

CLERMONT TOWN BOARD

SEPTEMBER 4, 2007

The Clermont Town Board held its regular meeting on Tuesday, September 4, 2007 at 7:00 P.M. due to the Labor Day Holiday. The meeting was called to order by Deputy Harry Harned. Those present were Deputy Supervisor Harry Harned, Councilwoman Lent, Councilman Staats and Councilman Nolan. Others present were: Robert Desmond, Charles Larsen, Dick Jones, Bruce Unson, Tammy Connolly, Ray Tousey, Elizabeth Mahar, Richard Roth of the Independent, Judith Neary, Dagmar Payne, Randy Bloom and George Davis.

A motion was made by Councilman Nolan, seconded by Councilman Staats to approve the minutes for August. All in favor. So carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Town Clerks report - Checks in the amount of \$344.93 for general fund and \$1758.99 for Trust & Agency were received. A motion was made to accept the Clerk's report by Councilwoman Lent, seconded by Councilman Staats. All in favor. So carried.
- Budget reports through August 31, 2007 were distributed to board members.
- The Columbia and Greene County Planning Boards are sponsoring training sessions on Monday, September 17 in Greene County and Monday, September 24th in Columbia County for planning, zoning and municipal boards.
- Town of Milan – Notice of public hearing on September 10 at 6:45 P.M. on a proposed local law to amend the zoning maps at Milan Town Hall.
- NYS Office of Comptroller – Received a check for second quarter revenues in the amount of \$2,093.00 for town's share of fines, fees and forfeitures.
- NYS Emergency Management Office – Received check in the amount \$9,233.87 for reimbursement for costs associated with flooding in April. Supervisor Banks and Superintendent Potts worked on the report in order to get reimbursed.
- Germantown Library - thanking the Town for the annual contribution of \$3000.00.
- Received a thank you card from Mrs. William (Beatrice) Banks and family for flowers and the presentation of the resolution and flags received at the July board meeting in Bill's memory.
- Certificate of Attendance for Amandus Fuchs for attending a Planning training session in July in Hyde Park.
- NYS Department of State Shared Services Incentive Grant Program – There is available funding for towns who promote shared services. Superintendent Potts would like to apply for a grant with the Towns of Livingston and Germantown to purchase a used paver with grant money. The deadline for filing is December 14th. Superintendent Potts thinks a used paver can be secured for about \$25,000.00.
- NYS Troopers – Received a letter and brochure informing that the NYS Troopers are accepting applications for upcoming Trooper examination.
- Councilman Nolan received a letter from Kirsten Gillibrand regarding our inquiry on monitors at Germantown Central School. Councilman Nolan stated that Representative Gillibrand has investigated the DEC criteria, which was originally

established to place the monitors. The monitors did not find any contaminant levels so monitoring was ceased.

- Dan Wheelers office is working with John Borst of NYS GIS on an application to enable data sharing for mapping on our website.
- Councilwoman Lent received a letter from the Glynwood Center that they will be holding their 2007 Harvest Award to Farmers on October 22nd. Tickets are \$150 per person. The deadline has passed, but Councilwoman Lent will check to see if it is possible to get someone in still at this date, so that a representative from Clermont can attend.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- The Board has interviewed six applicants for the position of sole assessor, replacing Peter Ostrander who will retire at the end of his term, September 30, 2007. The board will be entering into executive session later in the meeting to discuss the appointment.
- Budget Sessions – The board will hold a budget session on Thursday, September 20th at 6:30 P.M. and a second date if needed will be on Monday September 24th at 6:30 P.M. These sessions are open to the public; public comment will be taken at the public hearing.

OLD BUSINESS:

- CT Male update – Status report of 8/22/07 - Draft remedial investigation is nearing completion. C. T. Male was to meet with DEC on September 6 or 7th to go over work plan, but this was changed to September 11th. They will discuss remediation options and timeline. Once the technical details are worked out, the plans will be sent to the Town. A public hearing will be scheduled, and there will be a forty-five day period for public comment, after which time a decision will be made as to which plan is accepted.
- Highway Garage – A special meeting was held on August 20th regarding a new town highway garage and its location. Questions were asked about whether or not the remediation project on the former Hettling property would have any effect on the highway garage going forward. Deputy Supervisor Harned has spoken to Kurt Moline and there should be no effect on the planning phase. A motion was made by Councilman Nolan, seconded by Councilman Staats that the present Highway Garage, which is in dangerous condition, should be replaced, with a location to be discussed. All in favor. So carried.
- Update on Town Meeting Filming – Councilman Nolan (Correction: S/B Deputy Supervisor Harned) reported that Valstar requires VHS Format for filming. The meetings are broadcast for a week. It was suggested not purchasing equipment until after 1st of year because the format may be changing.
- Keep Farming Grant – Update from Councilwoman Lent and Judith Neary – The Keep Farming Social will be held on Saturday, November 3rd at 6:30 P.M. at the Activity Building at Palatine Park in Germantown with local foods prepared from local produce and beverages also. There will be a barbecue at Gigi's market near Grieg's Farm on September 7th at 7:00 P.M. Farmers are free and anyone else who

brings a pie. Judy will have a table at the event. Also, a concert will be held in Manhattan on September 9th to promote food.

- Village Green Report – Tammy Connolly, Chairperson of the Village Green Barbecue reported that over 300 were fed plus workers at the September 11th barbecue. They realized a profit of approximately \$2000.00. Every year they put some of the money to use and this year they have made a decision to donate to the Rueben Fieser Scholarship Fund. She did have a comment about the water at the Community House appearing oily when using it to fill pans. They did use bottled water instead but asked if the water had been tested. Councilwoman Lent did have a water test done prior to the barbecue and results were back on the Thursday preceding the barbecue.
- Councilman Nolan asked about the status of the road in the Ackerman subdivision on Route 9 wanting to know if the road has been finished and the status of the bond.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The NYS Planning Federation is holding its conference in Saratoga Springs on October 8, 9 and 10. One member of the Planning Board, Dianne O'Neal and Mary Helen Shannon, Planning Secretary and two members of the Zoning Board of Appeals, Robert Desmond and Bruce Unson would like to attend. The cost is \$144.00 for three for two days with lunch and \$107.00 for one day. A motion was made to approve for four members to attend by Councilman Nolan, seconded by Councilman Staats. All in favor. So carried.
- A motion was made by Councilman Nolan, seconded by Councilwoman Lent to pass a resolution to pursue the Shared Services Grant.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS:

George Davis asked who has done the water test for the Community House. Smith Labs did the tests. Mr. Davis said they must be checked because there are all over the place with what they test. Dick Jones said that a comprehensive test is typically done on new wells. Mr. Jones also asked who put in the well, and if the housing got sealed all the way up the shaft. The problem on the day of the barbecue sounds like surface contamination. Hanson Well Drillers did the well.

George Davis commented that the west wall of the Community House is still not finished, there is an open area at top. Cupola is not finished. At last months meeting, the comment was made that it was facia board, which was missing on the northwest side of the building and an open area on cupola. Councilwoman Lent explained that the east and west walls were not done all the way to the top, boards were replaced part of the way up. The north and south walls were completely done, as that was what the grant was written for.

Robert Desmond -New Road off Cemetery Road is higher than lowest point of the road. Dan Wheeler and Jim Potts are aware of it. Bob is also concerned that the filming of the meetings may have an effect on those who may want to comment and some may feel

intimidated. Also, there is the possibility that some might grandstand for the camera. Councilman Nolan noted that a resolution was passed by the Town of Germantown prior to starting the filming of the Town Board meetings. May have to talk to attorney to have some statement prior to the start of filming.

Charles Larsen – Mr. Ackerman was supposed to extend a pipe into the resident's driveway to alleviate a runoff problem, but it does not appear that anything has been done.

Dagmar Payne asked if there would be a public hearing for surrounding residents or would the information be shared at a public meeting on the report from CT Male to DEC. Yes, there will be a public informational hearing. Also, when the water test was done, was there a chain of custody and was the sample picked up the lab. Jim Potts took the water sample and Councilwoman Lent took it to the lab. Also, Ms. Payne asked about the pedestals in the Community House for the historian's use. Are they going to be used and did they cost \$2000. Deputy Supervisor Harned will look into the cost.

Richard Jones stated that most well plans have to be approved by the Columbia County Health Department. Water is tested to prove that it is safe for public consumption. Councilwoman Lent believes that additional paperwork was completed for the health department by Dan Wheelers office.

Richard Jones asked if the town is still utilizing two shared driveways in our zoning. Councilwoman Lent said that we might be going to three shared driveways in the future. Charles Larsen said you still have to own the fifty feet on a shared driveway.

Tammy Connolly also reported that she has spoken to Carol, Harry and Ray about several items missing from the Community House after the barbecue, such as a cooler, the swimming pool with toys and five seating planks. Tammy was thankful for all donated items and noted that Dagmar Payne negotiated good prices for food items. Joan Buser does a great job getting donated items for the raffle and door prizes.

A motion was made by Councilman Nolan, seconded by Councilman Staats to move into executive session at 8:20 P.M. to discuss personnel issues.

A motion was made to come out of executive session by Councilman Staats, seconded by Councilman Nolan at 8:40 P.M.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lent, seconded by Councilman Staats to appoint Henry M. Greenhouse to a six year appointment as Sole Assessor, term of October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2013 at a salary of \$12,000 for budget year 2007 and 2008. All in favor. So carried.

Community House: Councilwoman Lent emailed Marilyn Kaplan regarding work done on the Community House. Any work is guaranteed for a year. Marilyn Kaplan also recommended putting gutters on Community House, plain white, aluminum or copper. (Delete: with the cheapest bid \$500 or \$600.) Councilman Nolan said there are leaders but no gutters on west wall. Councilwoman Lent brought up the matter of gutters prior to finishing Community House work, via suggestion made by Marilyn Kaplan. The board agreed to a visual inspection on Thursday, August 20th to try to resolve this situation.

Deputy Supervisor Harned gave copies of bank statements to the board.

A motion was made by Councilman Nolan, seconded by Councilman Staats to approve Trust and Agency abstract #8 in the amount of \$720.00 for payment. All in favor. So carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Nolan, seconded by Councilman Staats to approve Highway abstract #9 in the amount of \$28,294.99 for payment. All in favor. So carried. Councilman Nolan asked for an accounting of all monies spent for Highway Garage to date.

A motion was made by Councilman Nolan, seconded by Councilman Staats to approve General fund abstract #9 in the amount of \$15463.60 for payment. All in favor. So carried.

A motion was made to adjourn by Councilman Staats, seconded by Councilman Nolan at 9:00 P.M. All in favor. So carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Helen Shannon, RMC
Town Clerk