

*TOWN OF SARANAC
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 27, 2007, 7 PM TOWN HALL*

Members Present:

*Joe Gerardi (Supervisor)
Phil Rice (Councilman)
Robert Blair (Councilman)
Michael Tedford (Councilman)
Mary Bell (Town Clerk)
Steve Petrashune (Assessor)
Leo Vann (Highway Superintendent)
Mark Plumadore (Dog Control Officer)
Ken Carter (Pool Manager)*

Also attending meeting: Warren Newman, Michele Petrashune, Melvin Terry, and Marcia Rice.

Supervisor Joe Gerardi opened meeting at 7:00 p.m. Warren Newman led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Resolution 51-2007

Approval of Minutes: to July 23, 2007 regular Board meeting. With corrections to Page 8 about Reed's having 2 barrels one white and 1 blue with oil inside them. The Town clerk will add the information to the minutes.

Motion by: Joe Gerardi (S) second by: Phil Rice (C)

PHIL-YES

BOB-YES

JOE-YES

Questions, Comments, Petitions from the floor:

None

Correspondence:

Bob Donlan, United Way Campaign:

The Town received a letter from Bob Donlan from the United Way. Asking for a contribution for their campaign. The Supervisor wanted to let the public be aware that the Town gets letters regarding donations frequently.

Gary Douglas, Chamber of Commerce:

The Town received a letter from the Chamber of Commerce regarding property taxes in New York State. The Chamber of Commerce has launched a simple but important Shared Service/Consolidation Initiative.

Bruce Balch, Local Vehicle Storage Law suggestion:

Mr. Balch sent the Town Council a letter with a suggestion for an addition to our Local Law. A local vehicle storage law refinement law. It's a proposal for changes to the existing local vehicle storage law Mr. Balch will be presenting his proposal to the Planning Board in October. The Town Council will then know further details.

Hill & Hollow events:

A Fancy Period-Dress English Country Dance, featuring live period music on recorder, violin, and cello, by The Waickman Family and dancers callers Bruce Kokernot & Wendy Gilchrist. On Saturday, September 8, 2007 8:00 p.m. at the Plattsburgh Elks Lodge (the Pine room). Admission is free with Souvenir Button. Dinner is available before the ball in the Elks Dining room from 5:30-7:30 reservations are required. 563-2100.

Also English Country Dance schedule for 2007/2008 is as follows..

September 14	January 11	April 11
September 28	January 25	April 25
October 12	February 8	May 9
October 26	February 22	May 23
November 9	March 14	
December 14	March 28	

At Saranac Elementary School Gym 7:30-9:30 p.m.

For more information flyers are at the Town Hall Offices.

Supervisor's Report:

Resolution 52-2007

Financial:

Approval of Financial Reports:

Motion by: Bob Blair(C) second by: Phil Rice (C)

PHIL-YES
BOB-YES
JOE-YES

SAVING ACCOUNT BALANCES

	<u>As of 7-31-07</u>	<u>As of 8-22-07</u>
<u>General</u>	<u>\$265,750.16</u>	<u>\$ 260,935.51</u>
<u>Saranac Ltg.</u>	<u>42,801.47</u>	<u>42,801.47</u>
<u>Standish Ltg.</u>	<u>5,725.98</u>	<u>5,725.98</u>
<u>General/Reserve</u>	<u>191,243.06</u>	<u>191,243.06</u>
<u>Building fund</u>	<u>98,813.26</u>	<u>98,813.26</u>
<u>Highway</u>	<u>544,327.04</u>	<u>517,626.70</u>
<u>Roads & Bridges</u>	<u>75,261.84</u>	<u>75,261.84</u>
<u>Redford Water</u>	<u>70,895.38</u>	<u>70,895.38</u>
<u>Standish Water</u>	<u>8,006.41</u>	<u>8,006.41</u>
<u>Saranac Water</u>	<u>15,191.34</u>	<u>14,984.10</u>
<u>Expenditures in July</u>		<u>\$ 127,586.35</u>
<u>Revenues in July</u>		<u>12,776.98</u>

Soper Road Bridge:

Article was in the Press Republican about Bridge closing.

Misquote:

In the article there was a misquote about the Town officials evaluating the bridge, The County owns the bridge and state inspectors told the County to fix the bridge or it needed to be closed. The Town Officials did not have any say in the matter. The County decided to closed the bridge because of the high cost of fixing it.

Summary from County Highway Dept:

The condition rating for the Soper Bridge was serious deterioration, not functioning as designed. The Steel deck and primary steel beams are both serious deterioration and not functioning as designed. The secondary beams are almost totally deteriorated.

That is some of the findings of the closing of the bridge.

The cost to rehab the Bridge will be several million dollars due to historic nature of the structure.

Cost to replace the bridge is estimated at \$2.5 million for new bridge at alternate location.

Speed zone request:

Randy Napper would like to see a speed zone on the road because of the bridge being closed. The traffic has picked up, and there is a large value of speeding cars. The Supervisor asks the Superintendent to put some signs up, which he has; the Supervisor has also contacted the State police asking them to patrol the area. Councilman, Bob Blair will be going to speak with Mr. Napper regarding this matter.

Supervisor's meeting-Public water infrastructure:

The Supervisor attended the monthly CC Supervisor's Association meeting. They had a guest speaker from the New York State Department of Health. Topics were about concerns with increased usage, business growth, residential needs and other topics of importance including the need to tailor rates to demand.

Ten Welcome packets delivered:

There have been 10 welcome packets delivered to new residents.

Budget meetings scheduled: 9/10 & 9/17

The Supervisor is planning a budget workshop to discuss the tentative budget with the Council. The workshop will be September 10th, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Supervisor's Office. The public is welcome.

Broadband:

CBN Connect- Non profit organization which is starting up. They are looking to establish partnerships to get the High speed internet in our area. They will be contacting the local companies such as Verizon, Comcast, Time Warner, and Primelink, which the residents would pay to have the service through those companies. The supervisor will keep the town updated on this, and hopefully have the Town of Saranac will have high speed internet in the near future.

Highway Superintendent's Report:

Lee Vann reports:

The Highway Superintendent has been to a couple of meetings this month. One was FEMA meeting; Topics including: How the Town can get the most money out of the situation at hand. With prices increasing state wide, it's difficult for our Highway Department to accomplish all the jobs that need to be done.

Another meeting Mr. Vann attended was discussion of road signs. All road signs will be universal.

Blacktopping is done.

They are almost done patching.

Water Reports:

Redford Water Districts:

Bob Blair reports:

Waiting to hear back from the CCHD about the Annual Water Inspection.

Capacity Development Program Survey Form

Forms need to be filled out and returned to the CCHD by September 10th, 2007.

Melvin Terry completed the form and has mailed it in.

Standish Water District:

Gary Tedford reports:

2007 Annual Water System Inspection was done on August 2, 2007 by Judy Ross (Public Health Sanitarian from CCHD), and Martha Chase (Water Operator).

Capacity Development Program Survey Form:

Forms need to be filled out and sent to CCHD by September 10th, 2007.

Saranac Water District:

Mike Tedford reports:

Generator update: the Motor needs to be rebuilt or replaced with a new one.

Mr. Tedford is waiting for prices.

Capacity Development Program Survey Form:

Forms need to be filled out and sent to CCHD by September 10, 2007

There is a water leak in Saranac. Mr. Tedford and Glen Hamel worked today on finding the leak. They called Morris Coolidge (Circuit Rider) and he came to help find the problem. They did find the leak and will be addressing it.

Code Officer's Report:

Eugene Dickerman reports:

From: July 31, 2007--- August 27, 2007

<u>Date</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Fee</u>
<u>7/22/07</u>	<u>Ray Leduc Jr.</u>	<u>88 True Brook Rd.</u>	<u>Renewal per.</u>		<u>\$25.00</u>
<u>7/31/07</u>	<u>Colleen Seney</u>	<u>737 Chazy Lake Rd.</u>	<u>Addition</u>	<u>\$10,000</u>	<u>\$32.45</u>
<u>7/31/07</u>	<u>Ray Leduc Sr.</u>	<u>148 True Brook</u>	<u>Addition</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>\$ 46.00</u>
<u>8/20/07</u>	<u>Bob Blair</u>	<u>22 Ryan Rd.</u>	<u>Swimming Pool</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>37.00</u>
<u>8/22/07</u>	<u>Luis Burgos</u>	<u>325 Chazy Lake Rd.</u>	<u>Barn</u>	<u>9,000</u>	<u>53.80</u>

Regular inspections

90 Priest Road
1395 Hardscrabble Road
94 Douglas Road
1251 Hardscrabble Road
759 Chazy Lake Road

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Dog Control Officer's Report:

The report is attached to these minutes.

Call regarding cats in the Town:

The Supervisor received a call from a Town resident about someone dropping of cats near her home. Our Dog Control Officer does not deal with cats, so the Supervisor tried to direct the woman as much as he could. She ended up bringing the kittens to Malone.

Community Outreach Center:

Monthly report: July 23, 2007- August 24, 2007

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

22 # of trips coordinated to medical appointments.

12 # households received Emergency Food

26 # monthly Food-Co-op purchased

26 # Volunteer hours were given to the Center

8 # Information & referral.

27 # students signed up for school supplies.

2 # Weatherization applications.

Cindy went to the regional HEAP training in Glens Falls on Thursday August 23, 2007. The HEAP program will open on November 1, 2007. Seniors that have had HEAP in the past should be receiving the application in the mail.

Cindy will be picking up school supplies on Tuesday August 28, 2007 and will be giving them out on Wednesday the 29th, of August.

Recreation:

Bob Blair reports:

The pool is closed for the winter. Everything went well.

Assessor:

Steve Petrashune reports:

In order to receive the Middle Class Star rebate check homeowners will have to fill out the application that Taxation & Finance will be mailing to them. Apply online or via regular mail. No one will get the rebate without sending application in.

Steve will have to do re-elevations next year.

Planning Board:

Cindy Waldron reports:

Meeting with APA planning specialists:

People from A.P.A.

The Town Board members attended a meeting. Reviewed a lot of information. They want the Planning Board members to take the Oath of Office. Which all Planning Board members will be taking the Oath this month. The Board needs to have to attend training classes. Which they will receive credit for.

Resolution 53-2007

A Resolution needed to be passed by the Town Council. For the purpose of 2 ½ credits acceptance for the training, that the Planning Board members attended The Credits will also be awarded for attending all county meetings.

Motion by: Joe Gerardi (S) second by: Phil Rice (C)

PHIL-YES

BOB-YES

MIKE-YES

JOE-YES

Senior Citizens:

Phil Rice reports:

Nothing at this time.

Saranac Fire Department:

Nothing at this time.

Buildings:

Bob Blair reports:

Nothing at this time.

Newsletter, Website, Saranac Central School:

Joe Gerardi reports:

Joe asked Michele Petrashune If she could look into getting some pictures of the Fire Department for the Towns Website.

Historian:

Nothing at this time.

Attorney:

Adult Entertainment moratorium /law:

Frank is writing up a Local Law on Adult Entertainment for our town. As soon as the Local Law has been written and paper work is complete the Town Board will have a Public Hearing before it may be adopted.

Saranac vs. Reed:

Judge Myers sent out a letter to the Reed's attorney on August 13th, 2007.

To Ms. Galvin attorney office stating:

Mr. Marco Tomakin attended a conference on behalf of the Reed's.

Mr. Tomakin mentioned that they were hoping to come to an agreement rather than proceed to trial. Mr. Zappala, however, submitted a written request for a trial date and indicated that an agreement wasn't possible. Mr. Tomakin also stated that Ms. Galvin would not be available for trial until the end of October or early November.

At the conference, the court asked that Mr. Tomakin request Affidavits of Engagement from you for September 11,12,18,19,2007 and October 23, and 24, 2007 which could be possible trial dates.

As of this date, the court has not received such affidavits. If you cannot reach an agreement with Mr. Zappala regarding this matter, we must set a trial date as he requested in his letter. Please respond regarding your engagement on the above mentioned dates as soon as possible.

Mr. Zappala wrote to Judge Myers as of: 08/25/07 no affidavits of engagement with supporting documentation have been submitted to the Court. Mr. Zappala letter goes on with saying the Town will not accept any settlement offer of less than a year sentence and a \$2,500.00 fine for both defendants. That they serve 60 days immediately with the balance of the sentence suspended on the condition that all activity on the property be stopped immediately and the property be cleaned under the supervision of the code enforcement officer.

The Town Council should know more details by next meeting.

93 &97 Clinton Street:

No new information at this time.

Unfinished Business:

JCAP Resolution:

Resolution 54-2007

Justice Court Assistance Program:

Grant for funding for the Town of Saranac Town Court Building.

Motion by: Mike Tedford (C) second by: Bob Blair (C)

PHIL RICE-YES

BOB BLAIR-YES

MIKE TEDFORD-YES

JOE GERARDI-YES

\Whereas, The Town of Saranac spent \$96,614 to renovate the old town garage to create a beautiful new courtroom, and

Whereas, safety, security, efficiency, and adornment issues were not able to be addressed in that initial expenditure, and

Whereas, when, during the evening hours and the lights are on and the judge and court clerk are seated on the raised bench, they are clearly visible by everyone using State Route 3 through the two front windows, there exists a safety issue that can be resolved by shades, and

Whereas, the old paper shredder is broken and needs to be replaced, and

Whereas, the courtroom has only one computer that is used by the court clerk to report dispositions, prepare correspondence, and complete orders while court is in session, and there are many times when it would be more efficient for the judge if she were able to retrieve information right then and there, and

Whereas, if laptop with internet access were available it would make it possible for the judge to use Lexis Nexis and Westlaw and prepare orders of protection while the clerk is busy doing routine tasks, and

Whereas, the judges have to go to the courthouse after hours to use the computer when the clerk is not there, and

Whereas, the courtroom, though beautiful, has but one decorated wall with a donated quilt of the Adirondacks, and

Whereas, the town and the county are not able to furnish a security system that would create a safer and more secure environment, specifically addressing the remoteness of the area with little nighttime traffic, only one residence across the street, middle-of-the-

night arraignments that leave the judge alone in the court with no way of determining if the defendant or other persons are in the parking lot,

Be it Resolved, that the Ton of Saranac approve the Justice Court Assistance Program Application for window shades, paper shredder, two laptop computers, wall decoration, and a security system, the total not to exceed \$15,000.

Census:

Supervisor gave information packet to Phil Rice. The United States Department of Commerce, Economics & Statistics Administration U. S. Census Bureau is requesting the Towns help, for accurate addresses, and the rate of growth in the town. Phil will be looking into this further.

New Business:

Comprehensive:

The Supervisor wants some kind of vision of what the town should look like in the future. For further review in the mouths to follow.

Questions, Comments, Petition, from the floor:

Warren Newman suggests that someone or a (group) of people in the town should head up an emergency Fuel fund. For town residents that is not able to afford fuel with prices still rising.

Resolution 54-2007

Authorization to pay Audited Warrants:

APPROVAL to PAY WARRANTS

Motion by: Phil Rice(C) second by: Bob Blair (C)

PHIL-YES

BOB-YES

MIKE-YES

JOE-YES

Meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Next regular board meeting will be September 24, 2007, at & p.m. at the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Bell

Town Clerk

