

The regular monthly meeting of the Hamilton Town Board was held on Thursday, May 9, 2013, at 7:00 p.m., at the Town Office, 16 Broad Street, Hamilton, New York. Present were: Eve Ann Shwartz, Supervisor; Peter Darby, Deputy Supv., Carolyn Todd, Chris Rossi, Town Council; Gerald Hayes, Sean Graham, Bruce Moseley, William Todd, Mayor Miller, Sue Reymers, Bookkeeper, Bert Glazier, Highway Supt., Regina Silvestri, Daryl Griff, John Basher, and Jim Berdett (Engineer for the Village of Hamilton). Also three Morrisville College students: Tom Scharf, Jafar Eslami, and Corey Robinson.

Eve Ann began the meeting by welcoming everyone, and asking if anyone had anything they wished to say. Mayor Miller said SOMAC is doing well with their finance campaign to replace the ambulances – they have about \$70,000 so that can take care of one ambulance, and they will go into phase two of their campaign. The students did a great job of raising money for SOMAC, she said. Eve Ann has reached out in terms of SOMAC to the Hospital, and we are going to set up a meeting to talk about how the Hospital and SOMAC might explore some different ways to work together – better utilizing shared staff, or doing some sort of working together regarding bill collections. Eve Ann said she will keep the Mayor posted. The Mayor thanked Eve Ann.

A Motion was made to Accept the April 11, 2013 Town Board Minutes by C. Todd, seconded by C. Rossi and carried.

Eve Ann said David Holcomb is recovering from successful surgery on his eye, and we wish him a speedy recovery.

Eve Ann opened the Public Hearing that was noticed in the newspaper: A Public Hearing to consider a proposed Franchise Agreement Authorizing the Village of Hamilton to construct and operate a natural gas utility within the Town of Hamilton. There was a discussion about this at last month's meeting. She asked if anyone had any questions or concerns.

The Mayor thought of another possible resident in the Town that might benefit from natural gas: Mike Martin, on Payne Street.

Sean said they could leave a survey in the doors of residents in that area – of course it must be economical. He thinks 7 Oaks would be interested, too. We talked about Hamilton Street last time, too, Sean said. Peter asked in the event there is local gas development – there is no way to hook up directly to get distribution from a local gas developer, it would have to enter the compressor station, and go through the pipe line and come back out again. Sean said: You may be able to, you would still have to go through a compressor, but he is new to this too – but he understands-the gas out of the ground is not clean (it has water and particulates in it) and you would need to odorize it, dry it, clean it—before it gets to distribution quality gas. Even at the Transmission Stage Sean said: they have to clean it, odorize it. Peter said some farmers use it directly out of the well – and J. Berdett said usually there is an Agreement with the well driller/production company that the farmer gets free gas; and they usually condition it – you usually see a water tank and what that does is take the moisture out of the gas - it is pretty crude – not distribution quality gas. Eve Ann said: meaning it has enough impurities it may mess up your furnace. They do not odorize it. C. Todd asked Sean about the timing of the charge to the homeowner – if a person answers the Survey saying I’m interested in having gas, but then I’d like it in 5 years, etc. – I do not get billed until I tap into the line. Sean said that is correct. If you took it down the road – we were thinking about \$1,000 to tap it, we would run the pipe up and take it to the meter, and your gas expert would have to take it from the meter to the house; it is relatively simple. If a new owner wanted gas – what would happen – and Sean said if the pipe is in front all they have to do is ask us – it would be a cost to them – but we would bring the gas and the meter to them. Sean discussed instantaneous heating of hot water heaters; so you don’t always have to keep heating the water in your tank. The water is very hard in the Village, he said. B. Moseley asked if cow manure could be used to produce gas down the line and they answered it could be done. Regina asked about Spring Street, and they answered currently the survey has only gone to Village residents. Bruce asked if there were similar agreements with other Towns, and Sean said their attorney is at Madison now, and next week will be at the Town of Eaton – what about Lebanon, Bruce asked. We would consider them, Sean said. Their biggest customer is Colgate University, they said.

A Motion to Close the Public Hearing was made by P. Darby, seconded by C. Todd and carried.

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Peter had made a Motion to accept the Village's Resolution. However, Peter then Withdrew his Motion, as Eve Ann would like the Town's Attorney Steve Jones to look over the paperwork; and then bring this matter up again at the next Town Board Meeting.

A Motion to Pay the General Bills was made by C. Todd, seconded by P. Darby and carried.

A Motion to Pay the Highway Bills was made by P. Darby, seconded by C. Rossi and carried. C. Todd did not understand one bill (Trucks Outfitters). Sue said it was for the pickup truck. Sue said she would pull that bill and talk to them.

Bert then gave his Highway Report. He said they shinned Preston Hill before paving, and made 150 tons of patch. They cut some trees up on Chappell and Williams Road. They helped Lebanon pave Soule Road, and another road. They repaired many things around the garage. They will do Preston Hill and chip/seal down to Earlville Road and Hoose Road. They will do Harris road, and part of Hill Road – but the culvert must go in first there. Peter asked about replacing the signs in Poolville, calling it a Hamlet. The County will make the signs for us, he said.

Bert's Equipment Purchases: 2 trucks were on Auction International. They sold the '98 Chevy dump for \$9800, '93 was a no sale – bid was too low (\$5700). A Loader was purchased in 2011-- \$137,000; and sold the loader for \$144,000. That will be here within 3 days. The old loader was purchased by a farmer in Madrid, New York. Excellent, we made money on the deal, Eve Ann said. You can buy off of County bid too, Bert said. Bert will list his pickup in September.

Bernie Bus – Peter, Bert and Carolyn went to the meeting. Birnie owns 6,000 buses Bert said. Peter said: Birnie Bus operates buses for Colgate and are located on 12B North of Town, and they have outgrown that facility. They are looking to build a new facility. Colgate is going to build a new hockey arena where its current Highway Dept. is, and also their carpenter shop and plumber shop. The Village needs a new facility, as they have outgrown theirs. We need upgrades, but not a new facility – Tim Bernie, CEO of Birnie Bus, said let's get together and talk about whether it is possible we can build something on a joint venture. All 4

parties talked about it and there are a lot of road blocks. Birnie Bus is the only one that doesn't really have important location considerations. You can have separate dispatchers, but still consolidate your maintenance. Peter said there are time lines for the Village, Colgate to get this done. Colgate bought the Snyder property south of the village – so they have a back entrance to the campus with all their lawn equipment, etc., Peter said. C. Todd said 7/10 of a mile from campus; which is the absolute maximum distance they can handle, in terms of having their equipment and getting it to campus. The Vice President of Facilities said that it is amazing to think that we have this fairly sizeable campus and we are completely out of space—we are completely boxed in—and have no options at all in terms of construction and space---it is a huge problem and no solution; C. Todd said. She also said when the Science Building was built the construction company that built that building –said it was like building it in a high density urban environment; it was extremely difficult to build it. Real problems, somewhat discouraging, Eve Ann said. More discussion about Bernie Bus -In time it may be advantageous for the Town to outsource repairs. Eve Ann said if a very large facility is built in the Town of Hamilton –we should be thinking about that-and Bert said location is the big thing with everyone. They would like village water and sewer, Bert said. We should talk to the Village about expansion of water and sewer into Hamilton, Eve Ann said.

Financial Report from Sue Reymers, Bookkeeper. She said she gave them a packet and there was a Court Report included, too. The Judge brought in last month over \$4,000 -in April; and our portion was \$675. She said we got one more check from the road fund and are still waiting for one more check, from the County; and that is for services. The AUD is finished and submitted to the State of New York; she filed with our Bank (per their request), and Town Clerk will be putting out a public notice about this. New 2012 year end financial reports that reflect changes that were done, with Carol King, are in their packet, Sue said. Solar Project Update – she spoke with Michael Hedges and the installation is planned for the week of June 10<sup>th</sup>. It will take approximately 5 business days to install it (weather dependent) and once it is installed – it takes about 10 days for NYSEG to come regarding the meter. Maybe the Town will do some publicity about this, Sue said.

Madison County is a green County that has done all these initiatives and will get a reward from the EPA of about \$30,000. A student at Morrisville decided to

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work with the County Planning Dept. to instigate a solar project based on something that was already going on in Seattle, C. Rossi said. They put together a buying project so that residents and some businesses in Madison County could purchase solar photo voltaic systems at reduced costs, Chris said. They could offer 15 scholarships (or Grants) \$2,000 apiece- to go toward your purchase of a solar system-Chris participated and got a 3 kilowatt system put up behind her house. The Town looked at that idea and thought it was a great energy saving and good green initiative, nice fit for the Town-and we've gone ahead and purchased a system to go on the Town Garage. Solarize Madison is doing another round. June 28<sup>th</sup> is the final date, and people can participate, and this year they are doing a hot water project. The Town is happy to be part of this whole deal, Chris said. It was a good project because it increased the volume of solar installed, and therefore we became the cheapest place to have solar installed in all the Counties of New York State, Eve Ann said. Peter said the other benefit is the County does all the research, gets the contractors, and the homeowners just need to sign up.

Dave Hollis needs the Town's specs information, and Sue will get it.

Resolution #\_17\_ was made by P. Darby, seconded by C. Rossi and carried authorizing the reallocation of funds, Resolved that the 2013 fund reallocation be done as follows: Move Funds in the amount of \$75,000: from A909 Fund Equity to DA909 Fund Equity. Sue's Resolution, complete with her notes, will be attached to the original minutes as "Exhibit A".

Sue said Regina, Carolyn and Sue went to the free Workshop that NYS Achieves offered. They learned how to handle records, how to store them, information that Regina has a lot of knowledge in – ex: they can not go back on wooden shelves, when they are done, they need steel shelves. Sue also attended a NYS Comptroller's Office Finance Conference – lot of good information there. Budgets were one of the workshops, there was a lot of information – she will give a written report on it.

C. Hotaling, the Tax Collector then gave the Town Board a copy of her 2013 Year County and Town Tax Collection. She reported the Town of Hamilton collected \$2,552,253.23 of tax money. Plus an additional \$6,366.16 of Town tax penalty

money was collected locally. She said in March, the Town sent out 346 Tax Reminder Notices to residents who had not yet paid their taxes. Out of 2129 tax bills – a total of 158 Tax Bills were returned to the Madison County Treasurer's Office to collect. On May 8, 2013 she met with Becky Marsala, Deputy Treasurer of Madison County, and they went over her tax collection figures and the County was in agreement. Becky told Cathy her work is always perfect, and she thanked her. Cathy's 2013 Year Tax Collection Report, will be attached to the original Minutes as "Exhibit B". Thanks Cathy, Peter and Eve Ann said.

Codes Officer Report: No building permits were issued. C. Rossi tightened up the Building Permit form, and the Board had not had a chance to review it yet. Resolution #12 of 2008 – Sue referred to. Fees will not be changed – Paul did not want to change them yet. Take the number of inspections that Paul anticipates- and multiply it – and make it one fee payable at the time the application is filed. Let's have a final review, Eve Ann said, and Steve should be asked if we need a Local law – before it is passed. Also make sure Paul looks it over one more time too, Eve Ann said. Also Steve should look at the Franchise Document, Peter said. The Agreement with the Village, regarding sharing Paul as Codes Officer, needs to be revisited with the Mayor. G. Hayes said Earlville has stayed with the same Codes Officer, and may be interested in using Paul in the future.

Records Retention Committee was awarded an upstate institute intern to be shared: half with Records retention and half with the Town's Compensation Plan. Mae Staples is her name. Tomorrow there is a meeting in the Town Office with Denise Roe, Deputy County Clerk and Matt Urtz, County Historian. D. Roe will explain what is going on at Madison County regarding this, C. Todd said. Carolyn said there is a very important birth record – the father of the computer – John Vincent Atanasoff that Matt was searching for – he was born October 4, 1903; his father was a Colgate Alum-and the thought is they lived on Preston Hill Road. A fact sheet about him will be attached to the original minutes as "Exhibit C". Colgate wants to put a marker up in honor of him – but they can not do this until there is proof of his birth. He died in Maryland. Cathy found the birth record and Matt will come here tomorrow with a portable scanner so it could be available to Colgate. Eve Ann said let us take some credit for the Records Retention Project unearthing this wonderful piece of information, something we can be proud of.

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Regina said as much as she would like to take credit for it – she really thinks the credit goes to the Town Clerk for finding the birth record. Cathy has done a great job maintaining the records, but the Records Retention Meeting bought out the need for this record, Eve Ann said.

Energy Working Group (EWG) – C. Rossi said they had a meeting last Tuesday and they talked about the role of the EWG in light of the Comp Plan Committee; and in not wanting to overburden the EWG people who are on both committees – they agreed EWG would meet as needed over the course of the Comp Plan Project. They talked about doing a possible road trip down to Pennsylvania – J. Palmer has some family members in that area, regarding the gas industry. C. Rossi said the Town of Madison’s wind project – it sounds like EDP (the wind company) is now applying for Article 10 – the Town of Hamilton could be a participating agency. When the PSC process starts, we need to give a statement of environmental concern, but we already have a draft of that; C. Rossi said. Eve Ann said: regarding the Road Use Agreement – we are doing it jointly with the Town of Lebanon and Brookfield- we will be sharing the same concerns; Steve will meet with Lebanon to see what their concerns are. Steve is very busy, Eve Ann said, so it is slow, but when it is done- it is done very well.

C. Rossi said there is another Upstate Institute intern they are getting. They are sharing with the Village- to do the second half of the carbon footprint study. That data will be analyzed and there is talk about putting an implementation plan in place, which should roll nicely into the Comp Plan work. Their kick off meeting is going to be on the 16<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at the Library with Peter Darby, Carolyn Todd, Chris Rossi, Daryl, Kerri Blackmore, Travis, Harvey, Greg, Peter, Jody, and Rich. Good representation from all parts of the Town, Eve Ann said. Nan is working with them, too, Chris said.

Housing Focus Group – Eve Ann has been in contact with Nan. Carolyn wants an official estimate from Nan.

A Motion was made by P. Darby, seconded by C. Todd and carried appointing D. Holcomb as the Town’s representative to the SOMAC Board.

A Motion was made by C. Rossi, seconded by C. Todd and carried appointing P. Darby as the Town representative to the PCD Board.

Eve Ann said Colgate will review their Master Plan at a meeting May 13, 2013, at 8:30 a.m., at the Colgate Inn, and Mary Galvez (Planning Bd.) will be there and Mayor Miller, Jerry Fuller from the Village. It is not a public meeting, Eve Ann said.

No salvage of County transportation – Eve Ann said. She was at the Upstate Institute meeting with the Board of Health, C. Rossi said, and the Board of Health said that will be a real detriment to people getting health services in the County. Bernie is trying to help them, Bert said. Sales tax revenues are up, but medical costs are skyrocketing at the County – Eve Ann said. They are moving toward the final environmental impact statement on the agriculture and renewable energy park; which is part of the County landfill; Eve Ann said. Solar cover (dome) at the landfill was done very well. Crisis incident exercise program on May 29 from 9-1, will be held in The New Beginning Community Church in Wampsville.

A Motion was made by P. Darby, seconded by C. Todd and carried to go into Executive Session for litigation purposes.

A Motion was made by C. Todd, seconded by C. Rossi and carried to come out of Executive Session.

A Motion was made by P. Darby, seconded by C. Rossi and carried to Adjourn the Meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine S. Hotaling, Town Clerk



