

June 6, 2011

The regular meeting of the Town Board of Vernon was held at the Town Office Building on the above date with the following persons present: Myron J. Thurston, Supervisor; Gene Bennati, Mick McDonough, Sandy Williams and Randy Watson, Council members. Also present: Norman E. Laube, ZBA Chairman; Art Freemire, Superintendent of Highways; Mike Kaiser of PAC 99 and Steve Adamkowski. Attorney Rossi was absent.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, there was a moment of silence. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Thurston at 7:00 p.m.

Supervisor Thurston stated that he knew the minutes from the May 9, 2011 and May 16, 2011 meetings had been received by council members and asked if there were any additions or corrections. There being none, a motion to approve the minutes as written from May 9, 2011 was made by Bennati, seconded by McDonough. No discussion. Motion carried. Ayes 4. Nays 0. A motion to approve the minutes as written from May 16, 2011 was made by Williams, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

#### PUBLIC CONCERNS:

None

#### REPORTS:

The following reports were presented: Town Clerk, Codes Enforcement (Supervisor Thurston mentioned that the 2 Codes Officers we have now work very well with people and our Codes Clerk is wonderful), Supervisor's, Economic Development: Watson reported that the area business meeting is tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m. to see if there's any interest in helping them create a marketing plan (Supervisor Thurston mentioned that invitations were sent out to the businesses and there was a very good article in the Oneida Dispatch about this meeting) and Highway Superintendent reported that the blacktop for Bleeker Road and the Town Office parking lot is done. Also, the lines are going to be painted by the County for the parking lot and, in turn, we are going to do more ditching for them.

There were no reports from Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Assessors, Education and Libraries, Intergovernmental Relations, Operations, SWOCO, County Legislator and Historian.

A motion to accept above reports was made by McDonough, seconded by Williams. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to pay bills was made by McDonough, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

#### BUSINESS:

A motion to approve 3-year contract with TDS Telecom for long distance telephone service was made by Watson, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Supervisor Thurston reported that our Codes Officer sent an order to remedy violation to the company that owns the gas station at 4629 State Route 365, that has been in a major state of disrepair for years. They got back to us right away and have decided to demolish it.

A motion to approve the Employee Manual with the changes that had been made by the Board and Attorney Rossi was made by Bennati, seconded by Watson. McDonough asked if it's normal practice to give part-time employees vacation time and Supervisor Thurston replied that we have made a practice of giving them 1 hour for every 50 hours worked, so it doesn't amount to that much. No further discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Supervisor Thurston stated that the plans for the sand elevator in the salt dome have been received and our engineer will put it out to bid this week. The bid opening will be July 7, 2011

at his office so he can review them and give us his recommendations. Then we will decide what to do at the July Board meeting.

Supervisor Thurston suggested getting a retractable curtain for the west side of the Town's picnic pavilion because he had his grandson's first birthday party out there and it gets very windy. He will look into it for the next Board meeting.

A motion to change the pay scale for mechanic for Robert Cullen from \$16.00 to \$19.47 per hour, per Highway Superintendent Freemire's request, was made by Bennati, seconded by Williams. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

#### GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Supervisor Thurston said that Mr. Ciotti, who is a World War II veteran and carried the wreath at our Memorial Day Ceremony, donated numerous patriotic items that will be put in our new display case. He also brought an extension cord because we couldn't find one for the Memorial Day Ceremony and he said that he had many of them.

The Town Clerk explained that we are going to do the dog enumeration by mail this year. The details are still being worked on, but the Town of Pembroke has done it and they had a 95% response rate. It's hard to find anyone to go door-to-door anymore because it can get dangerous. A two-part postcard with the return postage paid on it will be sent out to make it very convenient and simple. We will have a list of who doesn't respond from the address labels so we can contact them. One district will be done each year and it would normally cost around \$1500 and this will cost \$700. Supervisor Thurston mentioned that the dog enumeration makes a big difference in the number of dogs that are licensed and have their rabies vaccines. Also, it has been a revenue builder for the Town Clerk's office since NYS passed the responsibility of dog licensing to the municipalities.

Bennati asked how the Town's pavilion has been left after it has been used and Supervisor Thurston replied that it has been fine. McDonough asked about the soccer team that requested using the field and Supervisor Thurston said that it has been rolled, the nets are here and they have used it.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 7:42 p.m. was made by Bennati, seconded by McDonough. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Additions to minutes on file  
in Town Clerk's Office.

Julie A. McElroy  
Town Clerk

It should be noted that this meeting was tape recorded and is on file in the Town Clerk's office.

#### COMMUNICATIONS:

None