

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

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

Mayor: Edward L. Arrington

Trustees: Grace Thomas  
Shannon Barbuto-Lewis  
Erik Young  
Richard Watkins  
Jane Woody

Clerk-Treasurer: Lynne A. Mieczkowski  
DPW Supt. Jeff Soules  
Police Chief: Rick McCulskey  
Village Attorney: Irene Graven  
Fire Chief: Tom Taft

Absent: WWTP Supt. Horton  
Trustee Jung

The Fire Department presented to the Village Board their desire to purchase a piece of fire apparatus in the amount of \$85,279.77 per year for seven years.

**Motion by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Thomas approving the purchase of a heavy rescue truck in the amount of \$504,470. Terms are \$85,299.77 per year for seven years from KME Corporation.**

Trustee Watkins asked if this is in addition to the other vehicle we just purchased. Fire Chief Taft stated it was. He also stated this equipment would be paid from the contract dollars the village receives from the Town of Owego, Town of Tioga, and Village of Nichols.

Trustees Young, Woody, Thomas, and Mayor Arrington voting aye. Trustee Watkins abstained.

**Motion Carried**

Trustee Woody had no report for Planning and Zoning.

Clerk Treasurer

**Motion by Trustee Young seconded by Trustee Woody approving the following transfers:**

<b>FROM:</b>	<b>Revenue A/C – 2705</b>	<b>\$31,954.35</b>
<b>TO:</b>	<b>A/C – 3410.20.211</b>	<b>\$31,954.35 (Fire Dept)</b>
<b>FROM:</b>	<b>Revenue A/C – 3090</b>	<b>\$1,581.00</b>
<b>TO:</b>	<b>A/C – 1110-40.410</b>	<b>\$1,581.00 (Justice Dept)</b>
<b>FROM:</b>	<b>Revenue A/C -3960</b>	<b>\$8,645.00</b>
<b>TO:</b>	<b>A/C – 3620.40.094</b>	<b>\$8,645.00 (DPW)</b>
<b>FROM:</b>	<b>Revenue A/C – 3820</b>	<b>\$2,155.42</b>
<b>TO:</b>	<b>A/C – 7145.40.400</b>	<b>\$2,155.42 (Clerk)</b>
<b>FROM:</b>	<b>Revenue A/C -3090</b>	<b>\$55,199.54</b>
<b>TO:</b>	<b>A/C – 6889.40.403</b>	<b>\$55,199.54 (Clerk)</b>

**These transfers will amend the budget by \$99,535.32.**

**Trustees Lewis, Thomas, Young and Woody voting aye. Trustee Watkins abstained.**

**Motion Carried**

**Motion by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Thomas approving the minutes of 2/2/2009 as submitted.**

**Unanimously Approved**

**Motion by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Young approving the minutes of 2/17/09 as submitted.**

**Trustees Woody, Young, Thomas and Mayor Arrington voted aye. Trustees Barbuto-Lewis and Watkins abstained.**

**Motion Carried**

**Motion by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Young approving the minutes of 3/2/2009. Trustees Thomas, Watkins, Barbuto-Lewis, and Mayor Arrington voting aye. Trustees Woody and Young abstained.**

**Motion Carried**

Treasurer's report for February was submitted for review.

**Trustee Barbuto-Lewis**

**Motion by Trustee Barbuto-Lewis seconded by Trustee Watkins to establish April 4, 2009 as “Village Clean-up Day”. Trustee’s Barbuto-Lewis, Watkins, Thomas, Woody, Young voting aye. Mayor Arrington voting nay.**

**Motion carried**

- **Review of plan to winterize all Village buildings. Trustee Barbuto-Lewis to bring back information to the Village Board in May.**
- Information on Restore New York Application
- Equipment Installation at Marvin Park
- Explore options for Marvin Park

**Trustee Young**

No Report.

**Trustee Thomas**

Bids to start late spring or early summer (Depot/Spencer Avenue Project)

**Trustee Watkins**

- Right-a-ways/Riverwalk original amounts per property \$2,500/why cost increase (just Compensation)
- Annual compensation for the Clerk Treasurer. Trustee Watkins feels resolution is not ethical; should be tabled; may not be legal
- Status of cemetery expansion

**RESOLUTION**

**New Annual Compensation for Village Clerk-Treasurer**

**WHEREAS the Village of Owego Board of Trustees is desirous of establishing a new annual salary for the elected position of Village Clerk-Treasurer pursuant to the Village Charter, Village Law and Public Officers Law; and**

WHEREAS the Village Board of Trustees has determined that the new annual salary shall take effect at the beginning of the next official year following the next annual Village election for the position of Clerk-Treasurer; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Owego in regular session duly convened, **that effective the beginning of the next official year following the next annual Village Election for the position of Clerk-Treasurer which will be held on March 18, 2009**, the Clerk-Treasurer's salary shall be \$37,000.00 annually and that the only other benefit to which the elected position is entitled shall be a contribution to the New York State retirement system; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Village Board of Trustees resolution dated January 7, 2008 is hereby rescinded.

Approved March 16, 2009

**Motion by Trustee Woody seconded by Trustee Thomas approving the above resolution. Trustees Woody, Thomas, Young, and Mayor Arrington voting aye. Trustee Watkins voting nay and Trustee Barbuto-Lewis abstained.**

Trustee Young

No Report.

Trustee Thomas

- Depot/Spencer Avenue Sewer Project
- Increase of sewer fees
- Unfunded mandates
- Spiedie Permit

Police Report

- Police Car/ New – Cost \$24,502
- Officer's Out – projected return
  - Dibble – 3/23/09
  - Colgan – 3/23/09
  - Belokur – no status

**Motion by Trustee Watkins seconded by Trustee Barbuto-Lewis approving the placement of the 2000 Buick (OPD) as surplus. Trustee's Thomas, Barbuto-Lewis, Watkins and Woody voting aye. Trustee Young nay.**

**Motion Carried**

**Motion by Trustee Watkins seconded by Trustee Thomas approving OPD Chief move forward to purchase new vehicle for OPD. Trustees Watkins, Thomas, Barbuto-Lewis, Mayor Arrington voting aye. Trustees Woody & Young voted nay.**

**Motion Carried**

Village Attorney

- Cemetery Abstract/discussion on Village having clear title

**Motion by Trustee Barbuto-Lewis seconded by Trustee Watkins to pay the \$550.00 invoice for Monroe Title and to hold off expending any additional funds at this time.**

**Unanimously Approved**

- Review of Fire Department by Laws from Fire Department

Mayor's Report

- "REAP"/\$4,000 Grant for Engineering Study
- COPS Fast Monies

**Motion by Trustee Barbuto-Lewis seconded by Trustee Thomas to approve Bonnie Thomas' application for use of \$4,000 from the Village of Owego Emergency Fund.**

**Unanimously Approved**

Privilege of the floor was offered to those in attendance.

Frank Orlando, village resident, spoke to the salary for Clerk-Treasurer; during these tough economic times shouldn't the salary for the Clerk be negotiated?

Herb McDowell, village resident, questioned the cost of maintenance for the proposed Riverwalk

- SCI Building / 38B
- Riverwalk buildings/Repair to buildings?
- Proposed Fire Truck – why does the board have to make the decision so quickly?

Lee Dunham, village tax payer from Main Street, brought up the need for a 3 way stop sign in the area of lower Front Street and Academy Street (Police Chief McCulskey and DPW Supt. Soules to study and return to the Village Board.

Trustee Barbuto-Lewis spoke also to the Paige and Main Street concern. Parking from the corner of Paige and Main should be looked into for safety reasons.

VBM-03/16/2009

Meeting to be held with Village Attorney, Police Chief, DPW Superintendent and Mayor Arrington regarding Village and the cigarette butt issue, in front of the building.

Mr. Karl Tiemann spoke to the skating rink area at Marvin Park. Mr. Tiemann to work with Trustee Watkins and Trustee Woody.

**Motion by Trustee Watkins seconded by Trustee Woody to adjourn at 9:15 p.m.**

**Unanimously Approved**