

**Regular Town Board Meeting
April 23, 2008**

Supervisor Moore called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Roll Call: Supervisor Moore, Councilwoman Robinson, Councilwoman Tremper, Councilman Cook, Councilman Votra, Assessor Chairman Ferguson, Superintendent of Public Works Woods, CEO Rodenhouse, Highway Superintendent Remington, Town Clerk Maguire

Others Present: Isabelle Perkins, Evelyn Burkett, Betty Richards, Ruth Smutz, Nora Deleel, John Carr

A motion was made by Councilwoman Robinson and seconded by Councilwoman Tremper to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on March 26, 2008 as submitted by the Town Clerk.

All in favor.

CEO Report:

CEO Rodenhouse reported a busy month with construction projects starting for the season. Supervisor Moore reported that he and Mr. Rodenhouse had gone together and taken some pictures of some problem properties in the town.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Tremper and seconded by Councilman Cook to accept the CEO report as submitted and to be filed with the Town Clerk.

All in favor.

Water District Report:

Superintendent of Public Works Woods reported that there have been no new problems for this month. There is a possible water leak by the gorge that will be looked into. John Carr reviewed the water pump information with the board.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Tremper and seconded by Councilman Cook to purchase submersible pumps as recommended by engineer John Carr pending approval of Bruce Stone with the Health Department. *All in favor.*

A motion was made by Councilwoman Tremper and seconded by Councilman Cook to accept the Water District report as given by Superintendent of Public Works Woods.

All in favor.

Recreation Report:

Superintendent of Public Works Woods reported that youth baseball starts next week with approximately 100 kids participating on Tuesdays and Thursdays. They will need to use 6 fields to accommodate the extra enrollment. The insurance forms for the Amateur Sports Policy has been completed and the health forms are almost done. He is still working on cleaning up the park for the season.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Tremper and seconded by Councilman Cook to accept the Recreation report as given by Superintendent of Public Works Woods.

All in favor.

Privilege of the Floor:

Evelyn Burkett, President of the Parishville Hilltoppers Senior Citizen Club, who was accompanied by 6 members of the club, addressed the board. She gave information about the monthly dances that are held here in Parishville. She said she feels the attendance is down due to the fact that the upstairs is not handicap accessible. She said that a chair lift for the stairs has been given to the club if it could be used here in the Town Hall. She also distributed information on lift chairs and an elevator that could be purchased to make the Town Hall more accessible to people with handicaps. There was discussion among the board about how this would also be useful for the court. She reported that the Hilltoppers Club will try to raise some money for this project and will report back to the board at a later date with the progress made. She also asked the board to revise the monthly payment given to the Senior Citizen Club that helps pay for the entertainment at the dances held here in the town hall.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Tremper and Councilwoman Robinson to issue a monthly check made payable directly to the Hilltopper Senior Citizen Club to pay for the entertainment at the monthly dances. *All in favor.*

There was discussion among the board and members of the audience about insurance issues at the fireman’s field and also within the town. Ed Cool informed the board that he is the new Fire Chief for the Parishville Fire Department and offered any help with cutting the heating costs at the fire station to help with next year’s budget and any other issues that may come up. He also expressed interest in putting information about the fire department on the website.

Business

a)

A motion was made by Councilman Votra and seconded by Councilwoman Tremper to adopt the following **Resolution #09-2008:**

WHEREAS, the 6.37 acre land parcel, with Parishville tax map number 78.002-1-85 and Hopkinton tax map number 78.002-6-1 that is owned by the Town of Parishville, located on the northern side of State Highway 72 between Parishville and Hopkinton, was deemed surplus to the town in the year 2007;

WHEREAS, this parcel was put out for sale by auction on March 28, 2007 with no bids offered;

NOW, THEREBY, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the offer of \$3500.00 presented by Charlie LaShombe be accepted for said property with the buyer responsible for all closing costs.

- Supervisor Moore- Aye
- Councilwoman Robinson- Aye
- Councilwoman Tremper- Aye
- Councilman Votra- Aye
- Councilman Cook- Aye

Resolution adopted.

b) The proposed ATV laws were discussed. There is a public hearing for these laws tentatively set for May 28, 2008 at 7:00 PM

c) Building permit fees were discussed and Councilman Votra will form a committee with CEO Rodenhouse and Sherry Remington to further work on this issue.

d) The following Resolutions were discussed and passed:

**Town of Parishville
Resolution 05-2008
Preservation of Local Taxation on Certain Lands Owned
By the State of New York**

WHEREAS, a recent New York State Supreme Court decision (*Dillenburg v. State*, 2007 N.Y. Slip Op. 27548) held that the current provisions of law authorizing taxation of certain state land are unconstitutional; and

WHEREAS, stopping the State of New York from paying real property taxes on lands owned by the State would have a devastating economic impact on many local governments and school districts across the state, including, but not limited to, those located within the Adirondack and Catskill Parks; and

WHEREAS, local taxpayers would lose more than \$69 million in annual revenue in the Adirondack Park and nearly \$12 million in annual revenue in the Catskill Park, currently paid by the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, the State authorized acquisition of private lands in the Adirondack and Catskill Parks as a benefit to all state residents and, as such, bears the responsibility for sharing in the continued costs associated with those properties, such as road maintenance and local emergency response protection; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of all taxpayers, local governments and school districts across the state that the Legislature develop a uniform policy for the taxation of state-owned lands while preserving the existing authority to do so as provided by law;

RESOLVED, that the Town of Parishville supports the present authority for the taxation of certain state lands, particularly in the Adirondack and Catskill Parks, and further urges the State to develop a uniform policy for the taxation of other state lands.

Supervisor Moore- Aye
Councilwoman Robinson- Aye
Councilwoman Tremper- Aye
Councilman Cook- Aye
Councilman Votra- Aye
Resolution adopted.

**Town of Parishville
Resolution 06-2008**

**Preserve and Strengthen Local Government's Role in the
Siting of Energy Generation Facilities**

WHEREAS, the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) adopted a new renewable energy policy which includes Wind Energy Facilities (WEFs) on September 22,2004 that requires 25 percent of the state's electricity to be supplied from renewable energy sources by 2013; and

WHEREAS, the proper regulation of the siting and installation of WEF's is necessary for the purpose of protecting the health, safety, and welfare of neighboring property owners and the general public; and

WHEREAS, WEFs have the potential to cause significant aesthetic, environmental, and quality of life impacts if not properly sited, because of their large size, lighting, noise and shadow flicker effects; and

WHEREAS, local governments have successfully developed, implemented and administered local WEFs siting laws and policies with the input and guidance of local taxpayers, residents, business and agricultural representatives, environmentalists, energy generators, planners and lawyers; and

WHEREAS, Article X of the Public Service Law (PSL), which set forth the siting procedure to construct and operate major power generation facilities with a capacity of 80 megawatts or more expired December 31, 2002 thereby requiring electric generating project developers to undergo local zoning review and environmental review pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law); **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED, the Town of Parishville calls upon the Governor, State Legislature and State Agencies to develop new laws and regulation that will preserve local authority over the siting of WEFs and that will provide local government officials from a host municipality with a seat on the New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment (Siting Board).

Supervisor Moore- Aye
Councilwoman Robinson- Aye
Councilwoman Tremper- Aye
Councilman Cook- Aye
Councilman Votra- Aye
Resolution adopted.

**Town of Parishville
Resolution 07-2008**

Protect and Strengthen Home Rule

WHEREAS, beginning in 1894 the people of the State of New York have voted repeatedly to approve Constitutional provisions granting broad home rule powers to local governments and corresponding restrictions on the State Legislature to preserve these powers: and

WHEREAS, home rule powers encompass a wide range of subjects including but not limited to: the power to adopt, amend and repeal local laws in the exercise of its functions, powers and duties; the power to share services and act cooperatively with other local governments, the power to acquire real and personal property for its corporate purposes; the power to establish recreational facilities and; the power to dispose of its real and personal property; the power to levy and collect rents, charges, fees and penalties; in a city, village or town, the power to adopt, amend and repeal zoning regulations; and the power to perform comprehensive or other planning work relating to its jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the exercise of these powers permits local government leaders to meet the unique and diverse needs of local residents while fostering citizen participation and grassroots involvement in government; and

WHEREAS, New York's diverse communities are best served by honoring the principles of home rule as set forth in the State Constitution, Local Government Bill of Rights, Statute of Local Government and Municipal Home Rule Law; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED that the **Town of Parishville calls upon our state leaders to preserve and strengthen home rule; and BE IT FURTHER**

RESLOVED that the **Town of Parishville will strongly oppose any state initiative to eliminate or weaken New York's long-standing tradition of home rule and local government authority.**

Supervisor Moore- Aye
Councilwoman Robinson- Aye
Councilwoman Tremper- Aye
Councilman Cook- Aye
Councilman Votra- Aye

Resolution adopted.

Assessor's Report:

Assessor Chairman Ferguson reported that the yearly work has been completed and the roll is ready to run. The letters that are sent to taxpayers that have an increase in assessment are ready to be mailed and 16 hours of grievance have been scheduled. The vacancy on the BAR committee was discussed. This vacancy will not be filled this year because of the time constraints and will be advertised next fall and a member will be appointed at the organizational meeting in January 2009.

A motion was made by Councilman Votra and seconded by Councilwoman Tremper to accept the Assessor's report as given by Assessor Chairman Ferguson.

All in favor.

Highway Report:

The agreement with St. Lawrence County to spend Highway Funds was signed by the Supervisor and the board. This will be sent to the County and a copy will be retained on file in the Town Clerk's Office. Highway Superintendent Remington reported that the County wants to take care of the problem on County Route 47 at the end of May. The rising cost of black top was discussed. Councilwoman Tremper thanked Mr. Remington for his help with the sign on the Old Potsdam Parishville Road.

A motion was made by Councilman Votra and seconded by Councilwoman Robinson to accept the Highway report as given by Highway Superintendent Remington.

All in favor.

Bills:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Tremper and seconded by Councilman Votra to accept the bills and transfer as follows:

1. General Account Bills - \$60,658.98
2. Highway Account Bills - \$37,474.48
3. Water District No. 1 Bills - \$578.37
4. Highway Equipment - \$88,401.25
5. Payrolls:
 - General:** 03/28/08 (\$6,779.45), 04/04/08 (\$3,150.13), 04/11/08 (\$6,430.56), 04/18/08 (\$2,423.98)
 - Highway:** 03/28/08 (\$8,707.44), 04/04/08 (\$7,349.65), 04/11/08 (\$7,467.68), 04/18/08 (\$7,333.14)
 - Water:** 04/18/08 (\$801.78)

HIGHWAY FUND TRANSFERS

FROM: **GENERAL REPAIRS CONTRACTUAL** – 5110.4DA - \$9,720.57

TO: **SNOW REMOVAL CONTRACTUAL** – 5142.4DA - \$9,720.57

(Road Salt, Diesel & Gas)

All in favor.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Robinson and seconded by Councilman Cook to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 PM.

All in favor.

Meeting Dates:

Next Audit Date May 27, 2008 Auditors: Councilwoman Robinson, Councilman Votra

Next Meeting Date: May 28, 2008

Public Hearing 7:00 PM and regular meeting 7:30 PM

Connie Maguire
Town Clerk