

Village of Owego Board of Trustees Meeting

A regularly scheduled Village of Owego Mayor and Board of Trustees meeting was held on Tuesday, January 19, 2016 at 7:00 pm at 20 Elm Street, Owego, New York, 13827. The following people were in attendance:

Mayor:	Kevin Millar
Trustees:	Jenny Ceccherelli Earl Hartman Phoebe Morris Mike Phelps
Clerk-Treasurer:	Rod Marchewka
Village Attorney:	Robert McKertich
Police Chief:	Karen Vinti
WWTP Supt.:	Ron Horton
DPW Supt.:	Jeff Soules
Absent:	Trustee Manville Trustee May

Pledge and invocation.

Sign In Sheet – Insert “A”

Public Comment:

None.

Motion by Trustee Ceccherelli, seconded by Trustee Morris, to approve the use of Marvin Park for the annual Susquehanna River Big Splash Event. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Ceccherelli, Trustee Hartman, Trustee Morris, Trustee Phelps, and Mayor Millar voted aye.

Motion Carried 5-0

Discussion on Crown William Corporation EDU review on hold – copies of resolution to be reviewed.

Motion by Trustee Hartman, seconded by Trustee Phelps, to approve the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION

At a meeting of the Village Board of the Village of Owego held at the Village Board Room, 20 Elm Street, Owego, New York on the 19th day of January, 2016, the following resolution was offered:

WHEREAS, on October 19, 2015, the Village Board of the Village of Owego retained Siena College Research Institute (SCRI) to perform a survey regarding police services in the Village of Owego; and

WHEREAS, on November 16, 2015, the Village Board authorized the distribution of the survey by SCRI; and

WHEREAS, on December 22, 2015, David Woodburn and Arden Paul Bennett filed a lawsuit seeking to prevent the survey from being distributed; and

WHEREAS, on December 22, 2015, Hon. Eugene D. Faughnan, J.S.C issued an Order to Show Cause which, among other things, stated that, pending a hearing on January 28, 2016 and final determination, the Village is directed to “cancel, prohibit and cease the distribution, release, mailing and dissemination in any manner of its proposed advisory opinion poll...”; and

WHEREAS, on January 8, 2016, Justice Faughnan issued a Decision and Order which “continues the stay in this matter, pending the January 28, 2016 hearing”; and

WHEREAS, the Village has asserted, and will continue to assert, that it has the right, power and authority, to distribute any survey that seeks public input on matters of public concern; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the forgoing, the Village Board seeks to address certain concerns raised by Justice Faughnan in the Decision and Order and to resolve this matter expeditiously without prejudicing the Village’s rights, power and authority;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board of the Village of Owego hereby approves the survey attached hereto; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall not nullify the survey previously approved by the Village Board on November 16, 2015, which is the subject of the above-referenced stay; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the survey approved herein shall not be immediately disseminated and, instead, shall be disseminated only after January 28, 2016 and only if the Village Attorney advises the Village Mayor and the Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, in writing, that the above-referenced stay does not apply to this survey; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.



January __, 2016

Dear Village of Owego [Resident/Business Owner]:

The Siena College Research Institute (SRI) is collecting your responses on behalf of the Village Board of Trustees so as to understand public opinion on future police service in the Village of Owego. Each survey has a unique coding number to ensure there are no duplicate responses. Please be assured that SRI will provide summary data to the Board of Trustees, but will not disclose the identity of any participant. If you prefer, you can complete the survey online using your unique coding number: <coding #> by going to www.siena.edu/sri/owego2016. We ask that you return the survey by mail or complete it online by February 15. Should you have any questions, please contact 518-783-2512. Thank you for your participation.

1. Over the past five years the taxes in the Village of Owego have been kept at or under the State Tax Cap. As you think about what you pay in taxes to the Village, would you say...
_____ The taxes here are too low. I could pay more for the services that we receive.

- The taxes here are fair. I pay about the right amount all things considered.
- The taxes here are too high. I don't think they are fair, nor do I think we receive the level of services that justify the taxes we pay.
- don't know

2. In general, would you consider paying more in taxes to the Village of Owego if that increase provided you with more local services or are you opposed to paying more in taxes regardless of that increase being used to provide more services?

- Would consider paying more in taxes
- Opposed to paying more regardless of any more services
- Don't know

3. Now, thinking specifically about the Owego Police Department (OPD). The OPD currently accounts for about one-third of the Village's budget. Do you think that percentage is...

- too much
- about right
- too little
- don't know

Review and respond to each of these four potential options for police service in the Village of Owego.

4. **NO CHANGE.** Keep the Village of Owego Police Department (OPD) as it is currently staffed at 1 chief, 1 sergeant, and 6 fulltime patrolmen and as it is currently budgeted at an estimated annual cost to the Village of \$917,688.

- Strongly support
- Support
- Oppose
- Strongly oppose
- Need more information

5. **INCREASE THE SIZE OF OPD** to 1 chief, 2 sergeants and 9 patrolmen at an estimated annual cost to the Village of \$1,233,612 or an approximate 34% increase in cost.

- Strongly support
- Support
- Oppose
- Strongly oppose
- Need more information

6. **ABOLISH OPD** and replace it with standard county road coverage from the Tioga County Sheriff's Office with an estimated annual savings of \$917,688 or about 1/3 the current budget.

- Strongly support
- Support
- Oppose
- Strongly oppose
- Need more information

7. **ABOLISH OPD AND NEGOTIATE WITH TIOGA COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE FOR COVERAGE IN THE VILLAGE** by the Sheriff's Office comparable to current OPD staffing levels with an estimated annual cost of \$651,000 or a 29% decrease in cost.

- Strongly support
- Support
- Oppose
- Strongly oppose
- Need more information

Roll Call Vote: Trustee Ceccherelli, Trustee Hartman, Trustee Phelps, and Mayor Millar voted yes. Trustee Morris voted no.

Motion Carried 4-1

Motion by Trustee Ceccherelli, seconded by Trustee Morris, to approve the Village of Owego Board of Trustees meeting minutes of January 4, 2016 as submitted by the clerk-treasurer. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Ceccherelli, Trustee Hartman, Trustee Morris, Trustee Phelps, and Mayor Millar voted aye.

Motion Carried 5-0

Motion by Trustee Morris, seconded by Trustee Ceccherelli, to approve the Joint Fire District meeting minutes of January 6, 2016 as submitted by the clerk-treasurer. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Ceccherelli, Trustee Hartman, Trustee Morris, Trustee Phelps, and Mayor Millar voted aye.

Motion Carried 5-0

Motion by Trustee Ceccherelli, seconded by Trustee Morris, to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted by the clerk-treasurer. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Ceccherelli, Trustee Hartman, Trustee Morris, Trustee Phelps, and Mayor Millar voted aye.

Motion Carried 5-0

Department Head Reports:

WWTP Supt. Horton –

Date: 1/15/16

To: Village Board of Trustee's

From: Ron Horton, Supt. WWTP

Re: Department update

1. Work on annual bio-solids reports.
2. Met about category change for Industrial Paint Services.
3. Construction continues

Motion by Trustee Morris, seconded by Trustee Ceccherelli, to approve the purchase of a snow plow by the sewer department as follows:

Date: 1/14/15

To: Rob Manville, Sewer Commissioner

From: Ron Horton, Supt. WWTP

Re: Plow for pickup

Rob,

I would like to request that we purchase a snow plow for the 2012 Dodge pickup truck.

I have received 3 written quotes for a 9' snow plow. Two of the quotes were from Trux outfitter from Binghamton. One was for a Fisher plow \$4,870.00 and the other quote was for a Western plow \$4,960.00. The third quote was from J&R Upholstery Shoppe also from Binghamton for a Snow Ex plow \$6,095.00.

I would like to recommend that we purchase the Western 9' plow from Trux outfitter. We have used Western plows in the past and they have a proven record of reliability. The purchase would come from the G.8120.20.130 account which has a balance of \$80,000.00.

If you have any questions please contact me.

Ron

Roll Call Vote: Trustee Ceccherelli, Trustee Hartman, Trustee Manville, Trustee Phelps, and Mayor Millar voted aye.

Motion Carried 5-0

Attorney McKertich will be sending out a letter about truck that blew up while being repaired at Royal Ford Owego.

Police Chief Vinti –

No report

DPW Supt. Soules –

MEMO

To: Village of Owego Mayor Kevin Millar and Village Board of Trustees

From: Superintendent of Public Works - Jeff Soules

Date: January 15, 2016

RE: DPW Activity Report

- Salted/plowed - storm
- Clear crosswalks and sidewalks
- Picking Christmas trees
- Haul fill
- Repaired non-working bridge lights
- Code violations for residential refuse - ongoing
- Forever green property maintenance - ongoing
- Measure DSNY cut outs on going
- Repair DPW equipment
- Pot hole patching ongoing
- Brush and leaf pick up ongoing
- Planning, Zoning and Historic Preservation meetings scheduled

Any questions or concerns please call me.

DPW Supt. Soules submitted the following report on 11 Adaline Street, Tax ID: 117.19-2-36 from Code Enforcement Officer James Mead:

January 14, 2016

Jeffery J Soules – Superintendent of Public Works

Inspection and conditions – 11 Adaline Street, Tax Id: 117.19-2-36

This structure was unoccupied at the time of the flood of September 8, 2011, and received about one foot of water on the first floor. Tags were placed on structure prohibiting occupancy, until repaired from flood damage.

Prior to the flood the village DPW had done lawn maintenance on occasion as well as after the flood in 2013, 2014, and 2015. Numerous complaints have been received by the Code Office about property maintenance.

On or about July 21, 2014 the west foundation wall which had a sever “bow” in it, did collapse. Attempts to contact owner were fruitless, but contact was finally made with owner Jane Holmes’ daughter in Newburgh, NY. She explained her mother was deceased and that she had been a victim of a predatory lender.

The lender has contacted this office twice since 2012, the contact information they give is false as e-mail is returned and phone disconnected. Both times the caller to this office said a contractor would be coming in for a permit to make required repairs.

The conditions of this structure are not good and it is in poor condition with the collapsed wall and now the roof and west wall have severe sag, as well as the supporting floor joists on first and second floor. The roof is in poor condition with broken and missing shingles and probably has leaks at this point in time.

Given the conditions with the west wall, and a heavy wet snow, this building could collapse.

James S. Mead
Code Enforcement

Trustee Reports:

Trustee Ceccherelli – no report

Trustee Hartman –

January 19, 2016 VOB Mtg.

Commissioner Report Summaries

Village of Owego, New York
Earl Hartman Trustee Ward 2/ Commissioner of: OFD, Planning & Zoning

Note to File:
Treasurer

Electronic copies of full report has been filed with the Clerk-

OFD:

- OFDEMS has two new EMTB and one CFR graduates that will be entering into their probation status.
(EMTB: Lori Wagner and Danielle Dupuis CFR: Jessica Jones)
- OFDEMS has (7) students in the current EMTB training roster
- (3) Candidates were interviewed for hire as EMTCC/ALS.
- OFD hosted the NYS Hazmat annual refresher training was held on January 5, 2016 at the OFD Training Center with attendance by Tioga Co. EMS Coordinator and (5) of Tioga’s Co. Fire/EMS departments.
- Annual OFDEMS OSHA Training was held on Sunday, January 10, 2016.

- When is DPW going to replace the Central Station stairwell door off of Temple St. as it is getting worse by the day?

PLANNING / ZONING:

- Nothing to report.

DPW:

- Leaves need removing from catch basins grates at the intersection of Temple St. & North Avenue. Grates are blocked enough they have trouble accepting water from ice/snow melt and they become frozen over making slick spots waiting for fall victims.

Submitted: January 19, 2016

Cc: Clerk/Treasurer, ERH files

Trustee Phelps –

- Question on proposed joint village/town DPW buildings
- Need estimate for Central fire station roof repair

Trustee Morris – no report

Motion by Trustee Ceccherelli, seconded by Trustee Morris, to approve the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION

At a meeting of the Village Board of the Village of Owego held at the Village Board Room, 20 Elm Street, Owego, New York on the 19th day of January, 2016, the following resolution was offered:

WHEREAS, the Crown Williams Corp. aka Industrial Paint Service, located at 60 W. Main St, Owego, New York, has submitted an application, pursuant to Section 166-37.B(1) of the Code of the Village of Owego, seeking a review of its designation in the Industrial EDU category and requesting re-designation into the Light Industrial category; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Owego Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator has reviewed the application and has determined that the applicant's property should be re-designated into the Light Industrial EDU category; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board of the Village of Owego hereby approves the re-designation of Crown Williams Corp. aka Industrial Paint Service, located at 60 W. Main St, Owego, New York, from the Industrial EDU category to the Light Industrial EDU category; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, due to the unusual delay in the final determination on this matter, the re-designation approved herein shall be effective as of the quarterly billing cycle immediately following September 15, 2014.

Roll Call Vote: Trustee Ceccherelli, Trustee Hartman, Trustee Morris, Trustee Phelps, and Mayor Millar voted aye.

Motion Carried 5-0

Public Comment:

Rusty Fuller – the survey you want to send out has many flaws in it. Some questions are completely incorrect. Why send something out that is wrong?

VOOBM 1-19-2016

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm

