



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

Minutes of the Monthly Town Board Meeting April 14, 2010 - 7:00 PM

Board members present:

Supervisor Arthur P. Willman, Jr.
Councilman Allen Berg
Councilman Clifford Smalley
Councilman Donald Hamm
Councilman Bradley Merrill

Others Present:

Highway Superintendent Jacques DeMars, Vince Catlin, Fran Oliver, Karen Smalley, Dick Jarvis, Joe Rupp, Donald Goff, Ed Baltzly, Bruce Young, Derrick Romeo, Roger Santerre, Ed Martin, Doris Hamm

1. CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Arthur P. Willman, Jr. called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, the Town Clerk called the roll and introduced guests and declared the full board was present.

2. 15-MINUTE COMMENT AND QUESTION SESSION.

RICHARD JARVIS read the following into the record: "I read the SEQR negative declaration dated April 5, 2010 regarding the proposed repeal of the Major Subdivision Control Law. I do not recall all members of the Town Board publicly reviewing and discussing the reasons for the negative declaration. It is irrelevant that over 70% of the land in town is either owned or controlled by the State of New York through conservation easements because the subdivision control law does not apply to those lands anyway. It is not necessary to know specific areas of town or properties are potentially developable, or to know all the nuances of State Agency jurisdiction over subdivisions to develop an appropriate subdivision law for the town. What is more important is that the town knows what it wants for its future, to provide an effective public process for its landowners to participate, and to establish standards and guidelines that all can use in a fair and consistent way; these were the principles that were incorporated into the present law."

Mr. Jarvis also appreciated the 15-minute comment period at beginning of each meeting and requested advance notice of the agenda and suggested it be emailed to individuals requesting same.

KAREN SMALLEY concurred with Mr. Jarvis' comments regarding the Major Subdivision Control Law and also requested advance notice of items on each agenda.

Supv. Willman indicated a sign-up sheet would be available at the April 28th public hearing for those individuals requesting a copy of the Tentative Agenda for each meeting.

3. AUDIT OF CLAIMS

The following claims were submitted on Abstract #4 of 2010::

General Fund	Claims 56 - 78	\$13,545.93
Highway Fund	Claims 47 - 68	\$41,574.65
Prepay General	Claims 8 - 10	\$1,492.95
Motion to pay claims (C.Smalley-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE		

4. MINUTES.

The minutes of the March 10 regular and March 24, 2010 special meetings were accepted as presented.

Motion to accept minutes (C.Smalley-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE

5. TOWN CLERK REPORT.

Town Clerk Sandra Oliver stated records space could be saved if Town Clerk receipts recorded in minutes. Therefore, the following is a report of receipts for March 2010:

6 certified copies of death certificates issued	\$60.00
1 fax	\$1.00
34 dog licenses issued or renewed	109.00
	\$170.00
Paid to Supervisor	\$114.00
Paid to County (share of dog licenses)	\$47.00
Paid to NYS Agriculture & Mkts (spay/neuter program)	\$9.00
	\$170.00

Motion to accept Supervisor's Report (B.Merrill-D.Hamm m/s/p) ALL AYE

6. TAX COLLECTION.

A. REPORT.

Town Tax Collection ended on March 31, 2010; the tax roll and all other records were turned over to the Franklin County Treasurer on April 9th. The Town collected \$1,314,534.83 in taxes; uncollected amounts to \$236,793.63. The collection percentage is 85%, down from 92% in 2009 as two large property owners did not pay. The partial payment option was used by 50 taxpayers, and of that, 28 paid in full before March 31st.

B. TAX COLLECTOR CONFERENCE.

Town Clerk Oliver requested permission of the Board to attend the Tax Collector Conference in Lake Placid in June at a cost of \$125. The Board agreed.

7. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT.

Balances as of March 1, 2010

General Fund	Checking	\$13,999.33
	Savings	\$109,194.37
	CLASS	\$212,029.11
	Historian	\$3,031.80
Highway Fund	Checking	36,973.65
	Savings	\$113,299.79
	CLASS	\$647,561.53
	Cap. Proj. Hwy.	\$36,442.35
Landfill	Checking	\$24,242.67
	CLASS	\$28,983.15
Fire Protection	Checking	\$4,412.35
	CLASS	\$685.30
Capital Project Building		\$434.84

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

8. HIGHWAY MATTERS

A. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

Highway Superintendent Jacques DeMars presented the following report of activities of the Department:

- 1) Plowed and sanded when necessary
- 2) Erected weight limit signs on March 16 and removed on April 12th.
- 3) Patched several spots on Fletcher Farm Road and several other roads
- 4) On March 23-24, closed Goldsmith Road overnight due to washout. Installed new relief culvert.
- 5) Cleared small washout on French Road.
- 6) Brooming sand from roads began on March 29 and completed April 7th.
- 7) MEETINGS. Supt. DeMars attended a meeting of Franklin County Highway Superintendents on April 14th, and because the NYS Budget has not yet been adopted, was advised not to spend any CHPS funds yet.
- 8) SHARED SERVICES. Loader and one operator to Town of Saranac.
- 9) VEHICLES.
 - (a) Received corrected paperwork from Nortrax on new loader; the vehicle is now registered.
 - (b) Returned New Holland tractor back from storage in Merrillville and serviced.
 - (c) Returned Tow behind broom from storage and serviced
 - (d) Returned Chipper from winter storage and serviced.
 - (e) Obtaining quotes for a new brush mower

10) GARDEN ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY ENCROACHMENT. Supt. DeMars noted the ongoing problem on Garden Road in Loon Lake regarding possible encroachment of Town right-of-way. Supv. Willman read into the record the letter received:

"April 12, 2010 Kenneth G. Guerin, PO Box 59, Ray Brook, NY 12977-0059

Jacques DeMars, Town of Franklin Highway Superintendent, PO Box 81, Vermontville, NY 12989

Dear Mr. DeMars, After having reviewed the Town Board meeting minutes for the month of March 2010, I find it necessary to express my profound disappointment regarding your not having addressed the Garden Road right of Way (ROW) at the board meeting conducted on March 10, 2010.

During our telephone conversation, about a week prior to the March board meeting, I made the suggestion that you cause letters to be sent from the Town Attorney to all owners of property who reside on Garden Road in the Hamlet of Loon Lake. The suggested letter would direct all owners of property, that share a boundary with Garden Road, to remove all obstructions from the ROW by a certain date. The letter would further state that property owners who failed to comply with the terms of the letter, by the stated deadline, would be billed by the Town of Franklin for the Town's cost for removing obstacles from the ROW. At the time of our conversation, I had suggested a 'drop dead' date of May 31, 2010 by which property owners would have had to comply with the Town's directive. You stated that my recommendation was a good approach and that you would address this with the Town Board. Inasmuch as another month will have passed, by the next Board meeting, it is obvious that my suggested 'drop dead' date will logically require an extension to (perhaps) June 30, 2010.

Further delay by the Town for reasons of the Garden Road survey is unacceptable. The survey began in May 2009 and by September 2009 there were markers identifying the relationship between the ROW for the road and the adjacent privately owned properties. There exists adequate documented data regarding the ROW for Garden Road by way of the recent survey performed in 2009 by Geomatics Land Surveying and the 1957 Chambers survey of the original allotment which is on file at the Franklin County Courthouse.

You have stated that the Town will not likely require the full documented ROW width to improve Garden Road. Allow me to go on record by stating that I personally do not care about the final width of the improved road, however, I do care about the full and complete removal of all obstacles beyond a property owner's surveyed boundary that abuts the public roadway. This includes rock walls, decorative boundary/driveway structures, boulders, trees which were planed within the ROW and any other items/objects placed by a property owner within the ROW. Every property owner has a deed to their property and part of each owner's deed states the property description. In that regard, there exists no legal excuse for any property owner to claim that he or she does not know the location of where their property abuts the ROW for Garden Road. Incidentally [sic], personnel from Geomatics Survey clearly re-marked the major of survey pins along the Garden Road ROW for each of the properties along the road.

I recognize that you have established priorities and commitments for numerous highway projects that will fill out the remaining year. Please be advised that I am not asking that Garden Road be improved in the immediate time frame. I am, however, asking that the Town exercise its right and duty (by law) to enforce the ROW requirements for Garden Road without further delay.

My schedule will not permit my attending the April 14, 2010 Town Board meeting. I respectfully request that you or your representative present the Garden Road ROW situation to the Town Board and ask for Board concurrence regarding the immediate dispatch of the above mentioned letters/legal notices to Garden Road property owners by the Town Attorney.

As a matter of courtesy, I would like your feed back on the content of this letter as I am past due in responding to a recent letter from my attorney. He asked if my wife and I are satisfied with the Town's actions on the Garden Road ROW issue and if not, he is prepared to move forward 'to the next level.'" I do not feel that moving forward to litigation is prudent, especially when procedures for the satisfactory resolve [sic] of the ROW problem are fully addressed in the New York State Highway Law.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter.

Sincerely yours, Kenneth G. Guerin"

Supt. DeMars indicated he had telephoned Mr. Guerin this afternoon and held a lengthy telephone conversation during which he told him he had a good idea but that the Town would need to consult and proceed through its lawyer. Supt. DeMars explained to Mr. Guerin that the Geomatics survey is 95% complete. Stacy Allot is finishing mapping and qualifying notes. She researched all Town property deeds and Town Board minutes from the 1890's through the 1960's. The 1917-1933 volume of Town Minutes was severely damaged by water, developed mildew, and only the bottom half of the pages were able to be preserved by photocopying. Supt. DeMars indicated he would not feel comfortable about approaching property owners with a demand that they remove obstacles from the Town's right-of-way.

Coun. Merrill, former Town Historian, acknowledged the ownership of the land and hence, the road, is in Loon Gulf, current successor-in-interest to the Chase family. The Garden Road was originally a section of the Port-Kent Hopkinton Turnpike. In the late 19-teens, Mrs. Chase donated the land, requested and paid for the road to be moved, and it was moved to a site where her garden had been located, hence, the name "Garden Road." The original Town right-of-way was 66 feet. Minimum Town rights-of-way are 3 rods (approx. 50 feet). Geomatics is presently in process of determining whether the current 50-foot Town right-of-way is within the original 66-foot right-of-way. She acknowledges that Mr. Guerin's property markers are correct. Over the years property owners have encroached on the Town's right-of-way. However, property owners have no title to the road. The Town has been maintaining it for over 10 years, and under NYS law, must continue to do so. NYS defines a most minimum municipal rights-of-way as 3 rods (49.5 feet) (and there are exceptions). Coun. Merrill continued, of utmost importance was that the road be made safe, however he was uncomfortable with a demand that Garden Road property owners remove obstructions from Loon Gulf property.

Supv. Willman advised the Board wait to receive the survey, due the week of April 19th, before taking any action. He recommended the attorney for the town draft the initial letter to property owners, to be signed by him, giving Garden Road property owners a deadline of September 2010 to remove obstacles in the Town's right-of-way without involvement of the Town Attorney and a prior letter from the Town Board.

Coun. Berg suggested if property owners decline to take action a follow-up letter signed by the town attorney be sent.

Motion for resolution (B.Merrill-D.Hamm m/s/p (ALL AYE)

RESOLUTION NO. 32: AUTHORIZATION FOR LETTER TO GARDEN ROAD, LOON LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS REGARDING TOWN RIGHT-OF-WAY ENCROACHMENT WHEREAS, research has revealed that the Garden Road, Loon Lake, is a private road historically maintained by the Town; and WHEREAS, a survey was performed in 2009-2010; and WHEREAS, current municipal rights-of-way are 50 feet; and WHEREAS, structures on the Garden Road erected by property owners encroach on the Town's right-of-way thereby creating hazards with snowplowing and general road maintenance; and WHEREAS, recommendation has been made that the attorney for the town draft a letter to property owners to be signed by the Town Supervisor so advising property owners; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Supervisor is authorized to request the attorney for the town draft a letter for the Supervisor's signature advising property owners of the right-of-way encroachment and requesting removal of any such structure by September 30, 2010.

Those voting aye:

Supervisor Arthur P. Willman, Jr.
Councilman Allen Berg
Councilman Clifford Smalley
Councilman Donald Hamm
Councilman Bradley Merrill

Those Voting nay:

None

Those Absent:

None

Those Abstaining:

None

11) SECTION 284 AGREEMENT TO SPEND HIGHWAY FUNDS. New York State CHPS funding amounts to \$134,000. Supt. DeMars and the Highway Committee consulted and determined the following improvements will be made to the Town roads:

Fletcher Farm Road - from Route 3 to "Y" intersection of Old Route 3 (0.3 miles)
Fletcher Farm Road - "Y" intersection of Norman Ridge Road (0.4 miles)
Sinkhole Road - from Route 3 to Sinkhole Road bridge (0.5 miles)

Coun. Hamm stated that Fletcher Farm Road from Old Route 3 was adequate; however, drainage is a problem on the road between Old Route 3 and the gradual rise to the top of the first hill because the road was not properly constructed, he opined some rigorous ditching and shimming might provide a temporary solution. Eventually, he concluded the road would need to be reclaimed

Supt. DeMars reported that the Sinkhole Road had a good base, had been properly constructed, was not as wet and would require less work.

Supt. DeMars also commented that the agreement is not "carved in stone", and if \$134,000 in CHPS funds were not forthcoming from the State of New York, no improvements could be made.

Motion for resolution accepting agreement (C.Smalley-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE

RESOLUTION NO. 33: ACCEPT AND EXECUTE \$284 AGREEMENT TO EXPEND HIGHWAY FUNDS FOR 2010

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent having consulted with the Highway Committee and has submitted his recommendations for capital road improvements for 2010 and the Town Board having agreed with same; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Franklin hereby accepts the 284 agreement, as proposed by the Highway Superintendent and Highway Committee; and BE IT

FURTHER RESOLVED, said agreement authorizes the following improvements:

Fletcher Farm Road - from Route 3 to "Y" intersection of Old Route 3 or towards Norman Ridge Road(0.3 miles)

Fletcher Farm Road - "Y" intersection of Cold Brook and Fletcher Farm Rd. heading southwest or towards Route 3 (0.4 miles)

Sinkhole Road - from Route 3 to Sinkhole Road bridge (0.5 miles) southern end;

and BE IT

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Highway Superintendent and the Board shall to execute said agreement; and BE IT

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town Clerk is directed to transmit same to the Superintendent of Highways of Franklin County.

Those voting aye:

Supervisor Arthur P. Willman, Jr.

Councilman Allen Berg

Councilman Clifford Smalley

Councilman Donald Hamm

Councilman Bradley Merrill

Those Voting nay:

None

Those Absent:

None

Those Abstaining:

None

12) GOLDSMITH ROAD MATTERS

(a) Relocate 15 mph sign. Because snowmobiles tend to speed on Goldsmith Road, residents have requested the 15 mph sign be moved closer to State Route 3. Discussion ensued concerning whether the sign could be posted on NYS land. The matter was tabled pending further investigation.

(b) Creation of Parking Area. Tabled

13) ROADSIDE CLEANUP.

Each year the Town sets aside a truck for residents to place roadside debris, however, some individuals have deposited personal trash in the truck. The Board determined it would set Saturday, May 15, 2010 from 9:00am to 1:00pm as Roadside Cleanup Day. Trash bags will be available at the Town Hall, and coffee and donuts available in the morning and a weenie roast after 1:00pm.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. UNION NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE. Supv. Willman declared the A. SPECIAL MEETING. The Board will hold a special meeting following the April 28, 2010 public hearing to resolve tabled matters.

B. OPEN BIDS FOR GARAGE ELECTRIC REPAIR. An inspection was performed and report submitted to the Town listing necessary repairs, and a request for bids was published in the Adirondack Daily Enterprise, three bids were received and opened by the Town Clerk:

David Goff, Vermontville \$4,663.94

North Country Electric, Gabriels \$3,600.00

Woodhill Electric, Ray Brook \$2,707.17

The inspection report was provided as specifications and a basis for the bids. Each bidder complied with the Town's request for proof of insurance and non-collusive bidding certificate. Coun. Hamm stated the repairs were necessary to bring the Town Garage up to Code. After a brief discussion and acknowledgement by the Board that the bid specifications were detailed, the Board determined it would award the bid to Woodhill Electric. Supv. Willman requested for a resolution awarding the bid to Woodhill.

Motion for resolution (B.Merrill-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE

RESOLUTION NO. 34: ACCEPT BID FOR REPAIR OF TOWN GARAGE ELECTRIC TO WOODHILL ELECTRIC, RAY BROOK

WHEREAS, request for bids for repair of Garage electric were published in the Adirondack Daily Enterprise; and WHEREAS, Woodhill Electric, Ray Brook, NY, submitted the lowest bid in the amount of \$2,707.17; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Franklin Town Board awards the contract for repair of the Garage electric to Woodhill Electric, Ray Brook, in sum of \$2,707.17; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Supervisor is authorized to contact Woodhill and execute a contract for same.

Those voting aye:

Supervisor Arthur P. Willman, Jr.
 Councilman Allen Berg
 Councilman Clifford Smalley
 Councilman Donald Hamm
 Councilman Bradley Merrill

Those Voting nay:

None

Those Absent:

None

Those Abstaining:

None

B. NEW GENERAL FUND LAWMOWER. Supv. Willman announced the Custodian requires a commercial grade lawnmower with a 60 inch deck and zero turn. Manufacturers such as John Deere, Kubota, Ferris and Cub Cadet were suggested and discussed. Coun. Berg asked whether a vehicle such as a tractor with different attachments might be considered, but after some discussion of cost, it was determined that a lawnmower would be best and that Supv. Willman contact different suppliers and obtain price quotes.

C. ELECTRICITY TO GOLDSMITH ROAD. Supv. Willman reported that Goldsmith resident Roland Lapier has photographs showing telephone poles on Goldsmith Road. Apparently the poles were removed in the 1940's or 1950's. Coun. Merrill opined the poles could very well have been telegraph poles, not electric and that NYS law prohibits power poles on State land. However, Supv. Willman stated he would like to approach NYS Dept. Environmental Conservation to ascertain whether electrification of the site would be possible, and asked for a resolution to that effect.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 35: AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITY OF INSTALLING ELECTRICITY ON GOLDSMITH AND END OF SWINYER ROADS WHEREAS, residents of Goldsmith Road wish to have electricity provided; and WHEREAS, photographs exist from the 1940's depicting poles on the thoroughfare; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Supervisor is hereby authorized to contact NYS Dept. of Environment Conservation and National Grid to ascertain whether electric service might be installed and provided to the residents of Goldsmith and end of Swinyer Roads.

Those voting aye:

Supervisor Arthur P. Willman, Jr.
 Councilman Allen Berg
 Councilman Donald Hamm
 Councilman Bradley Merrill
 Councilman Clifford Smalley

Those Voting nay:

None

Those Absent:

None

Those Abstaining:

None

D. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH TEAMSTERS RE GENERAL FUND EMPLOYEE . Supv. Willman stated the General Fund employee expressed a desire to join the Teamsters Union, and the Union was amenable to this. The employee in question has a commercial drivers license and had been employed at the Highway Dept. for several years until his transfer to the General Fund. The memorandum of understanding would accept the employee as a Union member with some of his seniority retained and if the position of Town Custodian were to be eliminated, would permit him to transfer to the Highway Dept. Coun. Merrill stated he was uncomfortable with a discussion of an employee status at an open meeting, and suggested the matter be tabled and resumed in an executive session. Tabled to special meeting on April 28th.

E. CONTRACTS. Supv. Willman noted the Organizational Meeting listed organizations with which the Town would contract and requested a resolution authorizing him to execute the contracts and issue payments therefor.

Motion for resolution (B.Merrill-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE

RESOLUTION NO. 36: AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AND RENDER PAYMENT WHEREAS, the Town Board, at its January 2010 organizational meeting, determined it would contract with the following organizations: Town of Franklin 55+ Club Franklin Snowmobilers Saranac Lake Adult Center Saranac Lake Civic Center Bloomingdale Boosters; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Supervisor is authorized to execute said contracts and render payment thereunder.

Those voting aye:

Supervisor Arthur P. Willman, Jr.
 Councilman Allen Berg
 Councilman Clifford Smalley

Councilman Donald Hamm
Councilman Bradley Merrill

Those Voting nay:

None

Those Absent:

None

Those Abstaining:

None

10. OLD BUSINESS

A. TOWN HALL FURNACE UPDATE.

(1) Presence of Asbestos. Supv. Willman reported he had received permission from the NY Power Authority, under whose auspices the \$57,600 grant was received, to use the funds to eliminate possible asbestos, install new windows and doors at the Town Hall. He expressed concern about the possibility of presence of asbestos in the Town Hall basement. If the asbestos were disturbed at some point in the future, the Town might be liable so he spoke with Justice Symonds about testing for asbestos contamination and was informed the school district used Atlantic Testing. Supv. Willman contacted Atlantic Testing, the only provider of this particular service in the area, and received a quote of \$742.00. Coun. Hamm asked Joseph Rupp if NYS DEC might offer any assistance in this regard, and Mr. Rupp responded it could not. Supv. Willman stated if the Town contracted with Atlantic Testing, it would provide a report of whether asbestos was present, the amount and necessary process to remove same. He asked for a resolution to engage Atlantic Testing.

Motion for resolution (B.Merrill-C.Smalley m/s/p) ALL AYE

RESOLUTION NO. 37: CONTRACT WITH ATLANTIC TESTING LABORATORIES FOR ASBESTOS TESTING

WHEREAS, the Town has received a grant award from NY Power Authority to replace the furnace in the Town Hall; and WHEREAS, request for bids for a new furnace were published and bids received; and WHEREAS, before award of bid for a new furnace can be made, tests must be made to discover if any asbestos is present in the area and how much is present and how the Town should proceed to remove same; and WHEREAS, Atlantic Testing Laboratories is the only firm in the area with resources available to perform such tests; and WHEREAS, inquiry was made and an estimate from Atlantic Testing Laboratories has been received in the amount of \$742.00; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is authorized to execute a contract with Atlantic Testing for asbestos presence, the amount of asbestos and recommendations for removal of same.

Those voting aye:

Supervisor Arthur P. Willman, Jr.
Councilman Allen Berg
Councilman Clifford Smalley
Councilman Donald Hamm
Councilman Bradley Merrill

Those Voting nay:

None

Those Absent:

None

Those Abstaining:

None

(2) Heat Loss Assessment. Paul Ward, Hulbert's Supply and member of the Ethics Committee, performed a heat loss assessment at the request of Supv. Willman. Mr. Ward indicated he has heard nothing negative about the Adams furnace. The Town is fine in size and it is possible to install a furnace with a conventional burner. However, the chimney may require re-lining, and if that is so, he recommended the Town purchase an Adams unit. Discussion was held concerning different types of chimney liners, and Supv. Willman indicated he and Codes Officer Ed Lagree would inspect the chimney. Coun. Hamm commented there might be a problem with the location of the propane tank and storage area. Coun. Smalley recommended if the chimney required re-lining, the Town should publish requests for bids. Supv. Willman said the Board would award the bid for a new Town Hall furnace later this month.

B. FRANKLIN FALLS CEMETERY. Supv. Willman and Coun. Merrill met with St. Armand Town Supervisor Joyce Morency last Thursday to discuss maintenance of the St. Armand portion of the Franklin Falls Cemetery. This morning Supv. Morency telephoned Supv. Willman to report that the St. Armand Town Board would like to hire a St. Armand resident to maintain its portion of the cemetery.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. CELEBRATION. No Report.

B. CEMETERY COMMITTEE.

Coun. Merrill reported he and Coun. Smalley are compiling a list of improvements and repairs to the Town

cemeteries. He and Coun. Smalley will visit each cemetery soon.

C. FIRE/RESCUE UPDATE.

(a) Contract with Saranac Lake Volunteer Rescue Squad, Inc. Supv. Willman reported the Village of Saranac Lake and the new Saranac Lake Volunteer Rescue Squad, Inc. have come to an agreement on the transfer and cost of equipment. He received a copy of the proposed contract between the Rescue Squad and the Town and distributed copies to the Board members as well as to attorney James Martineau. The timing of execution of the contract is very short, and Supv. Willman requested a resolution accepting the contract (contingent upon approval by the attorney for the town), and authorizing him to execute same.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 38: ACCEPT CONTRACT WITH SARANAC LAKE VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD, INC. AND AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE WHEREAS, the ambulance/rescue portion of the Saranac Lake Fire Department has separated from the SLFD and formed a new, separate corporation, Saranac Lake Volunteer Rescue Squad, Inc.; and WHEREAS, said new corporation is capable of billing insurance companies for ambulance/rescue thereby reducing the cost to the surrounding municipalities eventually; and WHEREAS, a contract for services between Saranac Lake Volunteer Rescue Squad, Inc. and the Town of Franklin has been delivered; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that contingent upon approval of the attorney for the Town, the Town Board accepts the contract with the Rescue Squad; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Supervisor is authorized to execute same.

Those voting aye:

Supervisor Arthur P. Willman, Jr.
Councilman Allen Berg
Councilman Clifford Smalley
Councilman Donald Hamm
Councilman Bradley Merrill

Those Voting nay:

None

Those Absent:

None

Those Abstaining:

None

(b) New Goldsmith Road Dry Hydrant Platform. Residents of Goldsmith Road have requested construction of a dry hydrant platform on Goldsmith Road. Coun. Berg reported the Town's next planned dry hydrant platform was to be located in Loon Lake, where there are many more structures than on Goldsmith Road. The budget for construction and repair of fire platforms does not allow for this. Supv. Willman will inspect the Goldsmith Road area for a future platform.

D. RECREATION COMMITTEE. Supv. Willman met with Jay Annis who organizes various sporting activities in the area, specifically the rugby tournament. Mr. Annis opined the Kate Mountain Recreation Park could contain at least 4 fields for various sports, rugby, lacrosse and soccer. The area requires fill and grading to create an all-purpose surface. One the fields are constructed the field(s) can be lined for whatever sport is to be played.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

Two notices of approved projects were received from APA.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- Norman VanCour is doing very well now following hospitalization in February and broken rib.
- Town Hall is requesting donations of flowers and shrubs for the front garden. Thanks to Zoe McCulley for her enthusiasm and hard work.
- Please complete a mass transit questionnaire and distribute to people who might like to have a bus or some sort of public transit come to Vermontville, Loon Lake or Onchiota.
- The Town Hall needs a new refrigerator. A donation would be welcome. Coun. Hamm reported the Press-Republican advertised a walk-in cooler. Supv. Willman will investigate.
- A fund raising organization, separate from Town of Franklin government is being created. The name will be KATE MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY RECREATION ASSOCIATION. The first meeting was held Monday April 12th and the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 26th at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall. All interested individuals are encouraged to attend and help out.
- The Town's collateralization is now at \$450,000.

14. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS.

Q/C How much does the ambulance charge to come out here to Vermontville?

A Supv. Willman responded that the contract signed with the Village of Saranac Lake required a payment of \$32,000 which was made in February. The new rescue squad will not be charging an additional fee to travel to Vermontville.

Q/C Coun. Hamm commented that once a month, Essex County sends a health officer to municipalities to assist senior citizens with Medicare options.

A Supv. Willman will contact Franklin County Public Health to see if something similar might be arranged for residents of the Town of Franklin.

15. ADJOURNMENT

. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:27 PM.

(C.Smalley-B.Merrill m/s/p) ALL AYE

Respectfully submitted, Sandra J. Oliver, Town Clerk

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Town of Franklin

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