

the Board either before or after the Board meeting.

10-57 Motion: to approve the Supervisor's Report, subject to audit.

Made by: Andrew Mierek Second Leonard Charney

Motion carried: 4 Ayes 0 Nays

Ayes: Leonard Charney, Edward Mader, Andrew Mierek, Veronica Murphy

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Weather: Winter proved to be milder than normal and was definitely easier on the highway budget. The frequency of plowing was not reduced significantly, because of our surrounding hills. It does not matter if we get 6 inches or 12 inches of snow, for safety reasons we still have to plow and sand.

Spring: The department has stripped our sanders and plows on most of our trucks and are getting them ready for summer work. We have left one truck harnessed for snow, just in case Mother Nature gives us a surprise. We have also had the Gradall serviced and will be operating it on a couple of projects. The bull dozer, road grader and roller are ready also. The afternoon shift for this year is over and all employee's are now working days.

Advocacy Day: On March 8th 2010, H/S Stevens joined 500 other Highway people from across the State for Highway Advocacy Day in Albany, to let the State Legislators know that "local roads matter". From the information received, the CHIPS funding for 2010 will stay at last years level, but the CHIPS funding for 2011 may be eliminated. All State funding hinges on the passing of the 2010 State budget.

Water Truck: A new project of the highway department is a water truck. Utilizing an existing 2000 gallon steel tank, we have outfitted one of our trucks as a water truck, to be used on road cleaning operations. Our fire company loaned us a portable pump and we have done plumbing to use this water truck for several different applications, including bridge washing, street sweeping and cleaning town parking lots. Other than some plastic plumbing parts, we have very little invested in this project.

Road Cleaning: Our road cleaning work will begin on April 12th and continue throughout the week with the exception of one day. Our new water truck will come in handy, with the many of our projects.

Kettle Hill: During the last snow storm, a stream of water began to run down the west driving lane, creating a dangerous situation. The road was sanded and salted to melt the ice accumulation. Next week in conjunction with Oneida County Highway personnel, the ditches

Town Board Meeting April 12, 2010 Page 3

will be cleaned out and deepened. This should prevent any problems in the future.

Bear Town Road: An upcoming road project on this road, is scheduled to replace a large culvert that is collapsing. The work will be completed with the Town of Lee as a shared project. At the same time the configuration of the intersection will be changed.

Low Volume Roads: In the State Legislator there currently is a bill pending concerning low volume/minimum maintenance roads. This bill would give towns the legal right to designate low volume or low maintenance roads. When an individual purchases property on one of these roads, they do so with the understanding that the road is not open 365 days a year and the property

owner would be responsible for the maintenance of the road, when the road is not maintained all year long. The Town needs to write a letter to our representatives in the Legislature, stating the Town supports this bill.

10-58 Motion: to accept the Highway Superintendent's report

Made by: Veronica Murphy Second Leonard Charney

Motion carried: 5 Ayes 0 Nays

Ayes: Leonard Charney, Edward Mader, Andrew Mierek, Veronica Murphy, Robin Davis

OLD BUSINESS:

Cold War Exemption: Supervisor Davis stated that the Board needs to update the resolution supporting the resolution in support of Oneida County Resolution #338 and Local Law of 2008-#04. The complete Local Law is on file in the Town Clerk's office, Main Street, Westernville. Some sections of the Local Law are as follows:

1. *"Legislative Intent: the intent of this local law is to provide some limited real property tax relief to those persons who rendered military service to the United States during the cold war period"*.
2. *"That the provisions of Section 458-b of the New York State Real Property Tax Law, as adopted herein, shall apply only to the levy of County real property taxes in Oneida County. Shall exemption shall not apply to school taxes, special ad valorem levies or special assessments."*
3. *"As used in this local law, the term 'Cold War Veteran' shall mean persons who served on active duty with the United States Armed Forces during the time period from September 02, 1945 to December 26, 1991 and who were discharged or released there from under honorable conditions"*.
4. *"The Cold War veterans exemption provided herein shall be limited to ten (10) years in duration. Except that there is no limit for the disability portion of the exemption and must be applied for with local assessors on or before the taxable status date of such town or city."*

10-59 Resolution: for the Town of Western to support and adopt Oneida County Resolution #338 and Local Law of 2008 #04. The percentage of the exemption for the Town of Western will be 15% and a maximum assessment reduction will be \$ 12,000.00.

Town Board Meeting April 12, 2010 Page 4

Made by: Edward Mader Second Andrew Mierek

Resolution carried: 5 Ayes 0 Nays

Ayes: Leonard Charney, Edward Mader, Andrew Mierek, Veronica Murphy, Robin Davis

NEW BUSINESS:

Truck Bids: Supervisor Davis stated that it was time to open the bids for the two trucks that the Town intends to purchase. The bid specs were for both trucks as one purchase. Two bids were received:

Mohawk Valley Freightliner \$ 269,987.00

Beam Mack \$ 279,333.44

H/S Stevens recommended to the Board, that they accept the low bid of \$ 269,987.00 submitted

by Mohawk Valley Freightliner.

10-60 Motion: to accept the low bid of \$ 269,987.00 from Mohawk Valley Freightliner for the purchase of “a 2011 Freightliner M-2, 12V, 6x4 tandem axle truck” and “ a 2011 Freightliner 2x4 single axle truck” cost not to exceed the bid price.

Made by: Veronica Murphy Second Andrew Mierek
Motion carried: 5 Ayes 0 Nays
Ayes: Leonard Charney, Edward Mader, Andrew Mierek, Veronica Murphy, Robin Davis

Truck Financing: A discussion was held concerning the financing of the new trucks. The subject of municipal leasing was discussed along with bonding for the trucks. Municipal leasing is a rent to own contract over a set number of years, where as with bonding, after the bond is paid (either one year or five years) the truck is paid for.

The Supervisor supplied the following interest rates for both bonding and leasing:

	<u>One Year</u>	<u>Five Year</u>
Bond - Adirondack Bank	2.125 %	3.125 %
Bond - NBT Bank	1.80 %	3.60 %
Municipal Lease	4.11 %	4.50 %

With a one year bond issue, at the end of one year, if the bond is not paid, it can be rolled over, and the interest rate could change. With a five year bond the interest rate would stay the same for the five years. With municipal leasing the interest rate for the five years or the agreed number of years would stay the same.

10-61 Motion: to table the discussion on the financing of the two trucks to the May 2010 Board meeting, pending more information.

Made by: Veronica Murphy Second Andrew Mierek
Motion carried: 5 Ayes 0 Nays
Ayes: Leonard Charney, Edward Mader, Andrew Mierek, Veronica Murphy, Robin Davis

Town Board Meeting April 12, 2010 Page 5

Trees on Church Property: There are two trees located near the Presbyterian Church Parsonage in an area between the grass strip and the road. The Church has approached the Highway Department asking for the trees to be removed, because they believe the trees are located in the Town’s right of way. H/S Stevens reported that Main Street (Westernville) is only 3 rods wide and that the trees are not on the right of way, thus not the Town’s responsibility. H/S Stevens will advise the Presbyterian Church of this fact.

10-62 Motion: The Town of Western is only responsible for the trees that are on or within the Town’s right of ways or located on Town property.

Made by: Andrew Mierek Second Leonard Charney
Motion carried: 5 Ayes 0 Nays
Ayes: Leonard Charney, Edward Mader, Andrew Mierek, Veronica Murphy, Robin Davis

Clean & Green: Mr. John McMahon of the Clean & Green Committee of Rome, is encouraging the area towns to participate in ‘Great Clean-up Day’ held each April. The Rome group will

assist any town interested with banners, posters and any needed supplies such as trash bags. The Rome group suggests during any clean up that photos be taken, so they can be sent on to the national organization. The town can appoint a chairperson to oversee the clean up. Following a short discussion C/M Charney was appointed to coordinate any clean up projects.

Copy/Fax Machine: Supervisor Davis stated unfortunately both the copy machine and fax machine in her office have stopped working and she will need to purchase new machines. She stated after comparing brands and prices, a combination copy/fax machine would be cost effective. The price range is \$ 700.00. The machine that would serve the purpose is a H/P Color Laser Jet Copier and Fax. A discussion followed with C/M Murphy asking how much faxing and copying is done by the Supervisor. Supervisor Davis said the Board would be surprised how much paperwork flows from her office by fax and the many copies for the Board and to others.

10-63 Motion: to allow Supervisor Davis to purchase a new copy machine and fax machine or a combination copy/fax machine. Cost not to exceed \$ 700.00.

Made by: Leonard Charney Second Andrew Mierek
Motion carried: 5 Ayes 0 Nays
Ayes: Leonard Charney, Edward Mader, Andrew Mierek, Veronica Murphy, Robin Davis

10-64 Motion: to adjourn the April 12, 2010 Town Board meeting at 8:50 pm.

Made by: Andrew Mierek Second Veronica Murphy
Motion carried: 5 Ayes 0 Nays
Ayes: Leonard Charney, Edward Mader, Andrew Mierek, Veronica Murphy, Robin Davis

Mary J. Centro, RMC Town Clerk

Next Regular Town Board Meeting

May 10, 2010 @ 7:00 pm

