



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 September 14, 2011 - 7:00 PM

Board members present:

Supv Arthur P. Willman
Coun. Allen Berg
Coun. Donald Hamm
Coun. Bradley Merrill
Coun. Clifford Smalley

Others Present:

Highway Supt. Jacques DeMars, Town Clerk Sandra Oliver, Deputy Hwy Supt Todd Law, Codes Officer Rob, Drosdowich, Doris Hamm, Frances Oliver, Derrick Romeo, Kenneth Guerin, Robert Marrone

1. CALL TO ORDER

Supv. Willman called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited; the Clerk called the roll, introduced guests and declared the full board was present.

2. MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF VICTIMS OF SEPT. 11, 2001.

3. QUESTIONS & COMMENTS. Derrick Romeo, representing the Kate Mountain Community Recreation Association, thanked all the volunteers and Town employees who worked hard to make the August 20, 2011 Music Fest a success. The KMCRA Board had asked the Town to perform an inspection of the Park electrical system and Mr. Romeo presented a check in sum of \$494.76 to cover the cost of the inspection and as a gift to the Town for the improvement of the Park. The Board expressed its appreciation and gratitude for the donation.

4. BUDGET AMENDMENT

Supv. Willman requested a resolution authorizing the 2nd General Fund Budget Amendment. Motion (B.Merrill-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE

RESOLUTION NO. 49: 2011 GENERAL FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 2 WHEREAS, in order to maintain a balanced budget, the following transfer of funds in sum of \$6,048.00 is hereby approved:

FROM: A1990.4 Contingency	TO: A1620.4 Buildings \$6,000.00	
	A7310.1 Youth Programs \$48.00	
Prepay General	Vouchers 24 -	\$1,311.92

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

The following claims listed on Abstract 8 were approved for payment:

General Fund	Vouchers 123 - 140	\$2,872.48
Highway Fund	Vouchers 134 -	\$12,801.85
Prepay General	Vouchers 24 -	\$1,311.92

5. AUDIT OF CLAIMS.

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

The following claims listed on Abstract 9 were approved for payment:

General Fund	Vouchers 141 - 160	\$7,606.79
Highway Fund	Vouchers 145 - 155	\$9,819.46
Prepay General	Vouchers 28 - 32	\$1,604.35

The following claims listed on Abstract 2 were approved for payment:

General Fund	Vouchers 3 - 4	\$1,140.87
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Coun. Berg asked about the \$349 voucher for Sears, and Supv. Willman indicated it was for a tow-behind sweeper for the General Fund to remove pinecones and debris from the cemeteries, Rec Park and Town Hall grounds.

Coun. Smalley queried the larger invoice from Morrisonville Septic, and Supv. Willman responded the Town rented an additional portable toilet in August for the Music Fest. In addition, he Coun. Smalley questioned the outstanding balance on the Rainbow Graphics invoice, and the Clerk explained it was from March - the very busy end of tax collection season - and was her oversight.

Coun. Berg inquired whether it was necessary to pay for a software support agreement for the time clock, and Supv. Willman replied it was as once a year something always goes wrong with the time clock at the Garage. The software support agreement ensures that the payroll process runs smoothly.

Motion to accept claims and authorize payment (C.Smalley-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE

6. MINUTES

Supv. Willman asked if anyone had revisions to the August 10, 2011 minutes. Highway Supt. Jacques DeMars stated he noted Coun. Merrill's objections to the revised §284 Agreement between the Board and Highway Supt. to Expend Highway Funds. Coun. Merrill indicated he did not disagree with revising the 284 agreement, he disagreed with the manner in which the revision took place; he opined the full board should have been involved in the decision to place the emergency repairs to Alder Brook Park Road on the capital projects highway list. Supt. DeMars reported he consulted the Association of Towns legal staff and spoke with a section 284 expert, who informed him it did not matter when or how the 284 agreement is accepted or revised, just as long as it is done so. Supt. DeMars continued, that he maintained constant communication with the Town Supervisor and the Highway Committee (constituting a quorum of the Board), and when the repair total to the site approached the \$10,000 mark, asked both the Town Supervisor and the Highway Committee whether he should stop work and wait for a decision of the full board, or whether they thought the repair project could be placed on a revised 284 agreement. Supt. DeMars received approval from the parties and rather than stopping the project and "band-aiding" the problem, went ahead with repairs and badly needed improvements to the road. Supv. Willman added he did not see a need to call a special meeting of the Town Board just to revise the 284 agreement and Coun. Smalley reiterated his statement that it would have been foolish to halt the repair project before completion, as has always been done in past years. Coun. Smalley then recommended Mr. Martineau, attorney for the Town be contacted. Coun. Merrill opined the full board should have been involved in the decision. Highway Supt. DeMars affirmed he followed the law, consulted the Association of Towns legal staff and had consensus of the Town Supervisor and the two board members on the Highway Committee to complete the repair/upgrade project.

The minutes of the August 10, 2011 meeting were accepted as presented. Motion (A.Berg-C.Smalley m/s/p) ALL AYE

7. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT.

Balances as at August 1, 2011

General Fund	Checking	\$34,040.04
	Savings	52,076.58
	CLASS	107,302.38
	Historian	3,036.11
Highway Fund	Checking	124,029.390
	Savings	319,629.19
	CLASS	188,268.74
	Cap. Proj. Hwy.	46,515.06
Landfill	Checking	4,798.49
	CLASS	44,053.38
Fire Protection	Checking	10,452.41
	CLASS	685.30
Capital Project Building		5,437.85

Coun. Smalley suggested the Town investigate other savings arrangements as CLASS no longer pays adequate interest and Supv. Willman indicated he would do so. Coun. Merrill stated he would support placing Town funds in other kinds of accounts and also indicated he would like the Board to set up a special cemetery fund. Supv. Willman indicated he would also like to see Town facilities use donations placed in another special fund, but that the Board could address these issues during the October 10 and 17 budget workshops with the Budget Officer. Motion (C.Smalley-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE

8. TOWN CLERK:

The August Clerk report

4 dog licenses	\$23.00
2 permits	\$440.00
1 Hist Book	\$10.00
2 Donations	\$330.000

Total	\$803.00
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Paid to Supervisor	\$797.00
Paid to NYS Ag&Mkts (dogs)	\$6.00

Total	\$803.00

The Clerk noted the Lamson Family donated, not only the new clock, but had also sent \$250 for use of the Town Hall on August 20th. Motion to accept Clerk report (B.Merrill-C.Smalley m/s/p) ALL AYE.

9. HIGHWAY REPORT

A. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

1. Road work

Raked and rolled Garden Road and Blue Spruce Drive, adding crusher dust.

Raked Merrill, Yemassee Lodge, Goldsmith, French and McManus Roads

Several roads were mowed

Performed prep work on Oregon Plains Road for paving (tree cutting chipping, ditching road edge repair and culverts)

Culvert on Franklin Falls Hill replaced; Plank Road washouts have been repaired and are now passable, however, more work is necessary to complete, i.e, coarse crusher run and blacktopping.

2. Hurricane Irene High winds and flooding on August 28th. Two men w4ere called in to handle downed trees and to check culverts. Later that evening sections of Plank Road, a culvert on Franklin Falls Hill and a bridge on Co. Rt. 48 washed out. Subsequently 3 more men were called in and those roads were closed.

3. FEMA 2 County representatives of FEMA inspected Plank Rd. damage on Sept. 9th, escorted by Franklin Co. Hwy Supt John Hutchins and Ricky Provost as well as 2 reps from Essex County.

4. Shared services: trucked for St. Armand, Santa Clara, Saranac, Town of Tupper Lake, County of Franklin and Village of Tupper Lake. We received assistance from St. Armand, Harrietstown, Saranac and County of Franklin

5. Gravel Source. - Found on Co. Rt. 48

6. Emergency repair - Sept 1st culvert plugged on Swinyer Rd. Two Highway employees called in to address the situation. Thanks to Trevor Symonds, Roger Symonds Jr. and Al Berg for assistance as well.

7. Mischief. Supt. DeMars noted someone had dumped drywall nails on Town Barn Lane, and the Highway employees wanted this mentioned at the meeting. Supt. DeMars reported the nails were not in any other spot or on Route 3, and he picked up 5 handfuls of nails. Coun. Berg reported nails had also been dropped at the end of his driveway, and Coun. Merrill indicated metal parts had been dumped at the end of his driveway and his wife got a flat tire. Coun. Hamm indicated this kind of activity constituted "criminal mischief". The cost to replace a large truck tire could run \$500. Supv. Willman requested that people report this kind of activity so it can be turned over to the State Police.

B. REVISION TO 2011 SECTION 284 AGREEMENT

Superintendent DeMars requested another revision to the agreement between the Town Board and Highway Superintendent (284 Agreement) to include, time and funding permitted, a .3 mile stretch of Cold Brook Road near Lou Myers' residence. The road has a very deep dip and should be repaired. Given the possibility of FEMA funds being received, it is possible that repairs to this area can be effected, by filling the dip and ditching. Supv. Willman requested a motion for a resolution to amend the 284 Agreement. Motion (C.Smalley-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE.

RESOLUTION NO. 50: AMEND 284 AGREEMENT TO EXPEND HIGHWAY FUNDS TO INCLUDE REPAIR OF CULVERT AND DIP IN COLD BROOK RD WHEREAS, the .3 mile of Cold Brook Road has a large "dip"; and WHEREAS, repair of the dip and ditching could repair the area; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the 284 Agreement for 2011 is hereby amended to include repair of the .3 miles of Cold Brook Road near 312 Cold Brook Rd, provided that funding and weather conditions permit said repair.

Those voting aye:

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

Those Voting nay:

Councilman Bradley Merrill

Those Absent:

None

Those Abstaining:

None

C. HIGHWAY COMMITTEE. Coun. Hamm inquired if the "road closed" signs were still posted on the Plank Road, and Supt. Demars indicated he had them still in place because the surface of the road is covered with crusher run. Drivers are using the road, but the signs keep the rate of speed down.

Coun. Berg asked if there had been any news about the missing stop sign at _____, and Supt. DeMars replied it had not.

Coun. Merrill indicated there were a number of "speed bumps" on the Merrill Road due to raking, and Supt. DeMars asked how raking could purposely cause bumps. Coun. Hamm opined the Merrill Road needs grading.

D. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS RE HIGHWAY MATTERS

Coun. Smalley reported his satisfaction with the job the Highway Department was doing, as all the roads he travels are in fine shape.

Kenneth Guerin, referencing his September 9, 2011 letter to the Highway Superintendent and the Town Board, and reminded the Board that encroachment is recurring. Supv. Willman indicated he would inspect the area tomorrow.

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. OPEN BIDS FOR ROAD SAND. Only one bid was received for road sand, from Trudeau Sand & Gravel, Saranac Lake. The bid was for 12,000 tons of NYS road sand to be picked up at \$4.00 per ton. The Board determined it would accept the bid, and Supt. DeMars indicated the sand pile at the Garage is not as high as in fall 2010, and he would like to request up to 14 tons of road sand to NYS specifications picked up. The Board concurred. Motion (B.Merrill-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE

RESOLUTION NO. 51: ACCEPT BID OF TRUDEAU SAND & GRAVEL FOR ROAD SAND WHEREAS, requests for bids/prices for 2011-12 winter road sand to NYS specification was duly published on August 16, 2011 in the Adirondack Daily Enterprise; and WHEREAS, Trudeau Sand & Gravel submitted a price of \$4.00 per ton; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board hereby accepts and awards the bid of Trudeau for up to 14 tons of road sand picked up at \$4.00 per ton.

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

B. OPEN BIDS FOR FUEL Two bids were submitted in response to the legal ad published in the Adirondack Daily Enterprise on August 16 and 17, 2011, as follows:

	UnL Gas	Prem Diesel	Reg Diesel	Propane	Fuel Oil
Hyde Fuel Saranac Lake	\$3.459	\$3.489		\$2.29	\$3.423
Prices fluctuate and based on cost plus 35 cents.					
HomEnergy Saranac Lake					
State Price for 9/8/11	\$3.2912	\$3.5484		\$1.9392	\$3.3590
State Price for 9/14/11	\$3.2973	\$3.5484	\$3.3765	\$1.9392	\$3.3590
Fixed Price	\$3.4980	\$3.6384	3.5965	\$2.1850	\$3.4570
Daily Discounted Price	\$3.2884	\$3.6343	3.4275	\$2.1280	\$3.3970

The Board will study the bids submitted and award at a later meeting.

C. OPEN BIDS FOR SMALL DUMP TRUCK. Only one bid was received, from Hillsboro Ford in New Hampshire. The envelope was not opened. The Board discussed the paucity of responses and determined it would republish the request for bids in Albany and Plattsburgh. Motion to republish (A.Berg-C.Smalley m/s/p) ALL AYE

RESOLUTION NO. 52: REPUBLISH REQUEST FOR BIDS IN ALBANY TIMES UNION AND PLATTSBURGH PRESS REPUBLICAN WHEREAS, request for bids for a small dump truck was published in the Adirondack Daily Enterprise on August 16 and 17, 2011; and WHEREAS, only one response was received and not opened on September 14, 2011; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the request for bids for a small dump truck will be republished twice in the Albany Times-Union and the Plattsburgh Press Republican.

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. NEW SHARED COPIER/SCANNER/PRINTER/FAX.

The Sharp copier and the fax machine need to be replaced. To that end Supv. Willman and Clerk Oliver met with a representative of Office Systems in Plattsburgh. Copies of his proposal for a Konica Minolta 223 Biz Hub central copier/printer/scanner/fax were distributed to the Board. The system can be programmed so that faxes are received via email and each user will have a password. The cost of the system is \$4,785.56 and if lease/purchase signed before September 30, 2011 will have deducted a promotional discount of \$1,785.56, making the total \$3,000. Everything will be covered under the maintenance agreement except paper. There are 2 leasing plans 36-month for \$93 per month and the 60-month for \$58.80 per month. The unit will be located underneath the clock between the Town Court and Town Clerk and can be moved into the Clerk's office when necessary to clear the main room for dinners and meetings. Between August 2009 and September 2010, the Town spent \$1,700 on replacement toner and ink for all its copiers and printers. The Supervisor, Justice and Clerk might retain their printers as backups. Following discussion, the Board decided it would accept the proposal provided the maintenance agreement could be extended past the 36 or 60 month leasing plan and also provided signature on the lease agreement before September 30 would be sufficient to ensure the \$1,785.56 discount. Motion (C.Smalley-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE

RESOLUTION NO. 53: AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH OFFICE SYSTEMS OF PLATTSBURGH, NY FOR KONICA MINOLTA 223 BIZ HUB SHARED COPIER/FAX/PRINTER/SCANNER WHEREAS, current office equipment in the Franklin Town Hall requires replacement and upgrade; and WHEREAS, Office Systems, 20 Trade Road, Plattsburgh, NY, has submitted a proposal for a 223 Konica Minolta shared copier/fax/printer scanner with 2 paper trays and capability of printing on 11x17 paper for \$4,785.56 less a discount of \$1,785.56 discount if lease purchase executed by September 30, 2011; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board agrees to the terms of the 36-month lease/purchase agreement and authorizes the Supervisor to execute same, provided that the maintenance agreement can be

extended beyond 36 months and also the maintenance agreement can be extended beyond 36 months and also provided that execution of the agreement is sufficient to ensure the \$1,785.56 discount even if the unit is not delivered until December 2011.

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

E. PROPOSED INCREASE IN VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEES.

Supv. Willman commented County Legislator Tim Burpoe telephoned him earlier in the week to report a public hearing at the County level on a proposed increase in County vehicle registration fees, \$5 for a personal vehicle and \$10 for commercial vehicles. The logic behind the proposal is that when individuals register their vehicles online or by the pink renewal envelopes, all the funds received are kept by DMV in Albany; if people register vehicles at the DMV office in Saranac Lake, or Malone, the fees are shared between Albany and Franklin County. The proposed increase in fees will offset an increase in property taxes, as Franklin County is projecting a double-digit increase in its budget, and the 2% tax cap can be ignored with a supermajority vote of the County Legislature. The County Clerk projects a \$300,000 increase in County revenue if the "surcharge" is imposed, and it is noted that most adjoining counties have their own "surcharges". Also noted is that when the State Legislature approved the 2% tax cap on county, local and school budgets, it did not provide mandate relief.

Coun. Hamm strongly opposed the increase in fees and stated that every time some governmental entity needs more money it increases fees, tolls, registration and license plate fees.

Coun. Berg indicated he would like to see which State imposed mandates the increase in fees would cover.

Coun. Smalley opined the County has not pursued adequate cost-cutting measures. He recalled that during Legislator Burpoe's last visit to a Town Board meeting, Mr. Burpoe mentioned layoffs, but no layoffs have been evidenced.

Supv. Willman reported Mr. Burpoe described the proposed County personnel reductions as "through attrition and retirement." The County, Supv. Willman reported, is offering senior personnel \$12,000 for early retirement. He opined alternate savings should be explored.

Coun. Merrill indicated he wanted to know what the options are before voting to approve or reject the proposed increase in vehicle registration fees.

Supervisor Willman proposed the Board should adopt a resolution expressing its opposition to the proposed increase in vehicle registration fees. Motion (C.Smalley-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE.

RESOLUTION NO. 54: OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED FRANKLIN COUNTY "SURCHARGE" ON VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEES WHEREAS, a public hearing was held at the Franklin County Legislature, Malone, New York on September 14, 2011, on a proposed increase in vehicle registration fees, to wit, \$5.00 for personal vehicles and \$10.00 for commercial vehicles; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Franklin hereby opposes such "surcharge" because the County of Franklin has not explored alternative means of reducing its budget, such as, laying off personnel, researching lower-priced vendors, and seeking out private purchasers for its nursing home.

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

F. RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE STATE MANDATE RELIEF. Concurrent with Resolution 54, Supv. Willman recommended a resolution to be sent to the Governor of the State of New York strongly encouraging mandate relief. The Board concurred. Motion (C.Smalley-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE

RESOLUTION NO. 55: SUPPORT FOR RELIEF FROM STATE MANDATES OF COUNTIES, SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND MUNICIPALITIES WHEREAS, the Governor and NYS Legislature applaud themselves for having adopted a 2% cap on tax increases in County, School District and Municipal Budgets; and WHEREAS, State unfunded mandates weigh heavily on these entities; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Franklin, County of Franklin, hereby strongly urges the Governor, Senate and Assembly to grant relief to counties, school districts and municipalities by relieving them of the expense of costly State-imposed unfunded mandates, such as extensive Town Court record-keeping, Medicaid costs to Counties, complex and costly rules and regulations of School Districts.

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

H. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW BOARD The Local Government Review Board has received word its State funding will be reduced by 53%. It has requested support from the Town of Franklin in sum of \$300 per year. The Local Government Review Board was established to perform "watchdog duty" on the Adirondack Park Agency. The Board discussed the positive effect the Review Board has had on APA oversight and operations. Motion for resolution to fund Local Government Review Board in 2012 by \$300 (C.Smalley-B.Merrill m/s/p) ALL AYE

RESOLUTION NO. 56: SUPPORT LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW BOARD IN 2012 WHEREAS, the State of New York has cut funding to the Local Government Review Board; and WHEREAS, the Local Government Review Board independently monitors the operations of the Adirondack Park Agency; and WHEREAS, the Local Government Review Board has requested support for the first time from the Town of Franklin in sum of \$300 for fiscal year 2012; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board will support the Local Government Review Board by a \$300 payment in 2012.

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

H. REAPPOINT PAUL WARD TO BOARD OF ETHICS. Paul Ward has served a 3-year term on the Town's Board of Ethics and is amenable to another 3-year term. Motion (A.Berg-C.Smalley m/s/p) ALL AYE.

RESOLUTION NO. 57: REAPPOINT PAUL WARD TO BOARD OF ETHICS WHEREAS, Paul Ward has served a 3-year term on the Town of Franklin Board of Ethics; and WHEREAS, his current term expires on September 30, 2011; and WHEREAS, he has agreed to serve another 3-year term; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Paul Ward is hereby reappointed to serve a 3-year term on the Board of Ethics (October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2014).

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

I. APPOINTMENT TO BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW Katrine Kretser, a long-time member of the Board of Assessment Review has decided not to serve another term when her appointment expires on September 30, 2011. An ad for applicants to the BAR was published in the Adirondack Daily Enterprise, and in response thereto, Jennifer Norman, Swinyer Road, submitted a resume and application. Ms. Norman is personable and knowledgeable about real property matters as she has taken courses in real property appraisal. The Board concurred she should be appointed to the BAR. Motion (B.Merrill-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE

RESOLUTION NO. 58: APPOINT JENNIFER NORMAN TO 5-YEAR TERM ON BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW WHEREAS, Jennifer Norman, a resident of Swinyer Road, in Vermontville, has applied for appointment to a 5 year term on the Board of Assessment Review and is qualified to do so; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Franklin hereby appoints Jennifer Norman to a 5-year term on the Board of Assessment Review (October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2016).

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

J. LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE AT SUNY POTSDAM - OCT. 11, 2011 Any Board member wishing to attend should either advise Supv. Willman or make his/her own arrangements to attend this conference.

11. OLD BUSINESS

A. INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE Doug Snickles repaired the roof over the kitchen in the Town Hall, and the ceiling tiles have been replaced and painted. The kitchen still needs a 3-bay sink, and Supv. Willman is searching for a used one at a reasonable price. When the Department of Health inspected the site last year, they did not insist on a vent for the stove. Coun. Smalley volunteered that St. Lawrence University is upgrading its facilities and have a large ventilator to sell. Coun. Hamm opined if it was an old vent, it would have asbestos in and around it. Also, the Town Hall roof vents were removed and sandblasted. Coun. Merrill advised getting rid of the surface rust and repainting immediately. Supv. Willman recommended obtaining price quotes to oat the entire roof. He will speak with Mr. Snickles about it.

B. FIRE/RESCUE UPDATE As reported at the August meeting, the Bloomingdale Volunteer Fire Dept. is investigating grant funding for the purchase of "Jaws of Life" apparatus and training. St. Armand Town Supervisor Joyce Morency is in favor of this as well. The estimated cost will be \$34,000.

C. TOWN HALL FLAG SPOTLIGHT. Coun. Merrill reported the spotlight on the flag shines directly into oncoming traffic on Route 3 and should either be relocated, have lower wattage or have the flag relocated. It is a significant problem in foul weather.

D. LAND INVENTORY. No progress has been made on this, however, Supv. Willman reported that Terri Martino, Chair of the APA, has offered GPS mapping assistance. Edward Martin donated a GPS unit to the Town, and Supv. Willman would first like to have APA create a map with the location of all culverts in Town. Mrs. Martino is looking into assisting the Town on this.

E. EXPANSION OF TRAILS. Supv. Willman met with Rob Daly, Paul Capone, Al Berg and Kris Seymour about expansion of trails around the Kate Mountain Recreation Park so that it might be possible to hike from Kate Mountain to Onchiota. In addition, he spoke with Mr. Daly about grooming trails on State land. Grooming trails is fine, as long as no motorized vehicles are used for the purpose. Supv. Willman surmised it would be fine to use animals, horses, llamas or dog sleds. Derrick Romeo asked if some tree grooming could be done on the trails before heavy snow begins. Supv. Willman indicated the Highway Dept. might donate a saw for Glenn Swinyer to use, and Supt. DeMars agreed.

F. REPORT ON PUBLIC CONVERSATIONS WITH SUPERVISOR AUG 21ST. Deputy Highway Supt. Todd Law and Isabelle McManus attended the August 21st informal conversation session.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. AUDIT COMMITTEE. Supervisor Willman reported he had reviewed Town Justice Roger Symonds' receipts and banking records and found them to be in very good order. He requested a motion for a resolution accepting the Town Court audit. Motion (B.Merrill-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE.

RESOLUTION NO. 59: ACCEPT AUDIT OF TOWN COURT FINANCIAL RECORDS WHEREAS, Town Supervisor Arthur Willman inspected the financial records of the Town Court administered by the Town Justice on Tuesday,

September 13, 2011, including bank statements and receipt accounts and found them to be in good order; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Franklin Town Board hereby accepts and approves of the accounting records maintained by Town Justice Roger Symonds.

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

B. CEMETERY. Coun. Merrill asked if the Geomatics had submitted its proposal yet, and was informed it had not yet been received. Coun. Merrill then reiterated his recommendation that the cemeteries first be gridded out and then the circular road be built. Coun. Smalley suggested that since the cemetery in Vermontville was the busiest, work on that be performed first, and the Board concurred. Coun. Merrill then indicated he and Glenn Swinyer would be working on the Merrillsville Cemetery to repair the fence.

Coun. Hamm mentioned that a letter should be sent to monument companies cautioning them about trampling on graves. In addition, there should be some guidelines about the height of monuments; he considered a new monument to be a bit gaudy. Coun. Merrill explained erection of grave monuments should first be approved by the Cemetery Custodian; however, the only requirement about monuments is that they must be on the west side of the plot.

C. RECREATION. Derrick Romeo asked when the Town would put the Recreation Park electrical repair out to bid, and Supv. Willman indicated early in 2012, with work to begin in spring.

13. CORRESPONDENCE

FREMSA. Supv. Willman indicated a letter from FREMSA. It will be dissolving as it is no longer necessary since the inception of the Saranac Lake Volunteer Ambulance & Rescue Squad. FREMSA will be transferring all its funding to the Rescue Squad. Therefore the Town might see some savings.

BILL DEMONG AND KRIS SEYMOUR. Letter received with recommendations for improvements to Rec Park.

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you again to Zoe McCulley for all her hard work on the garden at the Town Hall. The flowers dramatically enhanced the appearance of the entrance, and very favorable comments were received.

Food Pantry will be held tomorrow at 3:30 PM

Lasagna Dinner - fundraiser for the Scholarship Fund, will be held Sunday, October 2nd.

15. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Derrick Romeo indicated the KMCRA will hold a chicken and biscuit fundraiser on October 22nd.

Coun. Hamm asked Codes Officer Rob Drosdowich to check on the Corrow subdivision as APA has issued a "no jurisdiction" letter. Mr. Drosdowich will see to this.

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss or conduct, the meeting adjourned at 9:42 PM. Motion (C.Smalley-D.Hamm m/s/p) ALL AYE.

Respectfully submitted, Sandra J. Oliver, Town Clerk

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