

Westmoreland Town Board
Regular Meeting
February 14, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Westmoreland Town Board was called to order at 7:02 P.M., February 14, 2011, by Supervisor Gregory Sydoriw, at the Westmoreland Town Hall, 100 Station Road, Westmoreland, New York, with the following Board members present; Councilpersons Kenneth Eisnor, Charles Hebbard, David Husted and Hubert Pritchard. Also present were Deputy Highway Superintendent Russell Young, Codes Enforcement Officer Terry Williamson, Sole Assessor Bernard Szarek, Attorney for the Town Gregory Mattacola, County Legislator George Joseph and three (3) Town residents.

The Supervisor asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. After the Pledge, Supervisor Sydoriw recessed the regular meeting to allow comments from the floor. There being no one wishing to speak, he reconvened to the regular meeting and asked for the County Legislator's report.

County Legislator George Joseph reported that Dave Wood had a hip replacement last week. County Legislator Joseph is chair of the Reapportionment Committee. He reported that they are following closely the recommendations from the Charter Reform Committee. Attorney Mattacola served on that committee. He said that his committee is using Census Data, and that data for the Town's would be coming out in March.

The Attorney is looking over the Shared Services agreement. County Legislator Joseph asked that it be returned by May 25, 2011 for County Board approval. The Roadside mowing agreement is for mowing two (2) times during the season. The Town of Westmoreland mowed three (3) times last season. Supervisor Sydoriw offered to include a County Legislators report in our agenda.

County Legislator Joseph stated the new sheriff is reaching out to the Towns, he stated that the new uniforms for the Sheriffs' Department are all black.

The Supervisor thanked the County Legislator for his report and asked for the Highway report.

Deputy Highway Superintendent Russell Young was questioned by Councilperson Pritchard as to who send the trucks out. Councilperson Pritchard spoke of a day with the sun out and snow melting, trucks were leaving the garage at 11:00 A.M., when a run would take 3 1/2-4 hours to complete. Supervisor Sydoriw spoke of one part time person who had 14 1/2 hours of O.P.P. The Supervisor also spoke of cleaning the bridges. Deputy Highway Superintendent Young said that the bridges will be cleaned. The Highway Department has been moving snow piles. Councilperson Eisnor will call the Highway Superintendent tomorrow. Deputy Young stated that the Town has never cleaned the Thruway bridges.

The Supervisor asked for the Assessor's report. Sole Assessor Bernard Szarek reported that the exemptions are coming in. He is about three (3) weeks behind on the fieldwork. He will be gathering data at Camelot this week. He stated that he will be going to class at Jefferson Community College, Tug Hill Commission in March.

Codes Enforcement Officer Terry Williamson spoke of Tony's Pizza opening. They are still installing outside lights. He stated that he will issue a certificate of compliance when the snow melts. Mr. Christiano will install a pad for the dumpsters to the rear of the property when weather permits. He was asked about the burned house on State Route 26, which was replaced. Councilperson Pritchard questioned why there was no septic permit issued. The Codes Officer said that they used the old/original septic system and relocated the pipes.

Senior Library Clerk Riley McFadden reported that in January we loaned out 1,296 items and purchased twenty-five (25) new books for \$361.02. We received four (4) boxes of junior books. Volunteers are checking our shelves to see if we have them, if not they are cataloging the items and adding to the shelves. Duplicates were given to Dawn McLellan for a special needs class in Rome. The Supervisor thanked Mrs. McFadden for her report and requested the Attorney's report.

Supervisor Sydoriw stated that Jeff Hanrahan will be repairing the shut-off valve(s) in front of the "old" diner. Ted Flint believes that the valve was damaged during the landscaping in front of the "old" diner.

Attorney for the Town Gregory Mattacola reported that he is revising and finishing up the final draft of the Zoning Ordinance. He has reviewed the Shared Services Agreement and suggested several changes to Dennis Davis. He spoke of the need by the Lowell Fire Department, for consent to dissolution, from the Town Board of incorporated Towns. The assets of the fire department will be divided up among several non-profit organizations.

34 After a brief discussion, a motion to consent to the dissolution of the Lowell Fire Department, was advanced by Councilperson Hebbard and seconded by Councilperson Pritchard. All Board members voted AYE and the Supervisor declared the motion carried.

Discussion continued on the Planned Development Law. This will be an addendum to the new Zoning ordinance. Attorney Mattacola spoke of the sidewalks and the fire hydrants; which, by Town Law; should be cleared by the Town. Assessor Szarek, who is also one of the Fire Commissioners, said that the Fireman do this as one of their practices. The Attorney was thanked by the Supervisor, who asked for the Town Clerk's report.

Town Clerk Beverly Merriman reported that in January, the Town Clerk's office sold five (5) new dog licenses and renewed seventy-one(71) individual dog licenses and one (1)

purebred licenses, for \$559.00. The State's share was \$114.00, to Ag and Markets for spaying and neutering program and the Town's commission was \$445.

Sales of hunting and fishing licenses (DECALS) totaled \$29.00. The Town realized \$1.60.

We issued thirteen (13) certified copies for \$130.00.

There were ten (10) handicapped permits issued or renewed during the month.

We hosted the Westmoreland Community Red Cross Blood Drive on January 8, 2011, which was very, very successful. Double Red donations totaled eight (8) units for the day, plus 40 units of whole blood. We had a terrific turnout and had to turn one donor away, because the Red Cross had used all the packs that they had brought with them.

On February 18, 2011, the AARP will be at the Town Hall 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, to do free Tax returns for senior citizens and low income persons.

The Town Clerk attended an Oneida County Town Clerk's Association meeting in Whitestown, on February 4, 2011.

Our next Community Blood Drive is scheduled for March 5, 2011, 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM.

I would ask that the Town Board authorize the Town Clerk to attend the New York State Town Clerk's Association Conference, May 1, 2011 thru May 4, 2011, at the Adam's Mark, in Buffalo, New York.

The Board asked if the Clerk's budget would cover the cost of the conference. The Clerk stated that there was money in the budget to cover her attendance.

35 A motion to authorize the Town Clerk's attendance at the conference in Buffalo was advanced by Councilperson Hebbard and seconded by Councilperson Husted. All Board members voted AYE and the Supervisor declared the motion carried.

The Supervisor requested comments from the Board.

Councilperson Hebbard spoke of the cuts to aid for the Tug Hill Commission. He spoke of an upcoming meeting at the Town of Lee with SOCCOG and Tug Hill Commission. Discussion was held on cuts by New York State. Oneida County was cut 15%. Councilperson Pritchard said that he applauds the cuts.

Councilpersons Eisnor and Hebbard handed out notices about cleaning the sidewalks. Supervisor Sydoriw stated that the Town should purchase a bobcat to clean the snow from the sidewalks. Councilperson Hebbard is not in favor of a bobcat.

Councilperson Eisnor stated that the Town enacted a law about sidewalks and should enforce it. He believes that the Town should contract with a lawn service to mow the Town properties.

Councilperson Husted spoke of cleaning the bridges and sidewalks of built up snow and cleaning out the fire hydrant areas.

Councilperson Pritchard stated that the Highway Superintendent is \$46,000.00 under in budgeted carryover, to start the New Year. He said that big cuts will need to be made to road work. He has only \$6,000.00 for machinery purchases. He feels that it was presumptive to say that the sidewalks had been voted on to be repaired.

36 Supervisor Sydoriw advanced a motion to authorize him signing the General Codes Codification proposal. A bid/proposal from Muni-Codes was outlined. Councilperson Hebbard seconded the motion. Councilpersons Hebbard, Eisnor, Husted and the Supervisor voted AYE, Councilperson Pritchard voted NAY. Supervisor Sydoriw declared the motion carried.

No bids will be advertised for Town wide mowing.

The Rome Humane Society Agreement will be changed by the Town Attorney. After discussion the Supervisor tabled items B-Highway Agreement, C- Town-wide mowing bid, D- Rome Humane Society Agreement.

New Business; Shared Services and Equipment Agreement tabled.

37 Discussion on Time Warner Franchise Fees. A motion was advanced by Councilperson Pritchard and seconded by Councilperson Eisnor to authorize the Supervisor's clerk, Vikki Parent, to obtain a complete list from Time Warner Cable of those customers who pay franchise fees. All Board members voted AYE and the Supervisor declared the motion carried.

Discussion was held on a proposed contract to be signed by users of the Town Park; tabled.

There were no budget modifications.

There were no appointments.

38 A motion to accept the Supervisor's, Town Clerk's and Codes reports was advanced by Councilperson Hebbard and seconded by Councilperson Pritchard. All Board members voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

39 A motion to accept the minutes of January 2, 2011 and January 10, 2011, as written and the minutes of January 25, 2011; as added to; was advanced by

Supervisor Sydoriw and seconded by Councilperson Hebbard. All Board members voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

40 A motion to approve and order paid the Highway Fund claims 15 through 37; which total \$35,633.27; was advanced by Councilperson Hebbard and seconded by Councilperson Eisnor. All Board members voted AYE and the Supervisor declared the motion carried.

41 A motion to approve and order paid the General Fund vouchers, 27 through 71; which total \$30,473.84; was advanced by Councilperson Pritchard and seconded by Councilperson Husted. All Board members voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

41 A motion to approve and order paid the following water claims;
Tindall Consolidated Water District claim #1 which totals \$ 380.00
Spencer Settlement Water District claim #2 which totals \$ 90.00
Westmoreland Water District claims 8 -11 which total \$2,885.47
Was advanced by Councilperson Husted and seconded by Councilperson Eisnor.
All Board members voted AYE and the Supervisor declared the motion carried.

43 A motion to approve and order paid the Martin Drive Sewer Claim #1; which totals \$14,864.10; was advanced by Councilperson Pritchard and seconded by Councilperson Eisnor. All Board members voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

Supervisor Sydoriw stated that the next regular meeting will be March 14, 2011. Deputy Supervisor Eisnor will preside.

44 A motion was advanced by Councilperson Hebbard and seconded by Councilperson Eisnor, to adjourn this meeting. All Board members vote AYE and Supervisor Sydoriw declared the meeting adjourned at 9:46 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly J. Merriman
Town Clerk

Communications Received:

1. American Farmland Trust Planning for Agriculture, February 16, 2011, Webinar
2. Oneida County Department of Finance, auction properties
3. NYS Tug Hill Commission 22nd Annual Conference, March 31, 2011-jefferson Community College.
4. NYS DMV Handicapped Parking Permits issued 2010-110.
5. LCRMIF- Shared Services Grant- Digital Towpath
6. NYS Thruway Authority- request for insurance forms

7. Subpoena Duces Tecum- Family Court- NYS

Checks Received:

1. Camelot Village	water	\$ 6,695.76
2. COVAC	fuel	\$ 2,515.57
3. Stanwix Heights VFD	fuel	\$ 698.08
4. Westmoreland Justice Court	Judge Bowers- Jan	\$ 6,470.00
5. Westmoreland Central School	fuel	\$ 8,351.15
6. Westmoreland Tax Collector		
	SL1-	\$1,350.00
	SL2-	\$1,625.00
	SL3-	\$7,900.00
	SS1-	\$14,500.00
	SW1-	\$18,000.00
	Westmoreland Fire District-	\$569,495.00
		\$612,870.00
7. Clark Mills Fire District	fuel	\$ 182.52
8. Westmoreland Justice Court	Judge Ossont-Jan	\$ 6,937.50
9. County of Oneida	Mortgage Tax- Sept 2010	\$ 49,503.40
10. NY Municipal Insurance	Reciprocal	\$ 1,449.32
11. County of Oneida	snow control	\$ 88,541.25
12. Westmoreland Justice Court	Judge Ossont - Feb	\$ 6,531.00