

Village of Owego Board of Trustees Meeting

A Public Hearing and regularly scheduled Village of Owego Mayor and Board of Trustees meeting was held on Monday, March 16, 2015 at 7:00 pm at 20 Elm Street, Owego, New York, 13827. The following people were in attendance:

Mayor:	Kevin Millar
Trustees:	Earl Hartman
	Karl Jantz
	Ann Lockwood
	Steve May
	Mike Phelps
	Eric Yetter
Clerk-Treasurer:	Rod Marchewka
Village Attorney:	Robert McKertich
DPW Supt.:	Jeffrey Soules
WWTP Supt.:	Ron Horton
Police Chief:	Karen Vinti

Pledge and Invocation.

Insert "A" – Sign in Sheet

Public Hearing on the T.V. Franchise for Haefele T.V.

Attorney McKertich – Haefele T.V. has given Time Warner a copy of their request for a T.V. Franchise Application.

Public Hearing closed at 7:02 pm

Public Comment:

Jim Legursky – did not like the mayor responding to a mailing by the Village Public Safety Committee.

Historic Owego Marketplace brought the following letter (original along with list of events is on file at the clerk's office and available to view on the Village of Owego website):

Historic Owego Marketplace
P.O. Box 425
Owego, NY 13827
607-687-4094-President, Laura Eberly
607-343-5202 – **Owego Strawberry Festival**
Co-Chairs: Sandy Knapp-Dunbar
& Vendor Coordinator, Fran Dunbar

www.owegolovesshoppers.com www.owegostrawberryfestival.com

Mayor Millar and Village of Owego Trustees,

As Owego Strawberry Festival Co-Chair with my husband Fran Dunbar, I am here to present you with a list of events that the Historic Owego Marketplace has planned for the 2015 season. The

Marketplace membership consists mostly of Mom and Pop village merchants as well as other businesses that work hard and care deeply about the success and development of the Village of Owego.

We hold these events in our downtown streets for the sole purpose of exposing the public to what we have to offer here in Owego; our shops, restaurants, businesses and this beautiful setting where many of us live and work. These events benefit not only our business district but many others including our local non-profits and fraternal organizations, with fundraising opportunities.

Over the course of the year many visitors to these events come back to enjoy our unique shopping and restaurant district. Many of these people comment on how nice it is to come here and see such a thriving downtown. We still have what many small villages no longer have.

As an organization, the Historic Owego Marketplace realizes that we must work hard to keep this going and improving. Most of our businesses, shops and restaurants remodeled and reopened after the 2011 flood. As well a number of new shops have opened in the last three years. We not only want visitors to come here to do business, shop or dine, but to live as well. We can only accomplish this and continue to improve by supporting each other and being valued by our village government.

Sincerely,

Sandy Knapp-Dunbar
Owego Strawberry Festival Co-Chair

Motion by Trustee Lockwood, seconded by Trustee Yetter, to approve the following dates:

35th Annual Strawberry Festival & Parade	
Block Party	Friday, June 19, 2015 - 5:30 pm to 10:30 pm
Parade and Strawberry Festival	Saturday, June 20, 2015 - 9:00 am to 6:00 pm
Holiday Showcase	Saturday, November 14, 2015 10 to 5:00 pm
9th Annual Lights on the River	Friday, December 4, 2015 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm

With the normal expenses to be paid to police, DPW and Fire Police.

Discussion on alcoholic beverages and open containers – look into bars & clubs that serve alcohol. The wine tent will be on private property this year.

Roll Call Vote: Trustee Hartman, Trustee Jantz, Trustee Lockwood, Trustee May, Trustee Phelps, Trustee Yetter, and Mayor Millar voted aye.

Motion Carried 7-0

Request from the NY/PA Paranormal Society to use Evergreen Cemetery on April 11th after dark. The board decided it is up to the Village Clerk to issue a permit – the clerk is to work with the Village Attorney on proper documentation.

Motion by Trustee Hartman, seconded by Trustee May, to approve the board minutes of March 2, 2015 as submitted by the clerk-treasurer. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Hartman, Trustee Jantz, Trustee Lockwood, Trustee May, Trustee Phelps, Trustee Yetter, and Mayor Millar voted aye.

Motion Carried 7-0

Motion by Trustee May, seconded by Trustee Lockwood, to approve the special board minutes of March 6, 2015 as submitted by the clerk-treasurer. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Hartman, Trustee Jantz, Trustee Lockwood, Trustee May, Trustee Phelps, Trustee Yetter, and Mayor Millar voted aye.

Motion Carried 7-0

Motion by Trustee Hartman, seconded by Trustee May, to approve the Treasurer’s Report for February as submitted by the clerk-treasurer. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Hartman, Trustee Jantz, Trustee Lockwood, Trustee May, Trustee Phelps, Trustee Yetter, and Mayor Millar voted aye.

Motion Carried 7-0

Department Heads:

DPW Supt. Soules –

- Elevation
- Phase II Buyout – asking for an extension
- Looking for Demo bids for Phase II – 9 houses
- Wants to go out to bid for cemetery walls
- Home Land Security
- Replacing Court Street bridge lights with LED’s
- Working with the Tioga Agricultural Society trying to get a grant for rest rooms under the grand stand in Marvin Park
- Sharing the backhoe with the sewer department and looking at buying an extra piece of equipment to help with snow removal for next year

WWTP Supt. Horton –

A re-bid walk thru for the waste water treatment plant upgrade was held.

Bid opening will be on March 25, 2015 in the Village Board Room.

Sewer line cured in place, work to start in April – waiting on permits from DOT

Police Chief Vinti –

No report.

Trustee Reports:

Trustee Phelps – no report

Trustee Hartman –

March 16, 2015 VOB Mtg.

Commissioner Report Summaries

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

Note to File: Electronic copies of full report has been filed with the Clerk-Treasurer

1. **OFD:**
 - Roof is leaking over Co. 4’s room.
 - Lock on Co. 5’s door needs repairs.
 - 845 is at Royal Ford and should be operational and in quarters by end of March.

- Tioga County's exploration of a County wide coordinated Fire Police Association's next meeting will be at 7pm March 26th at the Hubbard Auditorium, 56 Main Street.
- OFD has (7) new Firefighter 1's. It specifically noted that Firefighter Nick Wilding has spent 84 hours, through no fault of his own, in getting his certification as I am told that twice between the NYS instructor and the Tioga County Fire Coordinator his paper work was lost so Nick gave up and took the trainings again.
- Car washes – **MOTION TO APPROVE** made by Trustee Hartman, 2nd by Trustee May:
The Village Board of Tutees herein approves the following OFD sponsored Car Washes to be held at Fire Station 2, North Avenue for the following dates.
Co. 3: **April 4th** with rain date of April 11th.
Fire Police: **May 9th** with rain date of May 23rd.
Carried 7-0-0

2. **PLANNING / ZONING:**

- No report

3. **Resource Water Protection:**

- A meeting to be scheduled for April with all participants. An update will be sent to all participants, the Mayor, Clerk and Board this week.

Motion by Trustee Hartman, seconded by Trustee Lockwood, to approve Company #3 having a car wash on April 4, 2015 with rain date of April 11, 2015 and for the Fire Police to have a car wash on May 9, 2015 with rain date of May 23, 2015. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Hartman, Trustee Jantz, Trustee Lockwood, Trustee May, Trustee Phelps, Trustee Yetter, and Mayor Millar voted aye.

Motion Carried 7-0

Trustee Jantz –

No report.

Trustee Lockwood –

No report

Trustee May –

No report

Trustee Yetter – thanked the department heads for helping him in anything he requested on village matters.

Mayor Millar:

Mayor's Report

March 16, 2015

- 1) Met with NY Rising Community Recovery Team from the NYS DOS to discuss planned projects in Tioga County to mitigate flood damage.
- 2) Met with Tim Ryan & XXX to discuss the Village's application for a review by the Fiscal Restructuring Board Tioga County Legislature Chair Martha Sauerbrey and Town of Owego Supervisor Don Castellucci and Clerk/Treasurer Rod Marchewka also attended.
- 3) Received a letter from the NYS Homeland Security & Emergency Services that informed the village that there is a Intrastate Mutual Aid Program that we are a member of.

- 4) Great news for volunteer firefighters in New York: the Firemen’s Association of the State of New York, also known as FASNY, offers up to 100% tuition reimbursement at a New York community college by maintaining good grades and fulfilling service requirements in a volunteer fire company for up to 80 college credits—ultimately, an Associate’s degree.

While the sacrifices that volunteer firefighters across the state make every single day are characterized by humility, fire departments across New York are in real, critical demand to recruit steady working members. So the aim, FASNY says, is to recruit and retain men and women to fulfill this need.

This tuition reimbursement program covers all 30 SUNY community colleges.

As a bonus, the program also covers online courses taken through Empire State College, which expands students’ options because, in conjunction with Open SUNY, students can earn a college degree on their own schedule.

And the FASNY tuition reimbursement program is a perfect fit; as part of SUNY’s continued pursuit to fulfill the needs to New Yorkers, 13 different colleges (mostly community colleges) offer programs centered around fire safety and prevention.

FASNY is an organization that prides itself informing, educating and training the volunteer fire service since 1872; they provide volunteer fire and emergency medical service members with the information, education and training they believe they need to succeed.

The application is on the FASNY website and the deadline to apply for the scholarship is usually in February.

Motion by Trustee Hartman, seconded by Trustee Lockwood, to go into Executive Session on attorney-client privileges. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Hartman, Trustee Jantz, Trustee Lockwood, Trustee May, Trustee Phelps, Trustee Yetter, and Mayor Millar voted aye.

Motion Carried 7-0

Public Comment:

Theresa Gossart – why weren’t meeting notes and information made available from the Village Public Safety Committee? Not fair to the public that they cannot be FOIL’d.

Eric Lee – Attorney for Steve May – said he called the Election Board in Albany and there were no election violations on recent mailing by the Public Safety Committee.

7:30 pm - into Executive Session

8:00 pm – back in regular session

No action taken.

Motion by Trustee Yetter, seconded by Trustee Lockwood, to adjourn at 8:01 pm. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Hartman, Trustee Jantz, Trustee Lockwood, Trustee May, Trustee Phelps, Trustee Yetter, and Mayor Millar voted aye.

Motion Carried 7-0

