

REGULAR MEETING TOWN HALL 46 COUNTY ROUTE 11
November 12, 2003 8:00 PM WEST MONROE, NY 13167

Present: Supervisor Manchin; Councilors Ned Green, Michael Hickey, Timothy McCarthy and Gary Ross
Town Clerk Christine Shaw, Deputy Clerk Louise Herbert
Elwin Fisher, Highway Superintendent
Assessor Patrick Duffy
4 people in the audience
Tug Hill Representative Paul Baxter arrived later in the meeting

The following minutes were approved:

Sept. 10th - Approval moved by Councilor Hickey, 2nd by Councilor McCarthy, all board members voted in favor of approval.

Sept. 17th - Approval moved by Councilor Ross, 2nd by Councilor McCarthy, Councilor Green abstained and all board members voted in favor of approval.

Oct. 1st - Approval moved by Councilor Ross, 2nd by Councilor Hickey, Councilor McCarthy abstained and all board members voted in favor of approval.

Oct. 22 - Approval moved by Councilor Hickey, 2nd by Councilor McCarthy, Councilor Green abstained and all board members voted in favor of approval.

Oct. 29 - Approval moved by Councilor Hickey, 2nd by Councilor McCarthy, all board members voted in favor of approval.

Nov. 6 - Approval moved by Councilor Ross, 2nd by Councilor Green, all board members voted in favor of approval with correction of spelling errors.

Mr. Ron Lougnot submitted another petition with 135 signatures in favor of the formation of a Water District in the Town of West Monroe. Mr. Manchin explained that the Town has already begun the study and submitted the paperwork for review for financing through USDA. Mr. Manchin further explained that he will be meeting with the representatives of USDA funding agencies to review with them what the Town of West Monroe needs to do to get to the next level. Mr. Lougnot mentioned that the need and desire for public water within our town is very evident as it shows through the total number of signatures on the petitions. He also mentioned for many residents the amount of money that they would have to pay to have for the water district would be no more than they are already paying out for the purchase of bottled water or to have water delivered.

County Legislator Art Gearsbeck questioned the Fire Fund #1 in the Preliminary 2004 Budget. It was explained that since SOVAC covers only the area served by the West Monroe Fire Dept. only those residents living within that area of town should be taxed for this service. The Brewerton Fire Dept. (Fire #2) serves the Big Bay area. Therefore the line item for SOVAC was moved from the General Fund to the Fire #1 and that is why there is such a large increase there. The town is checking to see if it is possible to change the description on that item on the tax bills to read either "Emergency Services" or Fire and Ambulance #1.

Krista Zakerzeski, of Potter Road, submitted a petition with 28 signatures for the reduction of the speed limit on Potter Road. She explained the ongoing problem of the vehicles traveling on that road at a high speed and with the number of blind curves someone is going to get hurt, stressing concern for the children. Mr. Manchin moved to lower the speed limit on Potter Road to 40 mph the entire length of the road. Mr. Green seconded the motion, with unanimous board approval. The Town Clerk to submit the proper paperwork to Oswego County.

The Supervisor then addressed the Audit, which was required pay USDA for the year 2002, as a result of their financing the West Side Water District. The audit finding was that the Town lacks adequate appropriate segregation of duties

over the cash disbursement and receipts functions. Supervisor Manchin remarked that with this finding, he felt that the auditors did not understand the procedure that the entire board audits and approves/or rejects the payment of each and every bill. Mr. Manchin read a Response to Audit Findings, which he suggests that the board send to Testone, Marshall and Discenza, the company that conducted the audit. Mr. McCarthy moved to send the letter, Mr. Green seconded the motion with unanimous board approval.

2004 Preliminary Budget: Mr. Ross to adopt the Preliminary Budget, Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion with unanimous approval of the board.

Mr. Ross moved to advertise for fuel for 2004 and to have the bid opening on December 4th at 11 am. Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously to approve.

Highway Superintendent Elwin Fisher requested permission to bid on the mix plant in the Town of Hastings that Oswego County has put up for bid. After review of the request, Mr. McCarthy moved to give the Highway Superintendent permission to place the agreed bid for this mix plant, Mr. Ross seconded the motion with unanimous board approval.

Mr. Manchin explained that the West Side Water District Fund has enough money to borrow \$25,000 to the Big Bay Sewer Fund the short fall from the error and unexpected expenses this year. Mr. Manchin moved to approve an Inter-Fund loan in the amount of \$25,000 from the West Side Water District Fund to the Big Bay Sewer District Fund, at a rate of 1.6% per year until February 2004. Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion. Mr. Ron Hogan of Lower Road, mentioned that in October it was reported that the short fall was in the amount of \$14,000 and now the board wants to borrow \$25,000. He asked where the difference came from. Mr. Manchin explained that the shortfall was understated last month. Mr. Ron Lounnot asked how much money is being kept in the West Side Water District fund? Answer: about \$30,000.

The board voted unanimously to approve the inter-fund loan.

Mr. Manchin reminded the board that there will be a GIS presentation at the December meeting from the Tug Hill Commission and suggested that the Planning Board attend.

Patrick Duffy, Assessor informed the board that the Senior Exemption and Disability exemption income limits have been increased. After some discussion, Mr. Hickey moved to increase the senior exemption and disability exemption income limits to the new higher income amounts and to hold the public hearing regarding this change on December 10th at 7:30. Mr. Ross seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously to approve.

October's Monthly Reports were received from:

Town Clerk with a check in the amount of \$1934.01
Supervisor's Financial Report
Justice Court quarterly statement
Highway Superintendent
Dog Control Officer

Mr. Ross moved to pay the bills as audited, Mr. Green seconded the motion.

GENERAL FUND, abstract #11, vouchers #322 to #367 with voucher #354 voided, in the amount of \$8,198.41

HIGHWAY FUND, abstract #11, vouchers #339 to 374 in the amount of \$17,037.06

BIG BAY SERWER FUND, abstract # 11, #128 to #136 in the amount of \$5,259.50

WEST SIDE WATER FUND, abstract #4, voucher #5

Paul Baxter reported on the OLWAC committee explaining that the task force reports will be coming in from each of the workgroups and therefore he will have more information available soon.

COMMUNICATION:

NYS Emergency Management reimbursement for services during the ice storm

NYS Motor Vehicles regarding compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act requiring that the town make their public services and programs accessible by hearing-impaired consumers.

NYSSS Real Property Services regarding distribution of the 2003 STAR Administrative Aid

State of New York Public Service Commission notification of Hearings regarding Niagara Mohawks' security Deposit policies

Newsletters and Publications

At 9:28 Mr. Ross moved to go into executive session to discuss litigation and violations regarding the Town of West Monroe Junk Ordinance. Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion, unanimous approval of the board

The board returned at 9:35 reopening the regular meeting to adjourn the meeting.