

July 21, 2015

The regular Town Board meeting of the Town of Stony Creek was held on July 21, 2015.

Supervisor Frank Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM with members present:

Councilman Nathan Thomas

Councilwoman Doreen Ryan

Councilman John Thomas

Councilman Carl Thomas

Attorney James Cooper

June 16, 2015 minutes; corrections;

Page 43 insert Temporary Revocable Permit. Page 45 take out North Country insert Adirondack Gateway Council. Page 46 Resolution 84 change to 3rd Annual Ranch, Rodeos and Wranglers event to be held on Sunday July 26, 2015. Page 50 insert the Library and Youth Program.

A motion was made by Councilman Nathan Thomas seconded by Councilwoman Ryan to accept the June 16, 2015 minutes with these corrections. All in favor, motion carried.

086-15. A resolution was made by Councilman Nathan Thomas seconded by Councilman John Thomas to pay the General Fund bills in the amount of \$12,735.47. Roll call vote, all in favor.

087-15. A resolution was made by Councilman John Thomas seconded by Councilwoman Ryan to pay the Highway Fund bills in the amount of \$19,004.83. Roll call vote, all in favor.

088-15. A resolution was made by Councilman Carl Thomas seconded by Supervisor Thomas to pay the Fire Fund bills in the amount of \$10,260.68. All in favor, all in favor.

Town Clerk report:

Faxes	\$ 13.00
Marriage License	17.50
Copies	<u>3.25</u>
Total Town Clerk Fees	\$ 33.75
Dog Licenses	<u>40.00</u>
Total Town Revenues to Supervisor	\$ 73.75
NYS Ag and Markets	8.00
NYS Dept. of Health	<u>22.50</u>
Total Disbursed	\$104.25

Correspondence:

Dog Control Log- June 2015

Elizabeth Smith – permission to use the town Pavilion July 18th for a Birthday Party.

Stony Creek Community Church-permission to use the Town Pavilion Sunday August 2nd from 11:30 AM until 2:00 PM for a picnic.

Kay Clarke-permission to use the town pavilion Sunday August 16th from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM for a Family Picnic.

Bonnie Bills- permission to use the park pavilion August 22, 2015 for a fundraiser for Sasha Blake who is battling Ovarian Cancer.

Stony Creek Free Library- requesting Occupancy Tax funds in the amount of \$350.00 to cover expenses of a live band and advertising for the Plein Air Trail Art Exhibition August 28th, 2015.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ryan seconded by Councilman Carl Thomas authorizing the following to use the Town Pavilion:

Elizabeth Smith – permission to use the town Pavilion July 18th for a Birthday Party.

Stony Creek Community Church-permission to use the Town Pavilion Sunday August 2nd from 11:30 AM until 2:00 PM for a picnic.

Kay Clarke-permission to use the town pavilion Sunday August 16th from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM for a Family Picnic.

Bonnie Bills- permission to use the park pavilion August 22, 2015 for a fundraiser for Sasha Blake who is battling Ovarian Cancer. All in favor, motion carried

A motion was made by Councilman Carl Thomas seconded by Councilwoman Ryan authorizing the following to use the town Pavilion:

Tyler Logan on July 25, 2015 for a Birthday Party

Rebecca Willett July 26, 2015 for a Birthday Party. All in favor, motion carried.

Supervisor Thomas suggested charging a fee and setting rules for the use of the park pavilion for the out of towners. This will be tabled until the August meeting.

Old Business:

Workplace Harassment:

Attorney Cooper summarized the policy. 90% of this work is the county's policy on Sexual Harassment and the parts of it that are new, relate to sanctions for violations of the terms of the policy and the procedure for handling these matters within. The Highway Dept. is the main employer of the town and what do we do if it happens to be the Supervisor who is the harasser. There is a provision in here for that. Also a provision for the appointment of committee of the Board and try to name one woman at least, if they have an Elected Board Member who is a woman, to serve on this committee. Assuming most forms of harassment, at least in a historic experience, are women. So there would be some sensitivity there. The committee would be appointed by the Supervisor and would act like as an Appeal Board. If the complainant or the person accused didn't feel the determination of the dept. head, in most cases would be the Highway Supt., was fair then it would be bounced up to this committee and if they voted by majority that there was merit in the complaint then it would go to the board, then the town board would resolve it by Executive Session. The reason it turns out that the county policy doesn't have a schedule sanction is because the employees at the county are largely govern by Section 75 or Article 75 of the Civil Service Law and it doesn't apply here in Stony Creek.

That would cover the county employees except for a few exceptions like Mr. Auffredou, the County Attorney. He has an appointed position and he felt for those people in the county they would be govern by the disciplinary procedures in the Public Offices Law if they weren't govern by Section 75 of the Civil Service Law. Here the Highway Dept. Contract says specifically Section 75 doesn't apply. But it does have disciplinary procedures outlined in the contract, the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Highway Department. Therefore if it was a case of harassment that arose in the Highway Dept. ultimately the sanctions would come out of the sanctions outlined in the Collective Bargaining Agreement. The members of the Highway Dept. would still be govern by the Workplace Harassment Policy but the actual punishment or scale of punishment would be determined by the Collective Bargaining Unit Agreement and that leaves very few people. The necessity for this is communicated to us by the town's insurances company. It says they want us to do something because without it, apparently they feel more exposed and sometimes it's hard to get insurance. As we found out in years past. So we try to accommodate them. Also this whole subject area is govern by the Civil Rights Law of the State of New York which is found in the Executive Law so the town has an obligation to comply with that regardless of what the insurance company says.

Councilman Nathan Thomas suggested Section 4: Process for Reporting Harassment Complaints: take out "Complaints may be made verbally, however it is recommended that the employee submit a statement in writing" and put in "Complaints shall be made in writing."

089-15. A resolution was made by Councilwoman Ryan seconded by Councilman John Thomas To adopt the Town of Stony Creek Plan and Program on Workplace Harassment. Roll call vote, Councilman Carl Thomas-abstained, Councilman John Thomas-yes, Councilman Nathan Thomas-Yes, Councilwoman Ryan-Yes, Supervisor Thomas-Yes.

Gill Bridge:

Supervisor Thomas stated he met with Mr. Suozzo from Cedarwood. He really didn't give him an estimate. What he did was some research and gave him a folder he put together and letters he acquired from 1975-1990 from the State Inspection Sheets. The bridge does have a VIN number. The 1983 inspection report, posted bridges. Mr. Suozzo has on the sheet the primary owners is the county. Supervisor Thomas passed the folder for the Board Members to look at. Supervisor Thomas stated it has bounced back and forth for the last 50-60 years as discussed at last month's meeting and he thinks basically it's a county bridge. To bring it up to any kind of weight, limit that would be normal, it would cost the town a consider amount of money. Unless you make the bridge wider. There really isn't any grant money eligible for it. He hasn't discussed it with Warren County DPW yet, but he thinks they own that bridge and that is his next stop. There are pictures in the folder that show supports in the middle of the bridge up to the log post.

Mr. Johnsen said that has been done many many times. Supervisor Thomas stated yes and he doesn't understand why that's not allowed anymore. Mr. Johnsen stated the State won't let you put anything in the creek. Supervisor Thomas stated three or four years ago they were dragging logs across the creek and that was on Harrisburg Road. Mr. Johnsen stated now if you want to cross the creek you have to build a bridge for logging.

Finch Pruyn will let you use one of their bridges for a period of time but it's not good for structural bridges like the Gill Bridge, it's only for creek crossing. Mr. Johnsen asked if the town was going to pursue the county on this here. Supervisor Thomas stated yes, he doesn't know what their response will be, he is sure they don't want no part of it. Mr. Johnsen stated they didn't want the responsibility of it way back. Supervisor Thomas stated from what he sees they have worked it at different times and the town has done things to it at times. It's over 25 feet so as far as he knows it belongs to and is Warren County's responsibility. Mr. Johnsen asked how this would go, have the Town Attorney contact the county. Supervisor Thomas stated he will talk to the County Highway Superintendent first and see what his response is and see how he reacts and go from there. Mr. Johnsen stated if they say we're not doing anything then and if it's a county bridge then he thinks the town should be required to push the county to take care of the bridge it's their bridge. Supervisor Thomas agreed. Mr. Johnsen stated when he first brought the property 42 years ago it was a county bridge. It had a state plaque on it for a long time then the State came by and said this is a private bridge and they don't inspect private bridges that's why the state plaque was taken off. He hopes the town pursues the county.

Supervisor Thomas stated it's not what the posted sheet says printed on May 17th, 2015. Mr. Johnsen stated he has crossed that bridge for 43 years and 43 year's worth of taxes, he hasn't asked much from the town. It's basically vacate land, it has a trailer on it that's not used very much. He's not getting much for his 43 years of taxes.

Carol LaGrasse stated she is curious if this was bought in front of the Warren County Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Thomas stated it hasn't in the past, he hasn't brought it yet, and he was waiting to see what Mr. Suozzo from Cedarwood had. Mrs. LaGrasse stated it would have to be put in the budget, it's a significant expense and would have to be put in the budget. Supervisor Thomas agreed and stated the county has a lot of bridges to take care of it wouldn't happen right away, it would be a couple of years. The paperwork is what Mr. Suozzo reported back to him and that's where we should go, he doesn't see why the town should, just to give an estimate of the cost, it would approximately be \$3-400,000.00 to replace it. Councilman John Thomas agreed. Mr. Johnsen asked how much it would cost to replace the bridge. Supervisor Thomas stated \$3-400,000.00. Mr. Johnsen stated look at Denecker Bridge he used to own from the other side of that bridge, that bridge is 45 feet, it has 2 foot eye beams on it and it cost \$80,000.00 to build that bridge. He doesn't see how it would cost a quarter million dollars to rebuild that bridge. Supervisor Thomas stated \$80,000.00 when. Mr. Johnsen stated he would say that was done 20 years ago. Take \$80,000.00 to quarter of a million in that short period of time would only double. It would be \$160,000.00. Councilman John Thomas stated engineer cost. Mr. Johnsen stated he hopes the town pursues it, there's nothing else he can do. Supervisor Thomas stated we will. Mr. Johnsen stated the other solution he has is he'll have to fight the assessment that's all and Peter knows that. Peter LaGrasse stated no more. Mr. Johnsen stated oh yeah, want to bet? Next time we go to court we don't even go through your office. Mr. LaGrasse stated that's all right.

Supervisor Thomas asked Supt. Bradley if he knew if DEC wouldn't let people put anything like that in the creek. Supt. Bradley stated he heard rumors they stopped letting you cross like that, but its only rumors. He would imagine he is probably right.

They don't want you to anymore. They did on the Dean Property, they crossed the stream. Supervisor Thomas stated they had logs across it. Supt. Bradley stated years ago you used to get a permit from DEC to go across it. Supervisor Thomas stated they were doing it 3-4 years ago on the turn by Tucker Road, they were going across the main creek. Councilman John Thomas stated he had permission to do that because he talked to him about it. Supt. Bradley stated Mr. Johnsen doesn't realize the embankments and all that stuff they need to do, the insurance and wages. Supervisor Thomas agreed and stated it gets expensive. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated they will put it out to bid to a company and just have it done. Supervisor Thomas stated they get nervous when they just change the steel because they don't know what the embankments are. If they put big enough steel in there the embankments aren't going to hold and it isn't going to work. We will pursue the county.

Supt. Bradley asked if he had a sheet where that was on the inventory. Supervisor Thomas stated yes, it was on the posted bridges. Region 1 posted bridges printed on May 17, 2015, NYS Bridge Data April 30, 2015. The last it was inspected was July 31, 2014. Supt. Bradley stated they have that down as a county bridge because they thought it was a county bridge. They were going by what he was saying, then they talked to Jeff and Kevin from Warren County DPW and they said absolutely no way and the State wanted a letter because they wanted to know who to send the report to if there were any defects. If they had a problem with the inspection, they need to know who to send it to. He did send a letter saying they might just as well send it to us because the county isn't going to take responsibility. Councilman John Thomas asked who inspects the bridges the town owns. Supt. Bradley stated we have a couple and didn't have to have anything done, he checks to see if they need doing. Councilman John Thomas stated the one on Wolf Pond Road. Supt. Bradley stated that's the town bridge not the county, that's not considered a bridge. Councilman John Thomas stated your're not required to have an inspection on it? Supt. Bradley stated no. Councilman Carl Thomas stated you're working on it. Supt. Bradley stated they are putting extra beams in it. They aren't taking anything out. Technically that's called a culvert. Anything under 20 feet is called a culvert. He does get a bridge report on the one on Tucker Road just above Bit N Bridle. That is the towns and they inspect it. Its 21 feet and the State inspects it anything under 20 feet is a culvert and anything over they have to get inspected. Supervisor Thomas stated they will keep pursuing this.

Edward Bartholomew was present to make a presentation.

Mr. Bartholomew is Executive Director of the Warren County Economic Development Corp., President of the Adirondack Gateway Council, former Mayor of Glens Falls and was also the former Stony Creek Town Attorney a few years ago.

Mr. Bartholomew stated the EDC (Economic Development Corp.) represents all towns, villages and cities of Warren County and just not what people might proceed to think, Glens Falls and Queensbury. They are here to work and they appear monthly at the Warren County Board of Supervisors meeting for Economic Development and they also work with the county on the opportunities for local loans, that's an important part of it because they have provided loans to small businesses in the upper parts of Warren County.

They understand businesses in Stony Creek, Thurman and North Creek. 10-15 jobs are equally important as 50-75 jobs in Queensbury and Glens Falls. Jobs are important not only to create jobs but also to retain jobs, so part of their effort meeting regularly with the Supervisors at these meetings and coming up here with presentations is to make you aware of their services and if there is an existing business that perhaps needs some assistances in terms of just not knowing where to go for some funding opportunities but more than that, if there are issues or problems they are having with permitting at the State and Federal level, certainly to assist the local town or business at looking at various grant opportunities. They are there to provide services, they work very closely with the County Planning. Wayne Lamothe and Pat Tatich have done great jobs in smaller communities in working in the First Wilderness Parks and Rec. areas and they want to continue in that particular area. Some of the projects they are working on is improving cell service. In October of this year there is substantial amount of funding for communities that have low level of service. What they have done collectively through Warren County and through the Gateway Council, which is an association of the towns and villages in Warren Washington and Northern Saratoga, Hadley, Corinth, Day, Moreau and So. Glens Falls. They have commissioned and had through a Federal Grant a study to map out in detail cell and broadband study in these counties. They will be putting this together and will be sending applications to New York State this Fall to see where they can obtain coverage. The technology is changing so fast that they are able to look at areas where they can develop pockets, just like the Town of Thurman Supervisor Wood came up with Whitespace. Whitespace is good in areas like Thurman and some areas here but really Whitespace is kind of deemed your last resort of communication at that level. So what they want to try to do is through this grant retain one of the top consultants to assist us, to look at the areas and how they can improve cell coverage in the hamlet areas as well as looking into where they can do fiber optics. One of the things that has been very helpful is through the efforts of Brian LaFlure Director of Fire and Emergency Services. They have identified a ten county area up here of all the emergency towers are or where the towers need to be for fire and police communication. They are working to see possibly where they are going to be able to connect private providers onto those particular cell towers, also feed in fiber optics and connect those into improved communication, not only for emergency purposes but also to provide to private services. There is a question on some areas of State Land, whether or not we are able to do this. They are checking that out through the Adirondack Park Agency in Albany.

One of the things that is now happening are small devices that can be places now on telephone poles in the hamlet areas, in the church steeples as well as other areas. This will improve coverage in the hamlet area. You're not going to be able to put that all through your town but in certain areas. He thinks you can get better improvement. One other thing that is developing is Prime Link and some other providers are looking at areas of how to bring fiber optics into areas that are under serviced. Prime Links have been doing a good job on the rail areas in the area. That's some of the things that's going in to the study. Then they will apply for a grant in October. The difference this year on the grant is that the money will go to the county and then they will negotiate with the providers because the problem is, that the providers are going to say we are not going to run three miles down and only get two to five customers to sign up.

This is a 2015 version of the Rule of the Reallocation Act back in the 1930's because it's needed. Tourism is a very important part and when people come up here they expect to have some kind of coverage as well as businesses. It's a matter of necessity and a matter of public safety. They are working with Warren County to work with the communities in maple syrup, cheese and other agriculture because there is an increase growth of farms in the last few years. There are a higher number of new farms being created in Warren County although Washington County is larger in dairy and also the largest producer of cheese in New York State. They have to do more to promote that. What they are looking at doing is seeing how they can develop better product line. Transportation; they are looking to do more with the rail. Saratoga, North Creek passenger train is nice with having the Christmas and people coming up from the city but one thing they are missing out on, from an environment and cross point of view, is to use the railroad for freight in our region. They started using it a little from Barton Mines and Tahawus. The difficulty is here and the Port of Albany. There are four railroads that they have to deal with and those railroads don't have any time line when they have to negotiate with Barton Mines or Saratoga North Creek. Also the tariffs they can charge is very expensive. To take one car load replaces six dump trucks on the road. So removing those trucks it's a great environment advantage for us and the cost is more economical. They have been meeting with groups and will meet with Saratoga because Saratoga is involved in this. So from their perspective they really want to concentrate more on the freight business side and let the tourism work on the tourism side. They feel they can provide more business, more commerce and environmentally more better for our region for this to happen. Those are two projects along with just being accessible in wanting to be helpful to a community whether it's the large area of Queensbury or the biggest little town in the State. Our Town he wants to be helpful form an economic development point of view. Supervisor Thomas thanked him for attending and making his presentation.

Committee reports:

Youth:

Councilman Nathan Thomas reported he talked with Marcy Reisinger, she said she has had good luck with the kids this year. The last couple of trips have been 18-19 kids. One trip was canceled due to busing issues. Councilwoman Ryan stated she is rescheduling it. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated she is having communication problems with Luzerne School. Patrice sent out the Youth Program schedule along with the Library Newsletter for everyone on their e-mail list.

4th of July picnic:

Supervisor Thomas stated this went off pretty well and thanked everyone for helping out and making it successful. The total cost was approximately \$1700.00. They received \$230.00 in donations. That brought the cost down to \$1465.00.

Mini Park on four corners:

Mr. Barrass surveyed the corner on July 5, 2015. He hasn't heard anything further. There will be at least one public meeting in the future.

Hazard Mitigation:

Supervisor Thomas reported that Supt. Bradley and he attended a Warren County Hazard Mitigation meeting in Thurman. Warren County is in the process of updating their Hazard Mitigation Plan. The last time it was put together was 2011 and is required every five years for updating. Supervisor Thomas presented the Town Board with a power-point presentation that was given to the Board of Supervisors about the program. Tetra Tech was hired by the county as a consultant to help put together the plan. Jim Lieberum from Soil and Water is the Mitigation Coordinator so he is working with Jonathan Raser from Tetra Tech and also Amy Kirsch with the Office of Emergency Services.

Supervisor Thomas suggested reading through the handouts. It's sort of a wish list of things we can improve on any mitigated hazard and if there is another Federal Emergency declared these projects will become eligible for funding. Once the plan is completed there is grant funding through the Federal Government available to mitigate some of these issues, so if in your travels you see anything that you think would become part of this plan let him know he will make sure it gets in there. It's a process that will probably be adopted next summer.

NYS Comptroller; Tax Cap:

Supervisor Thomas stated the NYS Comptroller came out and has decided that the rate of inflation for New York this year is .73%. So rather than having a 2% Tax Cap we have a .73% Tax Cap on the 2016 allowable increase in the levy. That's prior to any carry over in the adjustments. Councilman Nathan Thomas asked if that puts us at the 1% give back.

Supervisor Thomas stated he thinks that separate. This is their percent cap, it's actually there.73% Tax Cap and can cause problems with the schools, county and towns.

Retirement:

Supervisor Thomas also reported he thinks the retirement contributions are on the increase again.

Veterans sign:

Councilman John Thomas asked about the Eagle Scouts using the Veterans List of Members sign as a project. Supervisor Thomas stated yes and Dale Clements was going to do the backstop as a project. Councilman John Thomas will checked with Sue Brooks, Scout Leader to see if they will be completing these projects.

New Business:

Landfill: Electronics

Supervisor Thomas stated in the bills there was a \$559.00 bill for disposal of TV'S and CRT's. He is proposing to come up with some sort of fee structure to address that situation. The town has to pay 25¢ a pound to get rid of it. Harlem Hollow Transfer Station took it for a year and a half for nothing, they stopped doing that. Supervisor Thomas thinks we should try to re-coup some of it. People have had about three years to get rid of TV's. People do have the option to return them to the manufacturer, it's not where you brought it, it's the manufacturer and they can find the list and take it to their collection site for free.

Supervisor Thomas suggested the small, medium and large TV's be \$5.00 to \$10.00 a TV. It was decided to charge a flat rate of small \$5.00, medium \$7.00 and large \$10.00.

090-15 A resolution was made by Supervisor Thomas seconded by Councilman Nathan Thomas to charge for TV's with CRT Tubes. Charges for TV's are as follows: Small \$5.00, Medium \$7.00, and Large \$10.00. Roll call vote, all in favor.

Occupancy Bed Tax funds:

091-15. A resolution was made by Councilwoman Ryan seconded by Councilman John Thomas Authorizing the expenditure of Bed Tax Funds in the amount of \$350.00 to the Stony Creek Free Library for the Plein Air Trail Art Exhibition to be held August 28th 2015. This will be used to cover expenses for a live band and advertising expenses. Roll call vote, all in favor.

Smart Growth Grant; Municipal Wastewater System study:

Supervisor Thomas stated there is another round of consolidation funding applications, they are due on the 31st of this month. He was talking with Wayne LaMothe from Warren County Planning, the discussion came up about wastewater treatment and between the two of them he thought he would ask Cedarwood to make a proposal. Mr. Suozzo did put together a proposal of \$18,000.00 to study the Hamlet area for some sort of septic wastewater treatment. To study the feasibility of it. Supervisor Thomas gave a copy of the proposal to the Board Members. The focus is to get information and basically to get facts to make an educated decision about. He doesn't think it's anything that will happen within 3-4 years, it's more like 6-8 maybe 10 year project. He seem to think of some sort of alternative septic wastewater treatment rather than your conventional municipal wastewater treatment plant because not only the cost of putting one of those in but also the operation of maintenance afterwards. There are several types of alternative systems. The one he read about was grouping five or six households into one system in one area. It may not be a big issue now, he thinks in the future it will be an issue in Stony Creek, with regulations they have now with 100 foot separation from you septic and your well. Next time your septic breaks and you go to fix it you better hope your well is 100 feet away because you're going to have a problem. He thinks in the future there is going to be issues, there has been a couple of issues already. He thinks its economic viability for the town to do something like this, he thinks it also increases people's opportunities and increases the property values. He thinks the biggest thing is to get information and make an educated decision as to whether this is something the Town of Stony Creek should pursue or if it's something we shouldn't. If we can get the State to pay for at least 50% of it that's good to. Councilman Carl Thomas stated that would be 50% of, Supervisor Thomas stated 50% of the \$18,000.00. Councilwoman Ryan asked if its wastewater or water too. Supervisor Thomas stated this is focused on wastewater he thinks if we can take care of the wastewater people can drill their own well. The trouble comes when you have to have a drain field and you have to be 100 feet away. It's defiantly going to become a problem. Tom Suozzo said it would be 80/20%, most of these are 50/50%. If they are taking 20% it would be \$3600.00 for the town instead of \$9000.00.

Councilman John Thomas stated it mentions Business District. We don't have a designated District and if we do this and we get a grant, would we have to designate where the District is. Supervisor Thomas stated he believes we do. Councilman John Thomas stated we will have to make some changes there. Supervisor Thomas stated he thinks mainly it's the Hamlet Area and probably we would extend that a little bit. Councilman Carl Thomas asked if it would be used like the APA Map. Supervisor Thomas stated yes. Councilman Carl Thomas stated the study might show what the town's responsibility would be when you start clustering it. Thinking of the town it's great, you have 50 foot wide property and things like that. Councilwoman Ryan stated it will be a cost to the Homeowners. Councilman Carl Thomas stated it will be a cost to them but it's going to be a very expensive operation.

Supervisor Thomas stated from his perspective at least if you spend a little money at least you have some knowledge. There are alternative systems, you would know how many units you have, the amount of flow there might be and you would have the knowledge to make the decision. He doesn't want the town to become a metropolitan city but he would like to see it grow and have a few more businesses. Councilman Carl Thomas stated part of the desire is the rural part of it. Supervisor Thomas stated true.

092-15. A resolution was made by Supervisor Thomas seconded by Councilman Nathan Thomas authorizing the Supervisor to pursue and make application with Cedarwood Engineering Services before the deadline of July 31, 2015 for the consolidation proposal study for municipal wastewater system in the amount of \$18,000.00. Roll call vote, all in favor.

093-15. A resolution was made by Councilman John Thomas seconded by Supervisor Thomas to check into the matching grant for the Municipal Wastewater System Study and see if it will be 80/20 instead of 50/50. This application will not be made if it's 50/50. Roll call vote, all in favor.

094-15. A resolution was made by Councilman Nathan Thomas seconded by Councilwoman Ryan authorizing the Supervisor to sign the amended First Wilderness Intermunicipal Agreement between Warren County and the Towns of Johnsburg, Chester, Lake Luzerne, Stony Creek, Thurman, Warrensburg, Hadley, Corinth and Village of Corinth concerning Local Waterfront Revitalization Program. Roll call vote, all in favor.

Four-year terms for Highway Supt.

Supervisor Thomas stated he had a request from the Highway Supt. for the Town Board to introduce whatever is necessary to put a Referendum to make the Highway Superintendent a four-year term. Supt. Bradley stated the Board doesn't make the decision it goes to the voters. The Board is just authorizing it to be on the ballot. Supervisor Thomas stated if the Town had entertained this back in May it could have been done by resolution. In order to do it by resolution to get it on the ballot according to Town Law Section 24 it had to be 150 days prior to the Election. As of today its 105 days. However under the Municipal Home Rule Law section 24, section 10 the Town Board can adopt a local Law and must be a minimum of 60 days of the adoption of the Local Law.

If the Town Board introduced a Local Law this evening they can have a Public Hearing on August 18th, adopt the Local Law and there would be 77 days until Election. We can do it by Local Law.

Councilwoman Ryan stated it wouldn't be a bad idea. Councilman John Thomas asked who would be going to a four-year term. Supervisor Thomas stated he didn't know it's up to the Board. He has no interest in it, the Supervisor's position being four-years. The Board can do what they want. Councilman Carl Thomas stated the Board is four-year. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated yes we are, we are talking about the Supervisor, Town Clerk and Superintendent of Highways. Supervisor Thomas stated he read in there, an opinion that if it's stipulated in the Local Law the time frames are correct the new four-year term would take effect January 2016. The provision has to be in the Local Law otherwise he thinks it would go two years and then start. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated he thinks it works the way it is. Supt. Bradley stated it works the way it is because Councilman Nathan Thomas is in a four year term already not that he is too worried about it but it's a lot less paperwork. Supervisor Thomas stated two-years is fine with him, he knows it's not pleasant to go electioning every two-years. Supt. Bradley stated let the people decide if they want it, they will tell what they want.

Councilman Carl Thomas stated if you do it by Local Law. Supervisor Thomas and Councilwoman Ryan stated its still subject to vote. Supervisor Thomas stated it's subject to Mandatory Referendum. Supt, Bradley stated what you saying is next year. Supervisor Thomas stated yes, we can wait until next April and do it by Resolution. Supt. Bradley stated that's all he is looking for. He doesn't care if it's done this year. Councilman Carl Thomas stated that takes away the vote. Supervisor Thomas and Councilman Nathan Thomas stated no. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated it's still a vote. Supervisor Thomas stated no matter how you do it is subject to Referendum, whether you do it by resolution or Local Law.

Councilman Carl Thomas stated give it an early start next year.

Supervisor Thomas agreed because we already circulated petitions. At least next year it won't be political, it will be a vote. Supt. Bradley stated that's fine. He doesn't think it's fair for the Board to make the decision, let the people decide. Supervisor Thomas stated it goes to vote no matter what. Supt. Bradley will check in April 2016. Supervisor Thomas stated it has to be 150 days. Supt. Bradley stated the Board can do just the Superintendent of Highways if no one else wanted it. Supervisor Thomas stated it's up to the Board if they want to do all three or just one.

From the floor:

Carol LaGrasse stated she has a couple remarks. One is that it shouldn't be necessary for a person to repeatedly have to complain about hearing the Town Board Members engaged in discussion. Attorney Cooper and Mr. Bartholomew was just as clear as day but some people can't be heard at all.

Pavilion use:

Mrs. LaGrasse asked about the utilization of the pavilion. When the Town Board gives permission for the use of the pavilion by private party does that mean they have exclusive use and some other people come down and want a picnic and it rains and they want to go into the pavilion they can't go in to the pavilion?

Supervisor Thomas stated he suppose that could happen if the party was big enough. We would think most people would let them in there. Mrs. LaGrasse stated then they would have exclusive use then? Supervisor Thomas stated that's what we are saying. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated only the pavilion, the park is still opened up to the public. Mrs. LaGrasse stated she understands that it came up at a previous meeting, it wouldn't be legal to close the park, Supervisor Thomas agreed.

Library; Plein Air:

Mrs. LaGrasse asked about the Library's program Plein Air.

Councilwoman Ryan stated it's the way they are painting. They are using the natural wilderness as there medium. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated they are going to be doing painting at the Dean Heritage Trails. Mrs. LaGrasse stated there outdoors? Councilman Nathan Thomas and Councilwoman Ryan stated yes, there outdoors as plein-air.

Study on wastewater:

Mrs. LaGrasse stated it's a very interesting thing to have a study on a preliminary thing on Small scale wastewater treatment plant. It seems to her that it might have some sensitivity to people because if you were looking down at a photo of the center of town and you were a person of design of wastewater designs you could very quickly see where there is a number of dwellings that much have shared water or shared septic or neither. So here's a person we will be mapped from that point of view. Presumably you're building is identified so there would be some ramifications on pressure, embarrassment or maybe excitement that maybe the problem we have had for years will be solved. There are places in town that have immediate difficulty putting in and having a normal system. As she has brought up to the Town Board more than 20 years ago. There is naturally a lot of places in town where we couldn't build anything with the 100 foot setback and that was a proposal she made for having a 100 foot septic value on septic system and that got the Town Board angry, but it's a real serious matter in this town. Supervisor Thomas stated this is a Department of Health issue actually because its 100 feet between the septic and well. Supervisor Thomas stated there will be embarrassment by the Town Board. Many of us won't be here but when a property owners comes in here and says they can't no longer live in their house because they have to get the septic pumped every couple months or that they can't drill a well he would think that would be an embarrassment for whoever is running the town at that time. Mrs. LaGrasse stated she is saying there is a lot of sensitivity potentially to this study. It's a hard thing to study when you're talking about your own neighbors.

Peter LaGrasse stated on that same subject. The idea is to get an opinion about what an alternative septic system in this region would cost. His feeling is that information will not be complete about an alternative to a water supply system for that same geographical region. So you could compare safe potable water as opposed to sanitation, because you don't know which one would be better and of course you're getting some canned information on one system without looking in the other direction as well.

Attorney Cooper stated that Ed Bartholomew has come a long way with a remarkable ability and got it together and probably the best person in the county for the job he is doing.

A motion was made by Councilman Nathan Thomas seconded by Councilwoman Ryan to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 PM, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Harrington, RMC
Town Clerk