

**TOWN OF PLATTSBURGH
TOWN BOARD SEMI MONTHLY MEETING
MARCH 16, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by the presiding officer at the Town Hall on the Banker Road.

MEMBERS:		<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Bernard C. Bassett, Supervisor		X	
Martin D. Mannix, Councilperson		X	
Thomas E. Wood, Councilperson		X	
Sheila A. Brockway, Councilperson		X	
Gerard A. Renadette, Councilperson		X	
Amy L. Duquette, Town Clerk		X	
James J. Coffey, Town Attorney		X	

RESOLUTION NO. 09-105**Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Motion by:	Sheila A. Brockway	Seconded by:	Gerard A. Renadette
Carried by:	Ayes 5	Nays 0	

RESOLVED, that the minutes of March 2, 2009 and March 9, 2009 be approved and the reading of the minutes be dispensed with.

Discussion: Councilor Wood believes he was not absent on 09-82, although he was absent for 09-81. I checked the tape and there was no vote recorded.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

Present: See Attached

Comments: Prior to the meeting, Janet Sozniki presented awards to Alex Archer - Cumberland Head 3/4th grade, Colby Russell - E. Morrisonville 5/6th grade, Gage Fradenburg - E. Morrisonville 3/4th grade, Alyvia Dessureault - E. Morrisonville 5/6th grade, and Morgan Rugar - E. Morrisonville 5/6th grade. Coaches Bob Fall, Dan Dessreault, Ed Pepper and Keith Bruno were also recognized.

Committee Reports

See Attached

RESOLUTION NO. 09-106**Abstract 3B-09**

Motion by:	Gerard A. Renadette	Seconded by:	Thomas E. Wood
Carried by:	Ayes 5	Nays 0	

RESOLVED, that the abstract of audited claims No.3B-09 (83535- 83717) in the amount of (\$ 771,013.62), be received as reviewed by the Audit Committee and the Supervisor is hereby authorized to pay said abstracts.

RESOLUTION NO. 09-107**Codes / Zoning Monthly Report**

Motion by:	Sheila A. Brockway	Seconded by:	Gerard A. Renadette
Carried by:	Ayes 5	Nays 0	

Carried by: Ayes 5

Nays 0

RESOLVED, to receive a report from Amy Duquette Town Clerk, for the month of February 2009.

RESOLUTION NO. 09-113

Water Waste Water Monthly Report

Motion by: Thomas E. Wood
Carried by: Ayes 5

Seconded by: Martin D. Mannix
Nays 0

RESOLVED, to receive and place on file a report from David Comfort, Director of the Water and Wastewater Department for the month of February 2009.

RESOLUTION NO. 09-114

Junkyard License Renewal
55 Hammond Lane

Motion by: Gerard A. Renadette

Seconded by: Sheila A. Brockway

MOTION TO TABLE RESOLUTION 09-114 UNTIL THE LETTER FROM STEVE IMHOFF IS AVAILABLE.

Motion by: Thomas E. Wood
Carried by: Ayes 5

Seconded by: Gerard A. Renadette
Nays 0

WHEREAS, the Town Clerk has received renewal application and fees for a license to operate a junkyard business from Phyllis Parmeter at 55 Hammond Lane; and

WHEREAS, Steve Imhoff, Code Enforcement Officer, has completed inspection of the junkyard and the applicant is in compliance; therefore be it,

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Plattsburgh does hereby receive and place on file said application and authorize the Town Clerk to issue a junkyard license to the aforementioned applicant in compliance with the letter issued by Steve Imhoff, Code Enforcement Officer of the Town of Plattsburgh.

RESOLUTION NO. 09-115

SUPPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF
THE NEW YORK STATE EMPIRE ZONE
PROGRAM

Motion by: Gerard A. Renadette
Carried by: Ayes 5

Seconded by: Sheila A. Brockway
Nays 0

WHEREAS, economic stability and sustainability of our local economy is a vital concern to the residents and businesses of the Town of Plattsburgh; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Plattsburgh needs a balanced economy consisting of a wide range of various types of businesses; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Plattsburgh cognizant of the need for additional commercial and industrial businesses to attain such economic stability and sustainability; and

WHEREAS, tax revenue generated by businesses throughout the Town of Plattsburgh and the State of New York provide much needed relief to individual taxpayers and their families; and,

WHEREAS, the New York State Empire Zone program has been a proven stimulus in the growth and revitalization of weakened local economies throughout New York State; and,

WHEREAS, the New York State Empire Zone program has been successful in bringing new jobs to its sponsoring counties and municipalities; and,

WHEREAS, local Zone Administrators, in areas as diverse as the Town of Plattsburgh, have a more comprehensive and detailed understanding of the uniqueness of communities such as ours, these local Administrative Boards are in the best position to administer local Zones and should continue to do so; and

WHEREAS, the continued economic development efforts of the Plattsburgh Empire Zone of the Town of Plattsburgh will result in attracting new businesses and jobs for the people of the Town of Plattsburgh and Clinton County; and,

WHEREAS, the New York State Empire Zone program has shown great promise for the economy of Plattsburgh by piquing the interest of prospective businesses inquiring from both outside the state of New York and outside of the United States while at the same time assisting local companies prepare for growth; and,

WHEREAS, the New York State Empire Zone program has a planned sunset date of June 30, 2011; and,

WHEREAS, the Governor's proposed budget makes sweeping changes to the Empire Zone program that may lead to litigation, company relocation and loss of credibility to New York's economic development efforts; and,

WHEREAS, the Governor's proposed changes to the Empire Zone program will have direct negative impacts on the Plattsburgh area resulting in job loss and significant reductions in future investment; and

WHEREAS, increasing New York's already high cost of doing business by raising business fees and taxes, significantly cutting the State's business development budget and undermining the credibility of our economic development efforts would make New York less competitive, now therefore be it

RESOLVED:

1. That the New York State Legislature, in an effort to maintain continuity and to stimulate positive momentum, is encouraged to enact legislation that will make the Empire Zone program less bureaucratic, less complex, more targeted, and less costly.

2. That New York State lawmakers, as they work on the state budget, are encouraged to make every effort to avoid adding more burdens to employers - whether through taxes, fees, wage mandates or regulations.

That the Town of Plattsburgh shall forward copies of this resolution to New York State Governor David A. Paterson, Senate Majority Leader Malcolm A. Smith, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Assembly Majority Leader Ron Canistrari, Senate Minority Leader Dean Skelos, Assembly Minority Leader James Tedisco, Local Senator Elizabeth Little, Local Assemblyperson Janet Duprey, and Director of the Empire Zone program Randal Coburn.

Discussion: Councilor Mannix questioned where the resolution came from Supervisor Bassett said the resolution came from the Office of Community Development, Empire Zone Program out of Saratoga and the Office of Community Development in the City of Plattsburgh.(The City manages the empire zones) Councilor Wood feels this is a very valuable program and would certainly like to see it continue. Councilor Wood said he realizes that requiring all of the businesses that have already been certified to go back and meet requirements that did not have to be met previously would be a burden and interfere with a lot of jobs in the area , although he does feel there are a number of things that need to be reformed. Councilor Wood believes we should continue to support the Empire Zone plan. Supervisor Bassett said there has been a legislative effort to get around the work that has taken place with the Ida’s and Empire Zones a lot of concern about companies going into the zones, getting the benefits and when the benefit period is over leaving, or companies that existed in a community going into the zone changing their name and getting the benefits although there is no new employment. Supervisor Bassett feels that in our community this has not been areal issue . Supervisor Bassett said Empire Zones have created new businesses and the longevity of them has been pretty good.

RESOLUTION NO. 09-116

Refusal of Tobacco Industry Promotions

Motion by: Martin D. Mannix
Carried by: Ayes 5

Seconded by: Gerard A. Renadette
Nays 0

WHEREAS, the Town of Plattsburgh has a unique opportunity to create and sustain an environment that supports a non-tobacco norm through a tobacco-free policy, compliance, and adult-peer role model and has done so with resolution 08-137 a Town Policy; and

WHEREAS, 400,000 Americans die each year from tobacco-related illnesses and millions more continue to suffer from lung cancer. Emphysemas, and heart disease caused by smoking; and

WHEREAS, each day in the U. S., about 4,000 youth try their first cigarette and each day another 1000 kids under 18 years of age become new regular daily smokers; and

WHEREAS, more that 6.3 million children, under age 18 alive today, will eventually die from smoking-related disease, unless current rates are reversed; and

WHEREAS, the Surgeon General has concluded that nicotine is a powerfully addictive drug similar to cocaine and heroin; and

WHEREAS, tobacco industry financial support of organizations, elected officials and community events is made possible by addicting, deceiving, disabling and killing millions of Americans; and

WHEREAS, Phillip Morris documents reveal the true intent of its corporate giving is “to advance the company’s communications, public affairs, and government relations agendas” to prevent meaningful regulation of the tobacco industry; therefore be it

RESOLVED , that the Town of Plattsburgh pledges to neither accept nor solicit knowingly any direct financial contributions, sponsorships, grant or gifts from any tobacco company or executive, or from retail stores that exclusively sell tobacco products , (with the exception of Master Settlements funds), not allow sampling, distribution and /or promotion products at events we conduct, not use written, audiovisual or internet materials produced by tobacco companies to facilitate smoking cessation or in the provision of tobacco education.

Discussion: The Board agreed to add the word knowingly to the last resolved.

Appointment of a Building Maintenance
Supervisor

Motion by: Sheila A. Brockway
Carried by: Ayes 5

Seconded by: Gerard A. Renadette
Nays 0

WHEREAS, the Town of Plattsburgh's Parks and Recreation Department has continued to grow along with Town programs causing a need to review the Parks and Recreation Department's organizational structure; and

WHEREAS, Melanie Defayette, Department Head and program director, has brought to the attention of the Town Board a need to redistribute responsibilities in the Parks and Recreation Department in a manner that better reflects operations and maximizes a more efficient use of resources; and

WHEREAS, Melanie Defayette, Town Recreation and Youth Director, has recommended to the Town Board the creation of a new Department, Building Maintenance, and the position of Building Maintenance Supervisor as a means to improve program and operations; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board create the position of Building Maintenance Supervisor as the Department Head title for a new Town Department, Building Maintenance, that will be responsible for maintenance of the Town office complex, and other Town buildings when needed, as well as Town lighting districts, traffic signals, fire and security systems, safety programs, emergency incident management and other responsibilities as defined by Civil Service inclusive of the normal sharing of services between Departments in the Town; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Plattsburgh appoint Mr. Arthur Brault as Building Maintenance Supervisor for the Town of Plattsburgh's new Building Maintenance Department effective March 18, 2009 at a salary of \$54,500 with a probationary period of six month; and be it further

RESOLVED, that said appointment be provisional pending Civil Service approval and Mr. Brault successfully passing the Civil Service Exam and that a copy of this resolution be given to the Budget Office and Civil Service.

RESOLUTION NO. 09-118

Asst Water/Wastewater Superintendent

Motion by: Martin D. Mannix
Carried by: Ayes 5

Seconded by: Thomas E. Wood
Nays 0

WHEREAS, the Town of Plattsburgh encourages its employees to strive to achieve their highest level of accomplishment and to continue to improve their skills, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Plattsburgh has a position of Assistant Water and Waste Water Superintendent that has been vacant for a number of months; and,

WHEREAS, David Comfort, Water Wastewater Director has recommended the position be temporarily filled until the anticipated vacancy on April 30, 2009 to enable the Department to continue to provide necessary services to the community and meet Department operational needs; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended by the Director that this position be filled by Paul Wright, Supervisor in the Water Wastewater Department; and

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WHEREAS, this appointment is provisional pending Mr. Wright’s successful completion of the required Civil Service Exam, when it offered; therefore be it,

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Plattsburgh appoint Mr. Paul Wright as Assistant Water and Wastewater Superintendent effective March 18, 2009, pending Civil Service approval, at an annual salary to be negotiated with the WWW Committee and the Supervisor retroactive to the date of appointment, for a probationary period of six month and that a copy of this resolution be given to the Budget Office and Civil Service.

Discussion: Supervisor Bassett said the job description will have to be worked out with Civil Service.

RESOLUTION NO. 09-119

Junkyard Renewal 24 Flanagan Drive

Motion by: Gerard A. Renadette

Seconded by: Sheila A. Brockway

MOTION TO TABLE RESOLUTION 09-119

Motion by: Thomas E. Wood

Seconded by: Gerard A. Renadette

Carried by: Ayes 5

Nays 0

WHEREAS, the Town Clerk has received an application and fees for a license to operate a junkyard business from Ricky Lyman’s Auto 24 Flanagan Drive; and,

WHEREAS, Steve Imhoff, Code Enforcement Officer, has completed inspection of the junkyard the applicant is in compliance; now, therefore it is

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Plattsburgh does hereby receive and place on file said application and authorize the Town Clerk to issue a junkyard license to the aforementioned applicant in compliance with the letter issued by Steve Imhoff, Code Enforcement Officer of the Town of Plattsburgh.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by: Thomas E. Wood

Seconded by: Sheila A. Brockway

Carried by: Ayes 5

Nays 0

RESOLVED, that this Town Board Meeting be adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Duquette, Town Clerk