

Regular Town Board Meeting
May 12, 2014

The Regular Meeting of the Town of Cambridge, duly called and held the 12th day of May, 2014 at 7:30 PM at the Town Hall, the following were present:

Supervisor Catherine Fedler
Councilman Douglas Ford
Councilman Robin McMurray
Councilman Gerald Skiff
Councilwoman Susan Herrington

Others present: Heather Greenawalt Town Clerk, Highway Superintendent Alan Davis, Astrid Davis, Code Enforcement Officer LaVerne Davis, Terry Hamilton, Bruce Rolleston, Henry Peabody, Robbie McIntosh, Bruce Bailey, Ashleigh Morris, James Morris, Dan Smith

Supervisor Fedler called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and immediately led in the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

Auditing of the Bills

General	#60 – 91	\$2,513.80
Highway	#45 – 58	\$9,070.34

Supervisor's Report

Resolution #25

Councilman Ford motioned, Seconded by Councilman McMurray to approve the Supervisor's report for April 2014.

Vote: Ayes – 5 Noes - 0

Approving of the Minutes

Resolution #26

Councilman McMurray motioned, Seconded by Councilman Ford to approve the minutes from the April 14, 2014 meeting with 3 corrections. The first correction on the bottom of page 2 Supervisor Fedler's last name was spelled incorrectly. The second correction was on the top of page 4 It should read that Supervisor Fedler attempted to contact Dean Casey not Gene Casey. The last correction was the bottom of page 3 it should be Bio Solid/Paper Sludge not Bio Salad/Paper Sludge.

Vote: Ayes – 5 Noes – 0

Transfer of Funds

Resolution #27

Councilman Skiff motioned,

Seconded by Councilwoman Herrington,

Be It Resolved, Audit & Control was contacted and worded this transfer as

“Reimbursement from Highway Fund to General Fund due to reclassification to correct coding errors. The Clerk to the Supervisor has already made the necessary corrections. \$6,057.52 was transferred from Highway Fund to the General Fund. Specifically, DA5130.4 \$770.62 Machinery, Parts & Repairs, DA5142.4 \$5,266.42 Snow Removal, Contractual, DB5110.4 \$20.48 General Repairs, Contractual to A5132.4 \$6,057.52 Highway Garage, Contractual.

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Vote: Ayes – 5 Noes – 0

Code Enforcement

Code Enforcement Officer LaVerne Davis reported that the house on 372 has been started the contractor is from West Chester County and the owner is from Florida. There is also a house going in on Brownell Lane but construction has stopped as of right now. Supervisor Fedler also asked about the house that was going in on Brownell Road and how that was coming along.

Assessor Report

Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt reported in the assessor's absence that her extra hours to sit with the tentative roll would be: May 14, 2014 between 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM, May 21, 2014 between 2:00 – 6:00 PM, May 28, 2014 between 2:00 PM – 8:00 PM and May 31 between 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Anyone that is interesting in grieving their assessment should meet with the Assessor before the Grievance Day. The date for Grievance Day will be June 3, 2014 between the hours of 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM. Supervisor Fedler said that it has been brought to her attention that this is the second year in a row that we have only had 2 BAR members to attend the Grievance Day. After last month's meeting she was notified that one member could not attend and the other could not attend training. If a Town does not have a quorum for BAR then the County Chairman of the Board, the County Treasurer and the Clerk to the Board becomes the Board of Review. The Supervisor suggested that the Town Board consider having alternate BAR members. The BAR is allowed 5 members and the Supervisor said because of the situation that occurred this year she would like to have an alternate. Because of the Town Appointment Policy someone could not be immediately appointed. The Town Board decided to go forward and advertise 30 days for the BAR alternate position. The commitment for this position is one day of training and one day for Grievance Day and this is a paid position. The Town Board will interview for this position at the July 14, 2014 meeting. Supervisor Fedler did mention that they should during budget time consider putting \$25 - \$30 extra in the budget for training.

Planning Board

Supervisor Fedler mentioned that Association of Towns had been contacted and the Planning Board position that is being advertised for now can be filled for the remaining of the vacant term. In the beginning of January 1, 2015 the position will have to be advertised again. The person that is appointed this year will have to reapply if they are interested in the position. It was mentioned that as of now there are no applicants that have applied for the vacant Planning Board Position.

Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt read the Planning Board Report in Sally Eddy's absence. The Town of Cambridge Planning Board held its regular monthly meeting, Thursday, May 1, 2014, 7:30 PM, at the Town Hall. Five members were present, along with the secretary and 3 people from the public. The following business was addressed. There was a public hearing and granted final approval to Clifford & Janice Wilbur's application for a 1.24 acre minor subdivision located on South Cambridge Rd. Subdivision will be conveyed to their daughter. The Board also granted Preliminary

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Approval to David & Sue Craig for a 4.81 acre minor subdivision located on Irish Lane to be conveyed to their son. A public hearing will be held at the June 5th meeting.

Town Clerk

Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt reported that she attended the Town Clerk Conference in Saratoga at the Hilton on April 28th, 29th and 30th. She shared with the Town Board a couple of things that were touched on in conference that should be done in the Town of Cambridge. The first thing was that all records that are available in the Town Clerk office should be posted on the Town website. It was suggested at conference to refer to the MU1 which would be the records retention schedule. The second thing that needs to be addressed is the Records Management. All Vital Records in the Town Clerk's office should be in the mylar (archival) protective sleeves. The Town Clerk will be concentrating on getting the Vital Records properly stored to maintain them. Councilman Skiff asked about the vault and whether the dehumidifier was on and working correctly. The Town Clerk and the Highway Superintendent said that they would look to make sure it was working correctly.

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Fedler did not meet with the Fire Department no one ever called; she only had a tentative schedule. She has also passed the suggestions on to the Town Attorney concerning the Trailer Ordinance. Fran Buck will be starting the repairs to the Town Hall in the next week. He has checked with the Highwaymen to make sure that the scaffolding will not interfere with their work. Supervisor Fedler has requested a 3rd Party electrical review. Mr. Buck has given the Supervisor a more formal bill with the break down to be submitted to the insurance company. Fran Buck did mention that he didn't think that the insurance company would cover any of the repairs. She met with the new director of economic development for the county. The new director has been going around to each Town and Village and meeting with the Supervisors/mayors. They had a general discussion about what they see for the Town. It was an informational gathering session and what she has to offer for the Town. She does not live that far away from our Town so she has a better feel for the area. The Supervisor had mentioned that Councilwoman Herrington was looking for grants that were available to the Town. Senator Gillibrand has made this information on Grants available on her website so the Supervisor passed this information on to Councilwoman Herrington. The Town Supervisor mentioned the consolidated funding application (CFA Grants for Economical Development) were released the first of May and the application must be filed and back in by the 15th of June. It is almost impossible to come up with an idea and do all the research to get something together for this year. There must already be some plan in order to get this submitted for the deadline. Right now anything that is to be done for the Town will have to be done in the future when a plan is established. They discussed shared services between Towns and Villages. The Supervisor mentioned that everyone's first jump is the highway department. The Supervisor said that they need to think outside the box, there is a lot that can be done in the communities that is outside the highway department.

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Supervisor Fedler also met with Val Regan the Village of Cambridge Mayor. They discussed shared services; Supervisor Fedler said that the Town of Cambridge already did shared services with many Towns. The Village faces many challenges. They also talked about the Governors idea about the communities working together.

Supervisor Fedler also mentioned that she had contacted the Association of Towns and they are researching whether the Town Dump Law needs a BAR. She is still following up on the short paper fiber and getting the information to everyone. She also thanked Councilman Skiff for going to the County and picking up the food for the food pantries. Councilman Skiff goes to Ft. Edward where the Tractor Trailer brings the food and there the food is loaded for the Local food pantries. Councilman Skiff and Beaver Watkins a resident of the town bring the food back to Cambridge. The food is then taken to the Brieman Building and Senior Citizens in the Village of Cambridge. Councilwoman Herrington was thanked for her efforts to manage the Town Wide Clean up day the weekend of May 17th and 18th.

Town Board

Councilman Skiff and Councilman McMurray attended the Town of Easton Town Board Meeting to hear the concerns on the Short Paper Fiber/Paper Sludge from Casella Organics. They reported that the meeting in Easton went well. Councilman Skiff said he received literature today and there were 900.81 tons of short paper fiber that covered 129.5 acres as of October 17, 2013 in Town of Cambridge. Councilman Skiff said that he neither condemns nor promotes this product. He just feels that people should know what is going on in their community. The towns that have residents that use this product are Cambridge, Fort Ann, Schaghticoke, Easton, Valley Falls, Atego, Johnsonville, Stanford, Gansvort, Eagle Bridge, Gilbertsville, Melrose, Argyle, South Glens Falls. Councilman Skiff said that he would leave a copy of all the paperwork with the Town Clerk for the file on the short paper fiber.

Councilwoman Herrington reported that she had spoke with David Connors he is from Senator Gillibrand's office. He sent her a packet of paperwork on Grants. Councilwoman Herrington mentioned that there was information in the packet in regards to Fire and Emergency Services. There is a section for getting grants for Facilities Development, provides facilities for areas and towns with population up to 20,000 to construct and enlarge center communities' facilities. Councilwoman Herrington thought that this might pertain to the Fire Department. Supervisor Fedler suggested that this information be passed on to the Fire Chief or Val Reagan the Mayor of the Village. Councilwoman Herrington mentioned that it is good for the Town to have a Plan, where the town is going, and goals for the next 5 to 10 years. Councilwoman Herrington said that the Town wide roadside cleanup has been advertised in the Eagle for 2 weeks. The bags for clean up are available at the Town Hall. The dates of the Clean up are May 17th and 18th. Councilwoman Herrington has some interested groups such as the 4-H club who will be doing Gannon, Cobble and Conley roads. Some other groups have showed interest and the leaders will be contacting Councilwoman Herrington. She also mentioned the Town Picnic and that the Board should decide on the when, where and also advertise this in the paper. The

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Councilwoman Herrington reported that Assemblyman Steve Mclaughlin would be in Cambridge at the Balloon Festival Friday, June 6th from 3-6 pm if anyone was interested in meeting him.

Highway Superintendent Report

Highway Superintendent Alan Davis reported that the highwaymen have graded and graveled the dirt roads. Several Days the highwaymen worked on replacing driveway culverts and they have done a lot of ditching. The roads have been swept twice there was a snowstorm in between. Chuck Watkins helped White Creek with the excavator for a day. Three men have hauled gravel for three days with the Town of Whitecreek. They had a project on Chestnut Hill Road. The Highway Superintendent met with Soil & Water and the Encon Gentleman in Coila to make sure that he has the proper permit for replacing the bridge. Alan Davis and Fred Wulff went to Town of Campbell to look at a 2005 single axle truck. They want \$45,000 for the truck. The Highway Superintendent talked with Delurey's and also with Councilman Ford about this truck, they decided the truck is well worth that amount. The truck is a 2005 tandem with a cummings motor and 31,000 miles.

Highway Superintendent Davis has received new quotes for the culvert pipe that will be installed at the Coila Bridge. The counties recommendation was to go with the aluminum plate culvert pipe. This culvert pipe will be similar to the aluminum plate culvert pipe that was installed at South Union Street Bridge. The cost of this culvert pipe will be \$8,300 and it comes from Lake Materials out of Ballston Spa. The size of the pipe is 6'x9' high by 10'x3' wide. The recommendation is to go with gravel and to pack around both sides of the culvert. The Highway Superintendent is figuring on approximately 100 – 120 yards of gravel. Councilman McMurray asked how big the old bridge opening was. It was thought that the old opening was approximately 12ft. The top of the culvert would have 1 1/2 ft over fill which would slightly raise the profile of the road 8 inches. Highway Superintendent Davis did say that they would possibly pave the road next year.

Councilman Skiff said that he would like talk more about the 2005 Truck and whether it was pre emissions. Councilman Ford said that the truck was pre emissions and that he thought the longer we could stay away from the emissions the better. Supervisor Fedler clarified for the public that there had been discussion in the past about replacing the single axle tandem truck with a used truck. The option has come to purchase this 2005 single axle tandem truck. The truck has had a new radiator put in it since the Highway Superintendent looked at it. The box on the truck needs some repair but it is good to last for another 3 or 4 years. Supervisor Fedler said that because this would be a purchase between municipalities that the Town does not have to go out to bid for the purchase of the truck. This has been researched and found in the Town Law and the Highway Law book.

Resolution #28

Councilman Ford motioned,
Seconded by Councilman Skiff,

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Be It Resolved, that the Town Board gives Highway Superintendent Alan Davis permission to make an offer on the 2005 single axle tandem truck up to \$45,000.

Vote: Ayes – 5 Noes – 0

Councilman McMurray wanted to know what the rush was on this truck, why the hurry. Highway Superintendent Davis said that there were other towns that would be interested in the truck and a decision must be made tonight. Superintendent Alan Davis said that Jeff Delurey thought this truck is a heavy built truck and not to loss it for a few thousand dollars. The Supervisor wanted everyone to know that this is not a fly by night thing, or a short discussion. This is trying to save money for the Town and it has been thoroughly looked at.

Transfer of Funds

Resolution #29

Councilman Skiff motioned,
Seconded by Councilman Ford,

Be It Resolved, that money will be taken out of the Highway Equipment Reserve to pay for the 2005 single axle truck pending the approval of the deal.

Vote: Ayes – 5 Noes – 0

Then there was a short discussion whether to put the old truck on the Auctions International and what the minimum bid should be. It was decided to wait till next meeting to put the truck on Auctions International, pending the outcome of the truck purchase.

Highway Superintendent Davis proposed to the Town Board that it would be in the best interest of the Highway Department to purchase a hydraulic hose press/saw. This would cost the Town \$1,600.00. There is a cost savings to the Town but there is also less down time. The highway department would have access to the press at anytime. The Town of Cambridge would be jointly purchasing with White Creek, the Town of Cambridge would be purchasing the press. The Town of White Creek would buy the hose and fittings. Highway Superintendent Davis explained that everything would be at the Town of Cambridge highway garage and they would be keeping an inventory sheet. The question was asked who would be responsible for keeping track and ordering. Superintendent Davis said that when they use the parts they will immediately replace the inventory, there is no cost for shipping. The Highway Superintendent did mention that the fittings that they were purchasing were Weatherhead fittings. Napa stocks these fittings so if they did need them right away they could just go to Napa.

Resolution #30

Councilwoman Herrington motioned, Seconded by Councilman McMurray to purchase the hydraulic hose press and saw.

Vote: Ayes – 5 Noes – 0

Supervisor Fedler mentioned that Highway Superintendent Davis was keeping specific records of his shared services. She also mentioned that she had toured the roads with the Highway Superintendent to discuss the paving. There is 4,000 ft of South Cambridge Rd. which will be paved. One of the other roads is the end of Gannon Rd. where they left off last year. This will be about 3,000 ft. this will be a shim real thin in the middle and thick on the sides. He is also looking at the top of Kenyon Rd., and he would like to chip seal Cobble Rd. depending on the money remaining. The Town of Cambridge received \$169,000 in CHIPS money this year. The Highway Superintendent has \$180,000 worth of paving he would like to do. He mentioned that he would have to shorten up the paving plan in order to have enough money.

Councilman Skiff was wondering if they could research what a possible trade in on the pickup truck would be. They said that Town of Jackson traded in their pickup truck and received almost an even swap. Supervisor Fedler asked if the Highway Superintendent had a chance to look at state contract. Superintendent Davis said that there was a couple ways to look at this. The truck could be traded in or sold on auctions international. The Highway Superintendent had received some figures from Carbone dealership if the Town was to upgrade to 2015 with trade in \$4,695. He also checked it out and the Base amount for F350 was \$24,000. He has not had a chance yet to look at the Blue Book, however he had compared with sales on auctions international. He thought that it was possible to do better by selling the truck outright on Auctions International. It was decided to look into this more before a decision is made.

The Board also discussed the Highway School which was tabled from last month. There were questions on whether he would benefit in going or should he be here concentrating on the roads. Highway Superintendent Davis said that he benefits going and learning, being proactive, and also talking with other Superintendents to receive information of what other towns do. Supervisor Fedler said when she talked with other Towns and whether they sent their Superintendent's, they said don't question it just send him.

Highway Schooling Resolution #31

Councilman Ford motioned, Seconded by Councilwoman Herrington, to allow Highway Superintendent Alan Davis to attend Highway School.

Ayes – 4

Noes – 1

Councilman McMurray objected to sending the Highway Superintendent to Highway School. His concerns are that the Town is sending him to school to be a manager and he is not seeing the management. Supervisor Fedler suggested that Superintendent Davis look into scholarships for highway schooling.

Councilman Skiff talked to Jason from Hudson Valley Wireless. He informed the Councilman that the situation has been taken care of between their company and BounceLink. They are going to continue to build their system throughout the rural areas. Tingue Rd. will have a short antenna. Now that the two band widths have been resolved

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they are going to start moving forward. They also have a huge grant to help get Wireless Internet out into the Towns.

Councilman Skiff questioned if the Town Attorney was still looking at the Best Value Law. Councilman McMurray was questioning when some of the information would come back from the Town Attorney. Supervisor Fedler said that she was working on the things that she had given her. However, Supervisor Fedler admitted that she could not justify cutting the Attorney salary back to \$1800 for the amount of work that she is doing.

County Report

They are still working through personnel reviews. Ag and Tourism did not have a meeting this month. Health and Human Services through Social Services Department there is a chance to hire people for small jobs through social services. Through the DA and Sheriff Office if there is anyone that has a project in the community painting or cemetery work for community services work. Community Service is someone that has gotten in trouble and they have to donate their time to the community to do stuff. At the County they are finishing last years business and starting to talk budget. Conversation about shared services and how to work the governors program, the first place that they are going is the Highway Department.

Privilege of the Floor

Robbie McIntosh a resident of the Town mentioned CFA (Consolidating Funding Application), and the kind of things they might look favorable. If our town could think of some ways to look at equipment that would reduce the fuel consumption. Possibly even the Town could think about solar energy and emergency shelter for disaster.

The Short Paper Fiber was a concern and Robbie McIntosh suggested soil and water monitoring might be a good idea. Councilwoman Herrington asked if there was regular water testing in the area. Councilman Skiff asked if Soil and Water would help with this. Supervisor Fedler said that NRCS (National Resources Conservation) manages all of this. Supervisor Fedler and Councilman McMurray said that they are monitored through this NRCS and they manage and tell you things that should and shouldn't be done on your own property. Robbie McIntosh said that he is not trying to add another layer of government but to make known the value of having healthily soil and water.

Dan Smith another resident voiced his concerns about the Short Paper Fiber product that is being spread. He had many concerns about the health of the wildlife, the people that are hunting and eating this wildlife. He said that he has called the Casella Organics and has not had anyone return his call. Once again the concern is that this product is going unmonitored. The Town Attorney says that there is no violation of the Dump Law and she will be putting this in writing and submitting it to the Town Supervisor.

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There being no other business before the Town Board, the meeting was moved and carried for adjournment at 10:08 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Heather Greenawalt
Town Clerk/Town of Cambridge

<http://www.townofcambridgeny.org>