

Regular Town Board Meeting  
September 10, 2012

At the Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Cambridge, duly called and held the 10<sup>th</sup> day of September, 7:00 PM at the Town Hall, the following were present:

Supervisor William Watkins  
Councilman Gerald Skiff  
Councilman Doug Ford

Councilman McMurray and Councilwoman Fedler were absent.

Others present: Heather Greenawalt Town Clerk, Town Justice Janet DeCarlo, Bob Oddess, Terry Hamilton, Bob Hamilton, LaVerne Davis, Astrid Davis, Highway Superintendent Alan Davis, Elton Balch, Rob McIntosh, Henry Peabody, Rani Bass, Ashleigh McMorris (from the Eagle), Nancy Maebus, Scott Keller Town Attorney

Audit the Bills

General	#206 - #220	\$1,011.50
Highway	#100 - #112	\$26,531.73

Remembering 911

The District Administrative judge of the 4<sup>th</sup> District asked that every judge find a meeting at which to remember the events of 911. Town Justice Janet DeCarlo read some excerpts from a speech that the President gave last year. After the reading Town Justice Janet DeCarlo asked that everyone join with her in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Approving of the Minutes

Resolution#81

Councilman Skiff motioned, Seconded by Councilman Ford to approve the minutes from the Special Meeting of August 9, 2012 and the Regular Meeting of August 13, 2012 as mailed.

Vote:           Ayes – 3                   Noes – 0

Supervisor's Report

Resolution#82

Councilman Ford motioned, Seconded by Councilman Skiff to approve the August 2012 Supervisor's Report.

Vote:           Ayes – 3                   Noe – 0

The Supervisor announced that there would be a Budget Workshop on September 26, 2012 at 6:30 PM at the Town Hall.

Assessor Report

Supervisor Watkins reported that changes can be made to the taxes if there is a clerical error. There were concerns whether seniors were aware that they were eligible for the Enhanced Star and Aged exemptions.

Town Clerk's Report

The Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt reported that on Friday, September 7, 2012 the Supervisor Watkins, Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt, Town Justice Janet DeCarlo, Wendy Ford, and Attorney Scott Keller meet with Denis Meadows from the New York

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State Archives. He is the Regional Advisory officer for the NYS Archives records center. It was discussed about applying for a grant to improve the condition of the archives. Mr. Meadows talked us through the steps that would need to be done, and it was discussed about the grant process and applying. However, we must wait till the state notifies us when the deadline is and the guidelines for applying. When the grant is applied for and received we would have to bring someone in, go through the records and follow the retention schedule when disposing of the records.

Transfer of Funds

Resolution#83

Councilman Ford motioned, Seconded by Councilman Skiff to transfer money from the Contingent A1990.4 to the Justice, Contractual A1110.4 in the amount of \$200.00 to cover the cost of court officer, supplies, phone service, and postage. The second transfer was Contingent A1990.4 to the Supervisor's Contractual 1220.4 in the amount of \$45.00 to cover the cost of 1 roll of stamps.

Vote:                   Ayes – 3                   Noe – 0

The Ondawa-Cambridge Chapter National Society Daughters of the American Revolution has written the Supervisor requesting that September 17-23, 2012 be designated Constitution Week.

Supervisor William Watkins asked Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt to read the Proclamation and requested that September 17-23, 2012 be designated Constitution Week.

**CONSTITUTION WEEK**

**September 17 – 23, 2012**

**WHEREAS:** September 17, 2012, marks the two hundred twenty-fifth anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention; and

**WHEREAS:** It is fitting and proper to accord official recognition to this magnificent document and its memorable anniversary; and to the patriotic celebrations which will commemorate the occasion; and

**WHEREAS:** Public Law 915 guarantees the issuing of a proclamation each year by the President of the United States of America designating September 17 through 23 as Constitution Week,

**NOW, THEREFORE I,** William H. Watkins, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Supervisor of the Town of Cambridge in the State of New York do hereby proclaim the week of September 17 through 23 as

**CONSTITUTION WEEK**

**AND** ask our citizens to reaffirm the ideals of the Framers of the constitution had in 1787 by vigilantly protecting the freedoms guaranteed to us through this guardian of our liberties, remembering that lost rights may never be regained.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Town of Cambridge to be affixed this 11<sup>th</sup> day of September of the year of our Lord two thousand twelve.

Signed William H. Watkins

Town Board

Councilman Ford reported that he would like to have something done with State Rt. 372, he stated that it has gotten to the point that the gravel roads are easier on his equipment. Many of Councilman Fords Farm customers said that they wouldn't even run 372. They run the dirt roads instead. Supervisor Watkins said that a resolution would need to be written along with the other two towns. The letter should be sent to the Governors office, the Commissioner of Transportation, Betty Little's Office and any other politicians that have jurisdiction of these towns.

Resolution #84

Councilman Ford motioned, Seconded by Councilman Skiff to send a letter to local politicians to put some pressure on the State to do something about state route 372 and encourage the other townships to join in also.

Vote:                      Ayes - 3                      Noes - 0

Highway Superintendent report

The highwaymen have finished screening the sand, and also replaced 2 cross culverts on Cobble Road. They have also sandblasted the body on truck 8 and painted with the help of the Village. The cemeteries have been mowed and they have also ditched on Green, Cobble and Whiteside Roads. The starter was replaced in the pickup truck. They have also helped the village pave where the culverts were replaced. The trees have been cleaned up that blew down during the storm and they are finishing up mowing on the dirt roads. The new truck was scheduled to be built this week and if things go as scheduled we should see it the end of this month or the beginning of October.

Alan Davis Highway Superintendent mentioned that he had spoke with one of Wayne Fitzgerald's boys and they were not using their boiler because it never had been set up properly. The problem with the boiler is that it only holds 8 gallons of water. He reported that John James has a very similar system to what the town is looking at, he has the water tank and he uses it to heat his house. This is an older unit but it is the same thing, it burns dry wood and it is indoors in his basement. Mr. Davis has spoke with the salesman about meeting with any board members that were interested. Alan Davis mentioned meeting with the sales representative to Councilman Skiff. Supervisor

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Watkins suggested that Councilman Skiff report back to the board after he was done investigating.

Planning Board Report

Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt reported in Sally Eddy's absence. The Planning Board met Thursday, September 6, 2012, 7:30 PM at the Town Hall with 5 members present and 2 people from the public.

There was one item of business that came before the board.

Virginia McNiece returned to the Board with a revised sketch plan for subdivision of her property. Mrs. McNiece owns 87.3 acres on Edie Road and in proposing to convey a 3.5 acre lot to her daughter containing a house and 3 barns. The revisions, which were requested by the Board after an earlier meeting with Mrs. McNiece, met the Board approval. Mrs. McNiece was directed to proceed with the survey contingent upon incorporating the revisions.

This report was submitted respectfully Sally Eddy, secretary.

Code Enforcement

LaVerne Davis reported that Lapan's house is finished however he can not get to it because the gates are locked. The Grimes house is finished and he is waiting for paperwork.

Communications

The Supervisor asked if anyone had seen the mailing from the government office about the grant for 2 million dollars in regards to high speed internet. He explained that the experiment that the town has done with High Speed Internet, now the rest of the county is getting on board. The county has met with Matt and John from Hudson Valley Wireless, when you go through Greenwich and Cambridge you will see Champlain Communications. This Champlain Communications are the ones running the trunk line from Hoosick Falls to Saratoga. Hudson Valley Wireless is trying to partner with them to use the fiber optics to bring the high speed internet to more people throughout many towns. The Town of Cambridge will be applying for two more locations one on Tingle, Whiteside Roads and possibly Irish lane. The other thing that is being done is that they are partnering with Sprint to see if they can bring better cell phone reception to this area.

Bob Odess from the Cambridge Public Library was present and he wanted to thank the Town Board for the contribution to the library of \$1600 to \$1650 a year. He mentioned that the library counts on the Town of Cambridge for the contribution to the library to help them with the budget. The taxpayers pay \$10.00 in tax money a year to support the library which gives them 24/7 internet among other things. He mentioned that they have people at midnight sitting outside the library using the internet service.

County Report

Supervisor Watkins updated everyone on the transfer stations regarding the possible lease or sale of the five county transfer stations. He mentioned that they have put out a RFP

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proposal for the sale or lease. It was also mentioned that there was a proposal that the Town of Greenwich and other towns have the opportunity to take over the transfer stations. It was mentioned that if the transfer stations were managed correctly they could make money. Some of the transfer stations could make money however; the one in Granville and Whitehall they don't get enough returnable to make money.

Privilege of the Floor

Resident Nancy Maebus read two letters that she wrote to be submitted for the record one letter was in response to the future planning for the Town of Cambridge. She mentioned that the Planning Board needs to take into consideration the ordinances. Supervisor Watkins made her aware that the Planning Board only wanted to do subdivisions.

The other letter that she wrote referred to the complaint form which she had used to file a complaint with the Highway Superintendent. It had to do with the ditch that is near her house and the problem was resolved quickly.

Alan Davis Highway Superintendent submitted a copy to the board of a quote from HOS-COT Builders, INC. for the insulating of the roof of the 40' x 125' town highway garage. The questioned him whether he had spoke with Don Patten about insulating. Mr. Davis stated that it was Mr. Patten that recommended HOS-COT.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was moved and carried to adjournment at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Greenawalt  
Town Clerk/Town of Cambridge

<http://www.townofcambridgeny.org>