TOWN OF WATERTOWN
REGULAR MEETING
MUNICIPAL BUIILDING
MARCH 13, 2008

TOWN BOARD MEMBERS

JOEL R. BARTLETT, SUPERVISOR – STEPHEN L. RICH, COUNCILMAN
PAUL V. DESORMO, COUNCILMAN – DAVID D. PROSSER, COUNCILMAN
EDWARD R. SMITH, COUNCILMAN

Councilman Desormo offered a prayer and Supervisor Bartlett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Bartlett opened the meeting at 7:00 PM and called for a roll of members present. All members were present at the meeting. Legal Counsel Joseph W. Russell was present.

MOTION # 32
Supervisor Bartlett offered a motion to accept the minutes of the February 14, 2008 regular meeting. Councilman Prosser seconded.

Ayes All

Supervisor Bartlett introduced Mr. Tim Tyner who informed the board on a proposed project to provide information on an automatic water salesman for an uphill station here in the town. The station would be located here on the town property and tied to the water tower on the property. He went on to describe the three types of equipment available and the benefits of each type of system. Discussion took place on the requirements and various systems, including costs of installation. A brochure was provided to each board member.

Councilman Smith introduced some local Jefferson Community college students who attended the meeting.

Supervisor Bartlett introduced Mr. Fred Bickford from Hydro Source N.E., who gave an overview of their progress in locating a water source for a proposed water district in East Watertown. He also reviewed their next steps in this process.

Supervisor Bartlett introduced Mr. Blair Harff, President of the Watertown Hockey Association. Mr. Harff gave an overview of their purpose in attending the meeting. He then introduced Mr. Joseph Fedorko who provided the board members with a printed power point presentation as well as a slide presentation regarding the needs of an additional sheet of ice. This would increase opportunities for youth, both in hockey and figure skating in the greater Watertown area. The same presentation was made at a City of Watertown Council meeting. Their purpose is to have the city and the town work together to provide additional opportunity for local youth and to increase tourism in the area. The presentation described the opportunities to the community to expand economically as well as providing a healthy benefit to the youth of our community.

Supervisor Bartlett stated that he had some discussion with the city two weeks ago. He has gathered information which he will present to the board for review, to see if there is an opportunity for the town and the city to work on the project. He further stated that he anticipated several more joint meetings to discuss the proposal.

Supervisor Bartlett opened the floor to the public for anyone wishing to address the town board.

Mr. Robert Taylor spoke on an issue of concern to residents living in the Lettiere Tract. He spoke about the drainage ditches in that area and the amount of runoff water that passes along in these ditches. He described the need for the town to address the issue

since it does provide a danger to residents, particularly young children. He asked that the town look into this problem. Other residents of the area also spoke on the issue.

Supervisor Bartlett stated that he has had discussion with the highway superintendent. Mr. Serow said that he would be addressing the situation as soon as weather and time allowed.

Art Cooley addressed the board regarding the conditions of the roads in the town, specifically regarding Gotham St. Road. The road has not been maintained as well this winter as it had been in previous winters.

There being no one else wishing to address the town board, Supervisor Bartlett closed the floor.

Supervisor Bartlett introduced Mr. Tom Bowie from Sovie and Bowie, C.P.A. Mr. Bowie gave an overview of the annual report of the town as filed with N.Y.S. Comptrollers Office for Fiscal Year 2007.

MOTION # 33

WHEREAS, the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990 created new initiatives to produce and preserve affordable housing including the Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and

WHEREAS, the Home Investment Program will provide monies to States and Local Governments to fund affordable housing strategies, and

WHEREAS, Section 216(2) of the National Affordable Housing Act provides that a consortium of geographic contiguous units of general local government may apply for funding under the HOME Program, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Watertown has determined that it is desirable and in the public interest to cooperate with the County of Jefferson in order to participate in the North Country Home Consortium comprised of Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence Counties in order to receive funding under the HOME Program.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Watertown Council hereby authorizes its Chief Elected Official to execute on behalf of the Town of Watertown, a Cooperation Agreement with the County of Jefferson to undertake or assist in undertaking housing assistance activities for the HOME Investment Partnerships Program.

The foregoing resolution was moved by Councilman Rich and seconded by Councilman Smith. Upon a roll call vote of the board as follows, the motion was duly adopted.

Supervisor Bartlett	Aye
Councilman Rich	Aye
Councilman Desormo	Aye
Councilman Prosser	Aye
Councilman Smith	Aye

MOTION # 34

WHEREAS, the town is in receipt of a map plan and report provided by the Town Engineers detailing a plan for redirecting sewer flows from Sewer District No. 2, located on N.Y.S. Rt. 3, outer Arsenal St. to Sewer District No. 3 (Coffeen Street Road) in the Town of Watertown, and

WHEREAS, this project is classified as type one and requires a SEQR review, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to conduct a review of the Environmental Assessment Form for the proposed project and establish lead agency status for the SEQR process.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

1.) After reviewing part 1 of the Environmental Assessment Form the Town Council accepts the findings of Part 1 of the EAF and assumes Lead Agency status for the purpose of SEQR.
2.) The town attorney is hereby directed to forward a copy thereof to other involved agencies with the lead agency notification.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Supervisor Bartlett and seconded by Councilman Desormo. Upon a roll call vote as follows the motion was duly adopted.

Supervisor Bartlett	Aye
Councilman Rich	Aye
Councilman Desormo	Aye
Councilman Prosser	Aye
Councilman Smith	Aye

MOTION # 35

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists on the Town of Watertown Zoning Board of Appeals, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to appoint a town resident to fill said position for a term effective January 1, 2008, and

WHEREAS, the council authorized the solicitation of letters of interest from residents with an interest in the appointment and said letters of interest were accepted at the Town Clerk's office up until close of business on February 29, 2008, and

WHEREAS, Brandon Cooney, a town resident has submitted a letter of interest requesting consideration for appointment to the Z.B.A.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Brandon Cooney who resides on the Fralick Road in the town is hereby appointed to a term to fill said vacancy on the Town of Watertown Zoning Board of Appeals.

Supervisor Bartlett moved the foregoing resolution and Councilman Rich seconded. Upon a roll call vote as follows the motion was duly adopted.

Supervisor Bartlett	Aye
Councilman Rich	Aye
Councilman Desormo	Aye
Councilman Prosser	Aye
Councilman Smith	Aye

MOTION # 36

WHEREAS, with the vacancy created by the resignation of Z.B.A. Chairman Thomas Dawley, the Z.B.A. is currently without a chairman for the board, and

WHEREAS, a chairman should be appointed by this board to replace Mr. Dawley.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Council hereby solicits the recommendation of the remaining Z.B.A. Board members as to appointing a new chairman of the Z.B.A., and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the existing Z.B.A. Board members recommendation for filling the board chairman position should be in letter form addressed to the Town Council for consideration at the regular Town Council meeting scheduled for April 10, 2008.

Supervisor Bartlett moved the foregoing resolution and Councilman Prosser seconded.

Ayes All

MOTION # 37

WHEREAS, the Brookside Cemetery Association, a not for profit corporation, owns property within the boundary of Water District No. 4 and Sewer District No. 4 and has previously been assessed an annual advalorum tax to pay for existing debt service, and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that a commercial debt service advalorum tax assessment rate applied to the property is incorrect and should be replaced with an assessment formula that assesses the annual tax without consideration of the road frontage owned by the association.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that future debt service tax assessments for the association are to be factored without consideration of the property road frontage, wherein the building structure value alone will constitute the assessment formula, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the supervisor is hereby authorized to issue a refund of advalorum taxes paid for the Year 2008 in the amount as follows:

Water District Refund: $2,843.62

Sewer District Refund: $ 863.18
Total Refund: $3,346.80

Supervisor Bartlett moved the foregoing resolution and Councilman Rich seconded. Upon a roll call vote as follows, the motion was duly adopted.

Supervisor Bartlett	Aye
Councilman Rich	Aye
Councilman Desormo	Aye
Councilman Prosser	Aye
Councilman Smith	Aye

MOTION # 38

WHEREAS, this board has heretofore commissioned its engineers, Bernier, Carr & Associates, to prepare a certain map, plan and report for the construction of certain improvements within Town of Watertown Water District No. 1 to include a new water tower, installation of water mains, laterals and appurtenances and the restoration and refurbishing of the existing water tower located within Water District No. 1 in the Jefferson County Industrial Park (the "Project"), and

WHEREAS, this board has completed its review of the project under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act and has issued a negative declaration there-under, and

WHEREAS, this board has adopted a Bond Resolution for the financing of the improvements within the Project, and is prepared to proceed with the Project.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Watertown as follows:

1. The Town Engineers, Bernier, Carr & Associates, are hereby authorized to prepare the bid packages pursuant to the map, plan and report, and to advertise for competitive bid pursuant to the provisions of the General Municipal Law, the improvements to be made pursuant to the map, plan and report.

A motion to adopt the foregoing resolution was made by Supervisor Bartlett and seconded by Councilman Prosser. Upon a roll call vote of the board as follows, the motion was duly adopted.

Supervisor Bartlett	Aye
Councilman Rich	Aye
Councilman Desormo	Aye
Councilman Prosser	Aye
Councilman Smith	Aye

MOTION # 39

WHEREAS, it is necessary to transfer supplementary funds to balance accounts in anticipation of additional expenditures relative to the town economic development strategy and to supplement fund accounts for engineering study purposes as they pertain to the towns exploration of alternative water sources for the North East Water District study and other project goals.

THEREORE BE IT RESOVLED, the Supervisor is authorized to transfer funds as follows to meet said obligation.

AMOUNT	TSFR. FROM ACCT. CODE	TSFR. TO ACCT. CODE
$50,000.00	Unapprop. Fund balance	A6989.4 Econ. Dev.

Supervisor Bartlett moved the foregoing resolution and Councilman Rich seconded.

Ayes All

MOTION # 40

WHEREAS, this board has previously recognized the importance to the residents of the Town of Watertown of increasing economic development opportunities within the Town of Watertown and to that end has heretofore established an economic development fund as part of the annual town budgetary process, and

WHEREAS, the town economic development fund has been established and funded by this board for the purpose of further enhancing economic development opportunities within the town, and

WHEREAS, this board has heretofore caused to be established pursuant to the provisions of Section 1411 of the New York Not-for-Profit Corporation Law, a local development corporation known as the Town of Watertown Local Development Corporation, which Corporation has been formed and organized for the purpose of relieving and reducing unemployment, promoting and providing employment and job opportunities and aiding the Community of the Town of Watertown by attracting industry to said community and encouraging the development or retention of new industry which in turn lessens the burdens of government, and

WHEREAS, this board has determined it to be appropriate and to foster a valid municipal purpose to utilize a portion of the Town economic development fund to assist the Town of Watertown Local Development Corporation in its efforts to promote economic development within the town.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Watertown as follows:

1. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein by reference and are a part of this resolution as if fully stated hereafter.
2. This board hereby authorizes the transfer of the sum of $60,000.00 from the Town Economic Development Fund to the Town of Watertown Local Development Corporation for the purpose of encouraging and fostering economic development and growth within the town.
3. The Town Supervisor is hereby authorized to make the fund transfer authorized by this resolution.
4. This authorization is conditioned upon the Town of Watertown Local Development Corporation providing a monthly accounting to this Board of the expenditures of the funds transferred.

A motion to adopt the foregoing resolution was made by Supervisor Bartlett and seconded by Councilman Rich. Upon a roll call vote as follows, the motion was duly adopted.

Supervisor Bartlett	Aye
Councilman Rich	Aye
Councilman Desormo	Aye
Councilman Prosser	Aye
Councilman Smith	No

MOTION # 41

WHEREAS, the Town Council authorized and established a Highway-Public Works Capital Fund for appropriating funds to purchase needed equipment for highway and public works operations, and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Superintendent has requested the purchase of a new pay-loader for department use purposes, and

WHEREAS, Monroe Tractor, 7300 Eastman Road Syracuse, N.Y. holds the N.Y.S. contract for equipment sales to municipalities and has submitted a quote for the sale of a new Case 621E state bid loader with options as recommended by the superintendent, and

WHEREAS, an allowance for a trade in of older used town pay-loader is included in the sale proposal, and

WHEREAS, the normal bidding requirements are not necessary as the purchase is to be made from a company who holds the state contract for sales to municipalities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the value of the trade in of a used town owned pay-loader has been established at $23,000.00 for the towns used equipment. And

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the purchase on one Case 621E pay-loader from Monroe Tractor, 7300 Eastman Road, Syracuse, N.Y. is hereby authorized for the sale price of $80,423.13

The foregoing resolution was offered by Supervisor Bartlett and seconded by Councilman Prosser.

Discussion: Mr. Smith recommended an addition to the highway garage.

Supervisor Bartlett, Councilman Rich, Councilman Desormo and Councilman Prosser voted in favor of the resolution. Councilman Smith voted against the resolution.

MOTION # 42

Supervisor Bartlett moved to pay the following abstracts as audited.

General Vouchers	#	62	to	63	Total	$ 6,821.03
Highway. Voucher	#	47	to	47	Total	$ 8,750.55
Spec. Dist. Vouchers.	#	23	to	24	Total	$ 592.46
General Vouchers	#	64	to	94	Total	$ 19,113.15
Highway. Vouchers	#	48	to	75	Total	$ 21,806.78
Spec. Dist. Vouchers.	#	25	to	33	Total	$100,927.20

Councilman Smith seconded the motion.

Ayes All

MOTION # 43

There being no further business to bring before the board, Councilman Prosser moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 PM. Councilman Desormo seconded.

Ayes All

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Catherine M. Rich, Town Clerk