**FEBRUARY 11, 2013**

An executive session of the Town Board was called to order at 5:00 pm in the Town Office to discuss contract negotiations.

Members present: Joseph Finnegan, David Fisher, Tony Cooper, Tim Thisse and Kevin Finnegan.

The executive session was closed at 5:30 pm with no votes taken.

The regular meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm in the Town Office.

Also present: William Barkley – Highway Supt., Judy Hargrave – Town Clerk, Kim Bisonette and Jean Barclay.

**Public Comment:** Jean Barclay inquired about the water charge on her land tax bill as water is not currently available to her property. The Board discussed and Jean’s, Elden Bullis and Hugh Rood’s properties were erroneously added to the water district. David Fisher made a motion, second by Tony Cooper to remove the three parcels from the water district. All were in favor. The Assessor will send the paperwork to the County to allow them to receive a refund for the charges on their 2013 tax bills.

The Board reviewed the monthly report. The Town has received all of it’s money for the current warrant. David Fisher made a motion, second by Kevin Finnegan to acknowledge receipt of the monthly financial report. All were in favor.

The Board reviewed the monthly bills. Tony Cooper made a motion, second by Tim Thisse to pay the monthly bills. General #34-65 in the amount of $40,912.45, Highway #19-43 in the amount of $45,327.29, Water #9-15 in the amount of $1,038.31, Sewer #9-21 in the amount of $6,477.69, Light #2 in the amount of $1,572.81 and Trust & Agency #3-4 in the amount of $7,162.18. All were in favor.

**Communications:** A letter from the NYS Office of Real Property Tax Services listing the special services franchise assessments totaling $1,823,505.

A letter was received stating that the charges for unemployment insurance for Dale Champion will be $9,750.00.

A letter was received from St. Law. Co. Director of Emergency Services requesting that the Town act on a resolution to support NYS Senate bill $1720 which calls for equitable sharing of E911 Surcharge monies. David Fisher made a resolution, second by Kevin Finnegan to support the senate bill #1720: EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF CELL 911 SURCHARGE MONIES

By

**WHEREAS,** New York State imposes a $1.20 per month surcharge on all cell phone bills that was initiated following the attacks of 9/11 and was aimed at addressing the serious communications failures and shortcomings that horrific event exposed in the communications systems used by first responders, and

**WHEREAS,** the people of New York State were told that this surcharge would be dedicated to rebuilding emergency communications systems throughout the state, and

**WHEREAS,** New York State has not been fair in sharing these funds. Last year over $192 million was collected statewide from this surcharge, of which only $9.3 million was shared with local governments. This year it is expected that the surcharge will generate over $210 million, and

**WHEREAS,** currently a bill has been introduced to the NY State Senate, S.1720A (Grisanti) that would dramatically increase the sharing from this fund to first responder and emergency services to an annual amount of 58.3%. If these bills were to become law, this would represent a significant source of funds for local agencies to begin rebuilding and upgrading communications systems, and

**WHEREAS,** sharing from this fund needs to be significantly increased and would be used to fully build the infrastructure for the complete emergency interoperable communications network, it would be prudent and beneficial to contact our State Assembly member and State Senator and urge them to support these bills then,

**NOW, THEREFORE,BE IT RESOLVED** that it is hereby resolved that the Chair will contact and forward this resolution to our State and Assembly representatives to urge them to support bills S.1720A now pending in the NYS Senate that will provide the County with a more equitable distribution of State 911 surcharge funding.

All were in favor. The resolution was duly passed.

A letter was received from NYS Assemblyman Michael Kearns relating to Assembly bills A.88 and A.824 along with a draft resolution they would like the board to consider adopting.

SUPPORT FOR NYS-CONTACT INFORMATION FOR VACANT STRUCTURES:

On a motion by Councilman Tony Cooper, second by Kevin Finnegan, the following was unanimously adopted:

Resolved to support New York State regarding the proposed laws concerning contact information for vacant structures.

Whereas, vacant, abandoned and foreclosed homes and structures have proliferated throughout New York State over the last five years; and

Whereas, vacant structures that are not maintained for months at a time degrade and depreciate the value of the vacant structure as well as the value of surrounding properties; and

Whereas, lending institutions that hold mortgages on said vacant structures do not always provide the contact information of a responsible party; and

Whereas, Assembly Bill A.88 and Assembley Bill A.824, currently pending, would make it mandatory for lending institutions to provide contact information of responsible parties regarding vacant structures; and require good faith in obtaining a foreclosure; and

Whereas, the Town of Madrid Town Board supports the passage of said Bills.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Madrid hereby supports the passage of said Bills and respectfully requests that the State Representatives who represents constituents in the Town of Madrid support the passage of said Bills.

An email was received with items listed that are needed to secure the financing for the 2013 Mack Plow truck, which is to also include the $15,235.58 down payment, which is on the highway bills.

**Bill Barkley:** The Town received the check for the damage done to the fire hydrant on County Route 31.

Tim Thisse made a motion, second by Kevin Finnegan to purchase pedometers for the workplace wellness program at a cost of $140.00. The winner of this incentive program would be entitled to eight hours of paid time off. All were in favor.

There has been some issues with truck 10, Bill has been getting estimates from Barstow’s and Stickney’s.

**Old Business**: The Board discussed three properties on Caroline Street that were included in the water district and received a tax levy of $145.36 for the water district. David Fisher made a motion, second by Tony Cooper to remove these properties from the water district as it would not be feasible to install water to their properties. The properties are tax map #’s 41.070-4-9, 41.070-4-11.12 and 41.070-4-8.1. All were in favor. They will be sent paperwork to apply for a refund of the $145.36 that was on their tax bill.

The Town Clerk is making copies of the Employee Manual to hand out to Town employees.

**New Business:** David Fisher made a motion, second by Tim Thisse to appoint Brian Coakley to the Board of Assessment Review, pending clearance from his employer. All were in favor.

The Board reviewed the general insurance proposals from Rose & Kiernan, at a cost of $23,2341.47 and Haylor, Freyer & Coon at cost of $21,045.95.

David Fisher made a motion, second by Tony Cooper to purchase insurance from Haylor, Freyer & Coon at the price of $21,045.95. All were in favor.

Kim Bisonette stated that the tentative assessment rate for the upcoming year is 99.58%.

Kim inquired about getting a quote for retrieving pictures and files off of his old laptop computer. The board told him get the quote.

Tony Cooper made a motion, second by Kevin Finnegan to approve the minutes from the January 9, 2013 town board meeting. All were in favor.

The board discussed removing the Madrid cemetery from the sewer district. Tim Thisse made a motion, second by David Fisher to remove the Madrid cemetery from the sewer district. Roll call vote as follows: David Fisher – Aye, Tim Thisse – Aye, Tony Cooper – Aye, Kevin Finnegan – Aye and Joseph Finnegan – Abstain. The motion was duly passed.

Kevin reported that they had met with John Carr regarding the dam project and John is drawing up plans to apply for more grant money.

The next regular town board meeting will be on Wednesday March 13th at 6:30 pm.

Tony Cooper made a motion, second by Kevin Finnegan to adjourn at 7:30 pm.

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Judy Hargrave, Town Clerk