



The Town of Franklin

P.O. Box 209, Route 3, Vermontville, NY 12989 • 518-891-2189 • Fax: 518-891-6389 • www.townoffranklin.com



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Town of Franklin Board Meetings

Regular Board Meeting September 15, 2008 - 7:00 pm

The Town of Franklin Town Board held its regular, monthly Town Board Meeting on Monday, September 15, 2008 at 7:00 pm at the Franklin Town Hall in Vermontville, NY.

Board members present:

Supervisor Mary Ellen Keith
Councilman Allen Berg
Councilman Clifford Smalley
Councilwoman Janet Ordway

Board member absent:

Councilman Walt Kretser

Others Present:

Town Clerk Sandra Oliver, Wade Sullivan, Tammy Sullivan, Karen Smalley, Frances Oliver, Ed Baltzly Jean Baltzly, George Tolhurst, Bradley Merrill, Nathan Brown Adirondack Daily Enterprise

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Keith called the meeting to order at 7:00pm; the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the Town Clerk called the roll, stating a quorum was present.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

Supv. Keith asked if the Board found the bills in order. Coun. Ordway asked for the background of claim #122, in sum of \$245.00 an emergency electrical repair. Highway Supt. Sullivan responded that as the Highway Dept. was working near Peter LaBrake's house, they uncovered an illegally-placed electrical circuit running through the culvert. In order to carry on with the Keith Road project, Supv. Keith called David Goff, electrician, who disconnected the power and reinstalled the line properly. Couns. Ordway, Smalley and Berg agreed the property owner should be responsible for the repair, not the Town. The claim for electrical work on Voucher 122 will be submitted to the homeowner.

The following claims were presented for payment on Abstract #9:

General	Claims 189 - 221	\$6,456.10
Highway	Claims 116	\$14,126.30
The following claims were presented for payment on Abstract #8:		
Prepay General	Claims 39 -	1,472.78
The following claims were presented for payment on Abstract #2:		
Capital Project Building	Claims 2 - 3	35,569.79
Motion to pay claims, as amended (J.Ordway-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE		

Supervisor's Report

Balances as of August 1, 2008

General Fund	CK	\$8,246.61
	SV	\$174.45
	CLASS	\$191,101.53
	Historian Fund	\$2,730.08
Highway Fund	CK	\$44,865.80
	SV	\$265.52
	CLASS	\$365,828.62
	Capital Proj. Hwy	\$45,289.76
Landfill	CK	\$1,583.37
	CLASS	\$58,622.72
Fire	CK	\$539.40
	CLASS	\$682.43
Capital Project Building	CLASS	\$119,482.82

Motion to accept Supervisor's Report (A.Berg-J.Ordway m/s/p) ALL AYE

2008 HIGHWAY FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT #1

Motion for resolution (J.Ordway-C.Smalley m/s/p) ALL AYE

RESOLUTION NO. 51: HIGHWAY FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT #1

WHEREAS, in order to maintain a balanced 2008 Highway General Fund Budget, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following Budget Amendment is hereby adopted transferring the following amounts:

FROM ACCOUNT	AMOUNT	TO ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
Acct. DA5110.1 Gen Repairs PS	\$5,000.00	Acct. DA5112.1 Improvement PS	\$5,000.00
Acct. DA5140.4 Brush & Weeds CE	\$832.00	Acct. DA9050.8 Unemployment	\$500.00
		Acct. DA9710.7 Bond Interest	\$332.00

THOSE VOTING AYE:

- Supervisor Mary Ellen Keith
- Councilperson Janet Ordway
- Councilman Allen Berg
- Councilman Clifford Smalley

THOSE ABSENT:

- Councilman Walter Kretser

THOSE VOTING NAY:

none

2008 GENERAL FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT #2

Motion for resolution (C.Smalley-J.Ordway m/s/p) ALL AYE

RESOLUTION NO. 52: GENERAL FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT #2

WHEREAS, in order to maintain a balanced 2008 General Fund Budget, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following Budget Amendment is hereby adopted transferring the following amounts:

FROM ACCOUNT	AMOUNT	TO ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
Acct. A1990.4 Contingent	\$3,600.00	Acct. A3310.4 Traffic Signs	\$100.00
		Acct. A5132.4 Town Garage	\$2,500.00
		Acct. A7140.4 Facilities CE	\$1,000.00

THOSE VOTING AYE:

- Supervisor Mary Ellen Keith
- Councilperson Janet Ordway

Councilman Allen Berg
Councilman Clifford Smalley

THOSE ABSENT:

Councilman Walter Kretser

THOSE VOTING NAY:

none

SENIOR BOAT RIDE

supv. keith stated she and mr. sullivan would attend a meeting on september 15 with larry miller, harrietstown supervisor, concerning franklin county reimbursement of towns for maintenance of county roads.

ASSESSOR DOUGLAS TICHENOR

Mr. Tichenor explained he was requesting the Board to adopt a resolution postponing the 2008-09 assessment update for a year. He then introduced Cynthia King, Real Property Analyst for NYS Office of Real Property Services in Ray Brook who serves as a liaison between local assessors and the State. The status of the Town of Franklin update is at a standstill; Mr. Tichenor had two active data collectors, one of whom is still working in the Village of Saranac Lake, and the other, recovering from knee surgery and unable to collect data. Therefore, he cannot complete the valuation portion of the assessment update in a timely manner. Coun. Smalley asked if the delay would increase the Town's cost, and Mr. Tichenor responded there would be no further cost. Mr. Tichenor stated he has been calculating the ratios on the current assessment roll comparing sales prices versus assessed valuation. There have been 20 valid sales in the Town since 2007. The median assessed value is 52% of full value and includes all types of sales. Vacant land sales are 50% of full market value, residential sales 55% of value, and the one waterfront sale is 46% of value. He said he is pleased with these results, as they indicate no single type of property is over- or under-assessed. He reasoned that the Town as a whole will increase in value for all property classes. Supv. Keith mentioned she had received a memo from NYS ORPS Regional Manager Robert Aiken requesting local assessors complete the review of sales by October 10, 2008. Mr. Tichenor stated that since data collection is at a standstill and he does not have adequate data to value properties in the Town, the update should be postponed.

EQUALIZATION RATE.

The Town of Franklin currently has an equalization rate of 60%, and Mr. Tichenor estimates the 2009 the equalization rate for the Town will be approximately 55%. Currently, Santa Clara is at 95%, Brighton at 90% and Harrietstown at ____%. A low equalization rate generally produces at higher percentage of tax increase, as evidenced by the 2008 school tax bills. The equalization rate is used to apportion the school tax "pie". The more value in your town the larger your slice of school taxes. It is best to keep the equalization rate as close to 100% as possible.

COORDINATED ASSESSING.

Mr. Tichenor's goal is eventually to create a coordinated assessing unit comprising of Franklin County towns in the Saranac Lake Central School District, Brighton, Franklin, Harrietstown and Santa Clara.

NYS-OWNED LAND VALUATION.

Supv. Keith and Assessor Tichenor attended a meeting in Saranac Lake concerning whether state-owned land is valued fairly and consistently. Supv. Keith indicated the outcome of the conference was that the assessor has the final word on the matter. A local officials in the Adirondack Park indicated that no matter how much State land is in his town, his problem is not with the valuation of State lands, his town had difficulty with the State agencies, Dept. of Environmental Conservation and Adirondack Park Agency. Mr. Tichenor indicated the problem with large parcels is the ongoing problem of assessment litigation. Lawsuits make it expensive for communities.

Motion for resolution postponing assessment update (C.Smalley-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE

RESOLUTION NO. 53: POSTPONE 2008-09 ASSESSMENT UPDATE FOR ONE YEAR

WHEREAS, the Assessor for the Town of Franklin has inadequate data to perform the valuation portion of the 2008-09 assessment update; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Franklin Town Board authorizes the Assessor to postpone the assessment update for one more year.

THOSE VOTING AYE:

Supervisor Mary Ellen Keith
Councilperson Janet Ordway
Councilman Allen Berg
Councilman Clifford Smalley

THOSE ABSENT:

Councilman Walter Kretser

THOSE VOTING NAY:

none

The Board thanked Mr. Tichenor and Ms. King for their attendance and presentation.

HIGHWAY MATTERS

1. RESIGNATION OF DEPUTY. The Town Clerk stated she had been hand delivered Michael Canty's resignation (effective immediately) as Deputy Highway Superintendent. Highway Superintendent Wade Sullivan will have five (5) days within which to appoint another deputy. Supt. Sullivan stated that Michael Canty had performed the job as deputy well and to the best of his abilities, and he was pleased with Mr. Canty's performance. He stated the remarks made at the September 10th special board meeting were not justified.

2. DEPARTMENT PROGRESS Aug. 11-Sept. 7.

- a. Ditching complete on Keith Road and nearly complete on Alderbrook Park Road.
- b. Mowing complete on Sinkhole Road and Rock Street
- c. Washout occurred on Mud Pond Road, and culverts were replaced; all repair work in compliance with DEC.
- d. Signs (children at play) erected on Sinkhole Road and 40 mph sign replaced at Franklin Falls Hill.
- e. Raking performed on Garden Road, Blue Spruce Lane and Sinkhole Road
- f. Working on draft of procedure for Town takeover of roads.

3. UPCOMING PROJECTS.

- a. The County will begin working on Keith Road on September 22nd.
- b. Request for prices on sand should be published
- c. Continue mowing roadsides
- d. Update Town road specifications
- e. Preparation for budget workshops
- f. Meeting with State auditors

4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND THANKS.

To the Town of St. Armand Highway Dept. for loaning its truck To Philip Haltigan for reporting

5. RESIDENT COMPLAINTS AND RESPONSES.

Request was made to install "Bass Lake Rd" sign at intersection of Co. Rt. 26

Installed

Mr. Nestor reported a washout in a driveway due to incomplete shoulder work in previous years

Filled washout with crusher run, replacement of culvert soon

Fr. Beyette reported washouts on Mensink Road

Crusher run in place, and Department watching Mensink Road.

Mr. Wilson on Rock Street, reported culvert drains on his lawn

Problem not easily solved. Ditching may be required. This cannot be emended this year.

6. IMPROVEMENTS.

a. Waste Oil. In response to complaints about possible contamination due to waste oil, the department has started to dispose of its waste oil in 55-gallon drums. When the drums are full, they will be offered to businesses which use waste oil.

b. Update of road specifications. A draft of road specifications handed to Town Clerk.

7. STAFFING. Out of nine full-time employees, the Department has only four employees working. Supt. Sullivan has been conducting interviews, and Allen Hadley started today (9/15/08), and Derek McLaughlin will start next week. Per agreement with the Board, Supt. Sullivan's MEO position will be held open until January 1, 2009, at which time he can choose to resume his duties as MEO in the event someone else is elected as Highway Superintendent. Mr. Sullivan suggested eliminating the open laborer position and filling it with an MEO position and asked the Board's opinion. Supt. Sullivan indicated that laborers are allowed to operate the pickup trucks only, but MEOs are able to flag and authorized to drive every vehicle in the Department. Coun. Berg asked if there would be a union problem if MEOs flagged, and Supt. Sullivan said there would not be. Coun. Ordway indicated she did not know how she felt about the increase in budget due to the addition of another MEO, from a total of 7 to a total of 8. She asked if Supt. Sullivan would be able to work with a staff of 7 MEOs and no laborer. Coun. Berg inquired as to the hourly salaries of the employees, and Supt. Sullivan stated that as of Jan. 1, 2009, laborers will be paid \$9.71 per hour, and MEOs \$15.00 per hour. Coun. Smalley asked if all the MEOs are currently working. Supt. Sullivan responded that one employee has been on medical leave for a number of weeks. Coun. Smalley indicated he was reluctant to authorize hiring another MEO until all Department MEOs are working full time. Supv. Keith recommended more in-depth discussion of the issue during the budget workshops. The Board concurred.

8. UPDATE ON NORMAN RIDGE ILLEGAL DUMPING. Supervisor Keith reported she had spoken with a representative of Dept. of Environmental Conservation who confirmed that the "investigation is ongoing." A violation had been served on former Highway Superintendent James Perry. Coun. Ordway stated that Mr. Perry

never received a violation, and Coun. Smalley recommended Supv. Keith request DEC to send her a copy of the violation.

9. SALE OF 2000 INTERNATIONAL. No bids have been received for the 2000 International, after the publication in PROFILE magazine, for Highway Superintendents. Supv. Keith will investigate placing the vehicle for sale on the internet on auction online. The cost is \$20.

10. REIMBURSEMENT BY COUNTY. Supv. Keith and Supt. Sullivan attended a meeting in Harrietstown with local highway superintendents and town supervisors. County Legislators Burpoe, Maroun and Soucise were also in attendance. The County proposed an increase in reimbursement to the Town of Franklin for snow and ice removal from county roads from \$110,000 to \$119,983, as follows:

Co. Rt. 55		\$4,869
Co. Rt. 60	8.01 mi	\$4,869
Co. Rt. 48	3.66 mi	\$3,898
Co. Rt. 16	14.08 mi	\$3,898

There was a lengthy discussion concerning the disparity in reimbursement for towns at the southern end of the County, as the northern end does not receive the same amount of winter precipitation. It may be possible to upgrade all roads in the southern end of the County to A+, or to designate the south as a "snow belt". The proposals will be brought to the attention of the Legislature at its meeting on September 18th.

11. PRICE OF SALT. The price of road salt has risen from \$34.60 per ton in 2008 to \$89.90 for 2009. Coun. Ordway asked how much salt Supt. Sullivan intended to order, and he indicated he would need the same amount as last year. The department used all of its 2008 salt plus part of the surplus from previous years. Salt is used mainly to keep the sand pile from freezing. Supt. Sullivan indicated he would consider the situation.

12. ROAD SAND. Following a discussion concerning feasibility of having sand delivered or picked up by department, the Board authorized the publication of requests for bids for road sand, either delivered or picked up. Supt. Sullivan emphasized the importance of early delivery of sand; therefore, the Board determined it would hold a special meeting for the purpose of opening sand bids on Monday, September 29, 2008.

Motion for resolution (J.Ordway-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE

RESOLUTION NO. 54: AUTHORIZE TO PUBLISH REQUEST FOR BIDS FOR ROAD SAND

WHEREAS, the purchase of sand is necessary to keep the Town's roads safe during the winter months; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is ordered to publish the following request for bids locally:

PUBLIC NOTICE TO BIDDERS PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Town of Franklin is accepting bids on the purchase of 13,000 tons of screened road sand to NY State specs. Please provide price for sand delivered, with a minimum of four (4) trucks per day, 7:00 am to 4:00 pm delivery, as well as sand picked up.

Bids must be returned by 6:00 PM on Monday, September 29, 2008 and be accompanied by a non-collusive bidding certificate. Send bids to: Sandra J. Oliver, Franklin Town Clerk, P O Box 209, Vermontville, NY 12989 or delivered to same at the Town Hall, 7 Cold Brook Rd., Vermontville. Envelopes must be marked "SAND BID."

Bids will be opened and awarded at a special meeting of the Town Board at 7:00 PM on Monday, September 29, 2008 at the Town Hall, Vermontville, NY. The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

THOSE VOTING AYE:

Supervisor Mary Ellen Keith
Councilperson Janet Ordway
Councilman Allen Berg
Councilman Clifford Smalley

THOSE ABSENT:

Councilman Walter Kretser

THOSE VOTING NAY:

none

13. HIGHWAY COMMITTEE. Coun. Ordway suggested that she contact Dan McKillip to determine proper procedure for handling the absent employee. Supv. Keith indicated she had heard from Mr. McKillip, and this subject will be revisited at the September 29th special board meeting.

14. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS RE HIGHWAY

Were both new hires from the Town of Franklin? Why wasn't a fully-qualified resident hired?

Supt. Sullivan explained departmental hiring procedure.

In request for sand ask for two separate prices, one for pick up and one for delivery

Good idea.

Why have two people in a truck? You shouldn't need two people. You must look at cutting back. I am upset at the way things are going. If some employee has used up all his personal, sick and holidays, he should be at work and not given extended sick leave. Despite the contract with the Union, the Board should be in charge.

To sell the 2000 International, suggest you try Village Truck Sales out of Massachusetts.

NEW BUSINESS

1. FUEL BIDS. Supervisor Keith requested a motion for a resolution to publish requests for prices on fuel.

Motion to publish RFP for fuel (A.Berg-J.Ordway m/s/p) ALL AYE

RESOLUTION NO. 55: AUTHORIZE TO PUBLISH REQUEST FOR BIDS FOR FUEL

WHEREAS, the Town will require four (4) types of fuel for the coming year; NOW, THEREFORE, the Town Clerk is ordered to publish the following:

REQUEST FOR BIDS:

UNLEADED GASOLINE

ON-ROAD DIESEL

PROPANE

#2 LOW SULFUR DIESEL FUEL

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that under Town Law section 103A, the Town of Franklin Town Board, 7 Cold Brook Rd, Vermontville, NY 12989 hereby solicits SEALED BIDS on the following:

3,825 gallons	unleaded gasoline
17,300 gallons	on-road diesel
5,800 gallons	propane
1,200 gallons	#2 fuel oil

There are 4 delivery locations, but primarily the Town Hall and the Town Garage. Bids should include billing policy and availability of delivery to accommodate various situations, and bids should also include a statement as to price fluctuation on the item bid upon.

Bids must be addressed to TOWN CLERK and submitted in a sealed envelope. The item(s) to be bid upon and the date and time for opening must be clearly written on the envelope front. Bids will be received until 6:00 pm on Monday, September 29, 2008 and will be opened at 7:00 pm that same evening, at the Town Hall, 7 Cold Brook Rd, P O Box 209, Vermontville, NY 12989. Bidder must have been established for at least one year and currently be a duly recognized representative of the company. A NON-COLLUSIVE BIDDING CERTIFICATE must accompany each bid. The Town Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

By submission of a bid on an item the bidder deems that the words "or approved equal" be applicable to each price quotation unless so noted. All applicable State and federal taxes WILL BE EXCLUDED from the bid price, and tax exemption certificates will be provided to the successful bidder.

Copies of the specifications and delivery locations are available from the Town Clerk at the Vermontville Town Hall.

THOSE VOTING AYE:

Supervisor Mary Ellen Keith
Councilperson Janet Ordway
Councilman Allen Berg
Councilman Clifford Smalley

THOSE ABSENT:

Councilman Walter Kretser

THOSE VOTING NAY:

none

2. DRY HYDRANTS. Derek Romeo, representing the Bloomingdale Volunteer Fire Department, reported the dry hydrant recently installed on Sinkhole Road cannot be used because the water in which it is placed is too shallow. BVFD recommends relocating the hydrant further upstream and constructing a platform. BVFD will be inspecting all the dry hydrants in the Town.

3. CODES OFFICE. The Codes Enforcement Officer informed the Town Clerk he would like a connection to the Town's internet in order that he might access Codes data online. He will use his laptop computer (separate from the Town's inventory). The internet connection will require installation by Time Warner. He can use either the Town Clerk's printer or the spare printer in the Justice office.

Motion to install internet connection to Codes (M.Keith-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE

4. FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS. The following schedule of meetings and workshops was announced:

Mon., Sept. 29 7PM Special Board Meeting - open fuel and sand bids

WED. Oct. 15 7PM Regular Town Board meeting (Mon. Oct. 13 is a holiday)

Mon., Oct. 20 7PM Special Board Meeting and Budget Workshop - General Fund

Mon., Oct. 27 7PM Special Board Meeting and Budget Workshop - Highway Fund

OLD BUSINESS**1. SUBDIVISION UPDATE.**

a. Report on Committee. Coun. Smalley reported the Citizens Advisory Committee on Subdivisions did not hold a meeting on September 2nd, and the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 22, 2008.

b. Petition Submitted. Donald Hamm presented a petition containing 158 signatures of property owners, as follows:

"PETITION"

The undersigned petition represents the desires of the taxpayers/voters of the Town of Franklin:

The Town of Franklin Board has passed a resolution to form a 'citizen committee/planning board/subdivision committee' which will require anyone desiring to have land subdivision of more than 5 parcels to file for additional permits/applications. The regulations are more stringent than the APA and DEC which are required. The new repetitious requirements will become law and the Town of Franklin Board will have the final decision for anyone filing for the repetitious town applications. This law also places the liabilities and litigations onto the Town to defend any lawsuits that may arise. The applicant will also be responsible for the engineer fees that will be required with this law.

The undersigned requests this to be advertised with all details and ramifications and then be brought to a public vote."

The Town Board will consider the petition, and consult with the attorney for the Town. The petition with signatures was given to the Town Clerk.

2. WORKPLACE VIOLENCE POLICY AND HANDBOOK UPDATE. Supv. Keith spoke with Dan McKillip about incorporating changes in the employee handbook.

3. INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

a. Public Presentation Held Fri., Sept. 12. Supv. Keith reported approximately 50 people came to the Pavilion at Kate Mountain Recreation Park to speak with the engineer, architects, building committee member and elected officials concerning the infrastructure project.

b. Status of Survey Returns. The building committee mailed a survey to approximately 1,000 Town taxpayers last week. Responses are still arriving; they will be sorted, tallied and results reported at an upcoming Board meeting.

c. Execution of SEQR. Doug Ferris, engineer, Earth Science Engineering, read aloud the provisions of the Short Environmental Assessment Form ("SEQR"), which must be signed and on file before renovation of the Town Garage can be started. He submitted the completed form and requested that Supervisor Keith sign on behalf of the Town.

Motion for resolution authorizing execution of SEQR form (C.Smalley-J.Ordway m/s/p) ALL AYE

RESOLUTION NO. 56: AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE "SHORT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT" FORM

WHEREAS, the Town Board has by resolution (no. 48 adopted August 20, 2008) determined to proceed with plans to renovate the Town Garage; and

WHEREAS, an executed copy of "Short Environmental Assessment" form (SEQR) must be on file; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to execute said SEQR form so that renovation of the Town Garage may proceed.

THOSE VOTING AYE:

Supervisor Mary Ellen Keith
Councilperson Janet Ordway
Councilman Allen Berg
Councilman Clifford Smalley

THOSE ABSENT:

Councilman Walter Kretser

THOSE VOTING NAY:

none

Supervisor Keith then executed the SEQR form and handed it to the Town Clerk.

d. Review of Infrastructure Improvement Project. Mr. Ferris reviewed the progress of Earth Science Engineering ("ESE") on the infrastructure project. ESE became involved on the recommendation of Yellow Wood Associates. Yellow Wood performed an extensive survey of the Town's buildings needs in 2006, and YW's recommendation was that the Town consider the improvement of all Town structures as one large project and apply for LEED certification under NYSERDA and other grants. At that time the estimated cost for the entire project was \$2 million. In September 2007 ESE reviewed the Yellow Wood survey, and recommendations of the Town building committee. ESE determined the Franklin Town Hall should be removed from the project, thereby downsizing the project. In April 2008 with the economy in an official recession, the Town and ESE replaced the architect with the firm of Premises (Brian Burke and Beverly Eichenlaub). Premises further downsized the proposed plans for the recreation park and redesigned the Garage project, with less emphasis on "green" technology and more emphasis on costs of construction and energy savings. The project is now estimated to cost \$1 million. The project will require bonding, a public hearing and a permissive referendum; a special bond counsel has been engaged for this purpose.

e. Questions and Comments re Infrastructure

The Board should amend that resolution it passed and split the project. The Garage needs to be worked on now. Many of us are on fixed income and cannot afford to pay for a new building at the recreation park.

Supv. Keith advised that the Board would revisit the topic at its September 29 special meeting.

There is a problem with the Garage if renovation does not start this fall. We removed ½ the berm, and now the wall is exposed to the weather. What should we do?

Mr. Ferris responded the exposed wall could be covered with weatherproof sheet rock.

You should start construction on the Garage in the spring. Autumn weather is too unpredictable.

Will the Town advertise the public hearing and referendum?

Supv. Keith answered notices will be published in the newspaper and will be advertised on the board outside the Town Hall.

Why does the Garage need to be expanded? And why do you need to install a lift? Does any other town in the county have a lift? Can it lift a fully loaded truck?

Mr. Ferris responded. The vehicles acquired by the Town are much larger now than when the structure was originally built in the 1980's. Currently trucks are parked front to back, and when a specific truck is needed, a great deal of vehicle shuffling is necessary. With the new design, vehicles will be parked side by side, making for easier entry and egress. The hydraulic lift is a safety factor; currently highway departments use either a pit or jacks to lift vehicles neither of which is safe. The lift we recommend has two posts and will be able to lift a loaded vehicle. No other municipalities in Franklin County have installed lifts; however, NYS Dept of Transportation is now recommending them.

4. FIRE/RESCUE UPDATE. Supv. Keith and Coun. Berg reported that no further meetings of the Saranac Lake Area Fire Advisory Board had been scheduled. The topic will be revisited at the September 29th special meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. RECREATION COMMITTEE. Coun. Berg reported that the Recreation Committee wants to purchase a volleyball set. Supv. Keith advised ordering the equipment now and placing it in storage for the winter to avoid cost hikes. Coun. Berg concurred.

2. RECREATION COMMITTEE. No report

3. RECREATION COMMITTEE. No report

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: Coun. Berg suggested that one of the three Town generators be located at the Town Hall in the event of an emergency. The Board concurred.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Sandra J. Oliver Town Clerk

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