

**TOWN OF SARANAC
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 26, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. TOWN HALL**

Members Present:

*Joe Gerardi (Supervisor)
Philip Rice (Councilman)
Robert Blair (Councilman)
Michael Tedford (Councilman)
Gerald Delaney (Councilman)
Mary Bell (Town Clerk)
Lee Vann (Highway Superintendent)
Stephen Petrashune (Assessor)
Cindy Waldron (JCEO)
Mark Plumadore (Dog Control)
Frank Zappala (Attorney)
Jeff Reisdorf (Code Officer)*

Also attending meeting: Michele Petrashune, Sylvia Newman, Warren Newman, Allison Tucker, Linda Tucker, Marla Perry, Todd Perry, Ron Spear, and Earl Covell.

Supervisor, Joe Gerardi opened meeting at 7:00 p.m. Cindy Waldron led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Resolution 12-09

*Consideration of Minutes of December 22, 2008; January 5 & 19, 2009 meetings:
Resolved to except all meeting minutes by: Bob Blair (C) second by: Jerry Delaney (C)*

PHIL-YES

BOB-YES

MIKE-YES

JERRY-YES

JOE-YES

Questions, Comments, Petitions from the floor:

None at this time.

Correspondence:

Adk. Tobacco Free Network request for "No Thanks" resolution:

Received letter from the Network requesting the town to consider adopting a "No Thanks" policy. A Resolution about the Tobacco industry with no smoking in the place of government. The Town Board is going to review the letter.

Common Ground Alliance, Property Tax Cap on State Lands:

Sent letter to Governor Paterson stating that we are opposed to his plan to trim State spending by capping the state's property tax payments on Forest Preserve lands to Adirondack towns, counties, and school districts.

New Land Trust, Newsletter:

The Newsletter is available for anyone needing information email address is newlandtrust@gmail.com.

Supervisor's Report:

Financial report:

Resolution 13-09

Motion to except financial report by: Bob Blair (C) second by: Mike Tedford (C)

PHIL-YES

BOB-YES

MIKE-YES

JERRY-YES

JOE-YES

SAVING ACCOUNT BALANCE

	<u>As of 12-31-08</u>	<u>As of 01-21-09</u>
<u>General</u>	<u>\$130,832.05</u>	<u>\$125,421.87</u>
<u>Saranac Ltg.</u>	<u>19,475.38</u>	<u>19,475.38</u>
<u>Standish Ltg.</u>	<u>3,058.73</u>	<u>3,058.73</u>
<u>General/Reserve</u>	<u>198,876.95</u>	<u>198,876.95</u>
<u>Building Fund</u>	<u>74,464.59</u>	<u>74,464.59</u>

<u>Highway</u>	<u>137,045.42</u>	<u>100,743.10</u>
<u>Roads & Bridges</u>	<u>134,872.92</u>	<u>185,850.90</u>
<u>Redford Water</u>	<u>75,428.19</u>	<u>75,357.54</u>
<u>Standish Water</u>	<u>9,741.12</u>	<u>9,463.37</u>
<u>Saranac Water</u>	<u>9,602.37</u>	<u>6,706.70</u>
<u>Saranac Water Filtration Project</u>	<u>\$20,082.74</u>	<u>20,082.74</u>

Expenditures in December \$ 145,514.23
Revenues in December 90,236.11

Saranac Water Owes General Fund \$20,000 for Filtration Project

Tax Rates for Clinton County:

Each Councilman received a copy of tax rates for Clinton County for review.

Interim Recreation Management Plan for Sable Highlands:

The Supervisor has copies of the interim recreation management plan which details the proposed public uses and management of the publicly accessible forest lands encumbered by the Sable Highlands Conservation Easement.

Letter to Senator Schumer regarding unfunded mandates:

The Supervisor sent Senator Schumer a letter regarding the Town's concerns and issues about unfunded mandates.

Census Test Held 1/24/09 at the Town Hall:

Census Test was held at the Town hall on 1-24-09. There were about 15 people present. There will be another test in February.

Water Pipe break sin records room:

Tuesday January 20, there was a water pipe that broke in the Records room. Was able to save all records, and organized some and got all record boxes off the floor.

Highway Superintendent's Report:

Lee Vann reports:

Price of cutting edges has gone way up, from \$224.00 to \$295.00 there is a \$ 71.00 increase.

In March the Highway Superintendent will be going to Albany, Lobbying for CHIP money.

There are more people using the parking area near John Tedford home, so it's become a situation for the plow trucks to take care of the road because of the cars parked on the sides of the road because the park area is full. The town has put signs up requesting no parking on road ways due to the plows needing to get through, but signs don't stop parking there from happening. Safety is the number one reason the Superintendent has placed the signs there. This spring when weather is permitting the Highway Department will widened the park area for more space for parking and that, hopefully will solve the issue.

The Superintendent has not got any quotes yet on inspection of the fuel tanks, will get some when time permits.

=====

Water Reports:

Redford:

Nothing at this time.

Standish:

Jerry Delaney reports:

Email to Engineer Abdallah:

The Engineer has received an email from the CCHD (Judy Ross) regarding the by-pass line in water treatment plant. Mr. Abdallah sent the Supervisor the email for the Board to review.

Saranac:

Mike Tedford reports:

Engineer's Report submitted to the Clinton County Health Department.
Submitted Application for water supply improvement.

Health Department response to plan:

The department has reviewed the application, but, they have sent it to NYSDOH for the final approval of the Filtration Program.

Code Officer's report:

Jeff Reisdorf reports:

Brian Bunker 4365 Route #3 Addition issued 1/22/09

Adam Clark Cringle Rd. Garage Detached issued 1/22/09

=====

Dog Control Officer's report:

Report are attached to these minutes.

Community Outreach Program:

Cindy Waldron reports:

(December 22, 08 - January 23, 09)

157 # Visits to center for all services including clothes, toys, and household items.

12 # trips coordinated to medical appointments.

15 # Households received Emergency Food.

22 # Monthly Food Co-op purchased.

45 # Volunteer hours given to the Center.

21 # Information & referral (Health insurance, Red Cross, Senior Programs, weatherization, housing, RPC, Joe4oil, ect.)

21 # HEAP applications.

Families that received Christmas food baskets, vouchers, and toys was 38, also 16 seniors received food packages with a tote bag.

Thanks to everyone who donated toys, food, and time to make the holidays happy for families in need.

Saranac Elementary (Food)

Saranac High (Social Studies Dept-toys)

American Legion Post 1618

Saranac Methodist Church

Thank you to the people, who dropped of toys, adopted a family for Christmas or gave gift certificates. We are very fortunate in Saranac to have such a caring Town where people still help and care about one another.

=====

Recreation:

Bob Blair reports:

The cost of running the Town pool was reviewed.

Assessor:

Stephen Petrashune reports:

98% done picking up new construction.

No reassessments this year.

Planning Board:

Jerry Delaney reports:

Nothing at this time.

Senior Citizens:

Phil Rice reports:

Nothing at this time.

Saranac Fire Department:

Ice rescue training will be Weekend of February 6-8 in Saranac.

Building:

Nothing at this time

Newsletter, Website, Saranac Central School:

Joe Gerardi reports:

Will be having Newsletter (Town Crier) out 4 times this year. Website is updated monthly. The Supervisor will be having a link for the Saranac Fire Department.

Historian:

Nothing at this time.

Attorney

Frank Zappala reports:

Update on Saranac v. Reeds.

On November 3, 2008, the Reed's attorney requested an adjournment stating that local attorney CJ Madonna would be handling the case. Case was adjourned by the Court until November 17, 2008. Mr. Zappala met with CJ Madonna on November 21, 2008 to discuss the case. It was stated that the Reeds would have to bring the property into full compliance with the applicable laws or be subject to a penalty. Mr. Madonna agreed and wanted to speak with clients. On December 15, 2008, again request of Reeds' attorney, the case was adjourned. Mr. Madonna contacted Mr. Zappala on December 16, 2008, stating he would contact his clients then contact Mr. Zappala the following week.

On December 23, 2008, Mr. Madonna contacted Mr. Zappala stating he is prepared to discuss resolving the case before the court.

The Town Board would like this matter to be in court and two weeks was the time frame they are looking at. Attorney, Mr. Zappala doesn't see there should be any problem getting this matter taken care of within the two weeks time.

Unfinished Business

Local Waterfront Revitalization Project:

Nothing at this time.

Industrial Park:
Nothing at this time.

Review Court Records of 2008-Section 2019-a Uniform Justice Court Act:

Resolution 14-09

Motion by: Joe Gerardi (Supervisor) second by: Bob Blair (Councilman)
PHILIP RICE–YES
ROBERT BLAIR-YES
MICHAEL TEDFORD-YES
GERALD DELANEY-YES
JOE GERARDI-YES

RESOLUTION 14-2009

Whereas Section 2019-a of the Uniform Justice Court Act requires that town and village justices annually provide their court records and dockets to their respective town boards, and

Whereas, The Unified Court System’s Action Plan for the Justice Courts announcement in November of 2006 listed initiatives to improve accountability and controls over Justice court finances and records, and

Whereas, among the initiatives is increased monitoring of Town Board compliance with section 2019-a, and

Whereas, in the past, Ann Pfau, Chief Administrative Judge of the State of New York Unified Court System has requested a copy of the Town of Saranac’s most recent examination of our local court’s records and a copy of our board resolution acknowledging that the required examination was conducted

Be it resolved, that at this regularly scheduled January 26, 2009 Town of Saranac board meeting, after having examined the 2008 records and dockets of Justices Karen Waldron-Munson and Jill Myers the Town Board has found them to be in order, and furthermore,

Be it resolved, that a copy of this resolution be sent to Dennis W. Donnelly, Director of Internal Audit, or the designated officer as per Chief Administrative Judge Pfau’s anticipated request.

=====

Approve Franchise Agreement with Charter Cable:

Resolution 15-09

Motion by: Michael Tedford (Councilman) second by: Philip Rice (Councilman)

PHILIP RICE-YES

ROBERT BLAIR-YES

MICHAEL TEDFORD-YES

GERALD DELANEY-YES

JOE-GERARDI-YES

***Whereas**, the Clinton County Cable Television Council of which the Town of Saranac is a member has negotiated with Falcon First Cable of New York, Inc. d.b.a. Charter Communications the renewal of the TV Council municipal members' collective franchise agreements between the municipalities and Charter; and,*

***Whereas**, with the help of New York Public Service Commission, the negotiations with Charter Communications has produced a renewal agreement for the municipalities represented on the council; and*

***Whereas**, two public hearings have been held to address any common concerns; and*

***Whereas**, no public concerns were brought to the public hearings; and*

***Whereas**, the multi-year negotiation process produced the current Franchise Agreement; and*

***Whereas**, the town board has reviewed the negotiated agreement and has approved the renewal agreement as to form; and*

***Whereas**, it is determined that on behalf of its residents, it is in the best interest of the town to enter into this Franchise Agreement with Charter Communication; be it there*

***Resolved**, that the town board hereby approves the franchise renewal between the Town of Saranac and Charter Communications and authorizes the supervisor to execute the same for the Town of Saranac; and further*

***Resolved**, that the approval and execution of said franchise agreement is subject to the approval of the NYS Public Service Commission.*

Undertaking on Taking (UOF) Resolution:

Resolution 16-09

Motion to except Undertaking Resolution by: Joe Gerardi (Supervisor) second by:

Gerald Delaney (C)

PHILIP RICE-YES

ROBERT BLAIR-YES

MICHAEL TEDFORD-YES

GERALD DELANEY-YES

JOE GERARDI-YES

Undertaking on File Resolution 16-09

WHEREAS the Town of Saranac from time to time receives permits from the Department of Transportation to temporarily obstruct, install, construct, maintain, operate or replace any facilities within the bounds of a State highway right-of-way, and

WHEREAS, the Town is required by NYS DOT to indemnify or hold harmless agencies and/or officials of the State of New York for such temporary obstructions, installations, construction or maintenance, be it therefore

Resolved, that Joe Gerardi, in his capacity as Supervisor of the Town of Saranac, is authorized to execute the Undertaking in Connection With Highway Permits Issued by NYS DO agreement.

=====

Twin State Agreement:

Resolution for having Twin State Telephone Company Service the phones.

Resolution 17-09

Motion by: Bob Blair (C) second by: Jerry Delaney (C)

PHIL-YES

BOB-YES

MIKE-YES

JERRY-YES

JOE-YES

Support for Mountain Lions Snowmobile Club:

Resolution 18-09

Resolved to support club by: Mike Tedford (C) second by: Phil Rice (C)

PHILIP RICE-YES

ROBERT BLAIR-YES

MICHAEL TEDFORD-YES

GERALD DELANEY-YES

JOE GERARDI-YES

Resolution 18-09 Support Snowmobiling in Clinton County

WHEREAS, with the State purchasing 14,400 acres from the Nature Conservancy on the western mountainous side of Clinton County, and

WHEREAS, if the State were to declare this land as wilderness, it would interrupt the trail system in Clinton County, impacting 1,330 family club memberships with over 1,800 registered snowmobiles, and

WHEREAS, if the State were to allow snowmobiling on the existing trail form the D&H railroad bed to Highbanks, the trail system would not be impacted, and

WHEREAS, if the State declared this land wilderness (no snowmobiling) this decision would negatively impact local businesses such as restaurants and service stations, etc., be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Town of Saranac, in which the above-mentioned property is located, urges the Department of Environmental Conservation not to classify the land as wilderness in order to continue snowmobiling on this land.

=====

Questions, Comments, Petitions, from the floor:

Phil Rice commented that he is a member of the Knights of Columbia (KFC) They will be holding a Blood Drive Saturday from 4-8 in Plattsburgh at KFC.

Authorizations to pay Warrants:

Resolution 19-09

Motion to pay Warrants by: Phil Rice(C) second by: Jerry Delaney (C)

PHIL-YES

BOB-YES

MIKE-YES

JERRY-YES

JOE-YES

Meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m. The next regular Board meeting will be on February 23, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. Special meeting on February 2, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. for insurance bid.

*Respectfully submitted,
Mary Bell
Town Clerk*

January 26, 2009