

Village of Owego Board of Trustees Meeting
Minutes of March 2, 2009

The regular Village of Owego Board of Trustees Meeting and the second special scheduled Public Hearing for “2009 CDBG Grant” were 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:	Adam Jung Shannon Barbuto-Lewis Grace Thomas Richard Watkins
Clerk-Treasurer:	Lynne A. Mieczkowski
DPW Supt.	Jeff Soules
WWTP Supt.	Ron Horton
Police Chief:	Rick McCulskey
Village Attorney:	Irene Graven
Fire Chief:	Tom Taft
Absent:	Trustee Woody Trustee Young

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

The first Public Hearing opened at 7:05 p.m. for Local Law #2 of 2009; A local law amending a provision of Chapter 187 of the Village of Owego Code entitled: “Vehicles and Traffic” as it relates to prohibited parking at all times.

Section I

This Local Law is being amended pursuant to the provisions of the Village Law of the State of New York, and the provisions of the Municipal Home Rule Law of the State of New York.

Section II

Section 187-24 designated as “Parking prohibited at all times” is hereby amended to read as follows:

<u>Name of Street</u>	<u>Side</u>	<u>Location</u>
George Street	South	From the west curb line of Spruce Street Continuing Westerly to the east boundary of Hyde Park

Section III

Effective Date:

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon its passing by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Owego and its filing with the Secretary of State.

Motion by Trustee Jung seconded by Trustee Watkins approving Local Law #2 of 2009.

Unanimously Approved

The second public hearing was opened at 7:10 p.m. on the CDBG 2009 Grant. Mr. Bernie Thoma from THOMA Consultants presented information to the Village Board. The Village intends to apply for a grant of \$400,000 and it must be filed by 4/24/09. This grant would upgrade residential housing. The designated project area is about 125 properties – about 33 residents have expressed interest.

Motion by Trustee Jung seconded by Trustee Thomas to close Public Hearing at 7:18 p.m.

Unanimously Approved

Motion by Trustee Lewis seconded by Trustee Watkins approving Local Law #1, 2009 entitled “Registration of Rental Units”.

Unanimously Approved

Teresa Saraceno addressed the Village Board of Trustees regarding the 2009 Owego Strawberry Festival and its request of the Village to have a Wine Tent on the Courthouse Square during the festival on 6/20/09. Teresa Saraceno presented an agreement to the board with insurance coverage etc. from the Strawberry Festival Committee.

Insert A – Strawberry Festival Package

The Village Attorney stated insurance coverage should be \$2 million – vendors will also have to give \$2 million coverage. Also, the Strawberry Festival Committee and vendors should sign a release of liability. A discussion was also held on the police coverage for the Wine Tent area. Can the Fire Dept./Police/Sheriffs do this? Per Chief McCulskey, the burden to pay is on the Strawberry Festival.

Motion by Trustee Watkins seconded by Trustee Barbuto-Lewis that the Strawberry Festival is responsible for funding any law enforcement coverage for the event.

Unanimously Approved

Motion by Trustee Watkins seconded by Trustee Barbuto-Lewis amending the prior motion to add: revise the proposed agreement to include but not be limited to the items discussed prior to the motion regarding the signed releases by vendors, increased additional insured liability limit and to include agreement in regard to electrical coverage.

Motion by Trustee Jung seconded by Trustee Watkins amending prior motion to add: authorizing the Mayor sign all paperwork pertaining to the Strawberry Festival Wine Agreement.

Unanimously Approved

The Emergency Home Assistance Program that was established several months ago had a limit of \$10,000. After a conversation with THOMA Development Consultants who administer our program it is being recommended to lower the maximum available to \$4,000 and eliminate the placement on the residents' mortgage due to this being an out-and-out grant.

Motion by Trustee Jung seconded by Trustee Watkins to table the Emergency Home Assistance Program until a later date.

Prior motion withdrawn by Trustee Jung and Trustee Watkins.

Motion by Trustee Barbuto-Lewis seconded by Trustee Thomas to modify the Emergency Home Assistance Program making the maximum \$4,000 and also to eliminate any mortgage lien requirements.

Unanimously Approved

Trustee Barbuto-Lewis

- Reviewed the process of claims to the Village
- Reviewed code complaints
- Restore New York Phase 3 – Web n R

Motion by Trustee Barbuto-Lewis seconded by Trustee Thomas authorizing the Mayor to sign letter of intent for Restore New York #3.

Unanimously Approved

Clerk Treasurer

Motion by Trustee Jung seconded by Trustee Thomas approving the submitted legal notice for the March 18th election inspectors.

Unanimously Approved

Motion by Trustee Barbuto-Lewis seconded by Trustee Watkins approving the payment of bills.

Motion by Trustee Barbuto-Lewis seconded by Trustee Watkins to amend the prior motion and add: to remove bill #1431 (Monroe Title) in the amount of \$500 and hold for the next payment of bills or pay if issue of abstract of title for the cemetery is completed.

Unanimously Approved

Trustee Jung

No Report.

Trustee Watkins

- No Report on cemetery
- Package from K. Tiemann (Trustee Watkins to meet with DPW Superintendent to review for 2010 Ice Rink season)
- No activity on OHPC
- Meeting to be scheduled with Douglas McLinko in April – Bradford County Commissioner

OPD

- Monthly Activity Report
- Proclamation for February 4th Support

Mayor Arrington

- 4/7/09 Flood Mitigation Meeting
- Stimulus Dollars
- 9 police officers goal within 2 year time frame
- Attended Conference of Mayors Meeting (2/22 – 2/24) in Albany
- Unfounded Mandates
- CHIPS funds restored

Village Attorney

- Violations in the Workplace Policy

Privilege of the floor was offered to those in attendance.

Charlie Lohmeyer addressed Village Board regarding accident to his vehicle by Village equipment/personnel.

Kevin Millar inquired about CDBG funds and the established emergency fund.

VBM-03/2/2009

Mr. Herb McDowell asked about the time table for the 2009 CDBG grant. He also commended the work done by the DPW employees.

Gwen Smith inquired about Restore New York Phase 3. Can this be possibly one project?

Motion by Trustee Jung seconded by Trustee Watkins to adjourn at 8:55 p.m.

Unanimously Approved