Kenneth Smith, Richard Kidney, and Melody Patterson. The Trustee had the opportunity to ask questions of candidates.

The new trustee was chosen by the ballot process. The following is the breakout of votes:

Ken Smith – 1
Richard Kidney – 1
Melody Patterson – 4

Trustee Jung

No Report

Clerk Treasurer

Motion by Trustee Thomas seconded by Trustee Jung to schedule a Public Hearing on 6-15-09 to approve the proposed 2009-2010 Village of Owego budget.

Unanimously Approved

- June 20th Strawberry Festival Parade – Michael Phelan, Connie Sternberg, Ed Arrington and Michael Phelan will participate.

Motion by Trustee Sternberg seconded by Trustee Phelan approving the payment of bills as submitted.

Unanimously Approved

Motion by Trustee Sternberg seconded by Trustee Phelan approving the April Treasurer’s Report.

Unanimously Approved

Trustee Phelan

- Village Clean-Up Day to be scheduled prior to Strawberry Festival. Service Organizations to be contacted for possibilities
- Tourism discussion/Cooldest Small Town
- Meetings attended – Gas Drilling

Trustee Sternberg

- Water leak at Marvin Park

Motion by Trustee Sternberg seconded by Trustee Phelan to schedule Public Hearing for 6/18/09 – regarding 495 E. Main Street as well as Local Law amendment for “fences”.

Unanimously Approved

- Employee checks to be placed in mail slots for pick up on pay day/or direct deposit
- Petition for Don Warner in reference to Green Street property – code pursuing avenues
- Continuing to look for grants

Department of Public Works

Review of Task Completion List

Trustee Thomas

Capital Improvement Fund for Sewer Department

Mayor Arrington

- COPS Fast Grants

Motion by Trustee Jung seconded by Trustee Sternberg allowing the expenditure of up to \$3,000 for training for Violence in the Work Place.

Unanimously Approved

- DEC Meeting on Tioga Casting Facility

Motion by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Thomas authorizing the Mayor to go forth with the Tioga Castings area and pay half of the appraisal fee with the County contingent on the Village receiving a letter from DEC.

Unanimously Approved

- Status of Cemetery Grant as of 6/1/09

Village Attorney

- Authorizing resolution needed for cemetery

Motion by Trustee Thomas seconded by Trustee Jung to approve the cemetery resolution

Motion by Trustee Jung seconded by Trustee Woody to table above motion until June 15, 2009.

Unanimously Approved

Motion by Trustee Thomas seconded by Trustee Phelan to establish a reserve fund for the purpose of accumulating moneys to finance the cost of capital improvement – (reconstruction and rehabilitation of the Village of Owego sewer collection system).

Unanimously Approved

Privilege of the floor was offered to those in attendance.

Mr. Timothy Thomas inquired about the Riverwalk - is there a sketch of Riverwalk? He was told that there is one sketch that can be seen at the Village Office and also on the Village Website.

Kevin Millar asked why the minimum user pays the same as the maximum user (sewer)?

VBM-06-01-2009

Gwen Smith asked about the Tioga Castings property! In lieu of foreclosure, what if the owner wished to donate the property? The Village Attorney will research the issue. Also what about a controlled burn? Is this possible?

Melody Patterson also asked if it might be possible to get the village residents involved in getting the village streets, areas cleaned up by having residents of streets competing with other streets for the "coolest" street in the village. This competition could also include businesses.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.