

Town of Nelson  
Town Board Meeting  
January 8, 2009

Present: Richard Williams, Supervisor  
Michael Costello, Councilman  
Denise Earl, Councilman  
Dean Coe, Councilman  
Robert Davies, Councilman  
Jack Sevier, Highway Superintendent

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Williams at 7:00 pm.

After the pledge of allegiance and roll call the minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and one change was made. A motion was made by Dean and seconded by Mike to accept the minutes as amended. It was carried after approval by all members.

The next Land Use Regulation Committee will be meeting on January 22, 2009 at 7:00.

Dick gave the Supervisor's report and went over the year-end report. Sue gave the Town Clerk and Code Enforcement Officers report. There was no Planning Board meeting. Dick noted that the County Historian's job has been expanded by about 8 hours to help with the Madison County Fair. Denise will also be helping. Madison County is trying to make the fair a better fair and are giving it one last shot to do so.

#### Highway Report

Jack gave the highway report and said that there were 76 plow runs at this time and last year there was 130 total for the year. Sand is probably 2/3 gone. Equipment has only been minor repairs. Jack still has 1,000 yards of sand outside and can use once there is a thaw. He figures we could do 150 runs with what we've got. Jack said he went over and looked at the mower at the county. He said all repairs have been top of the line and it looks in good shape. It's been well-maintained. Everything he has compared this with has been between \$17,000 & \$22,000 as opposed to \$68,000 to \$70,000 for a new one. Dick said he will go to the Public Works Committee and indicate that we are prepared to buy the tractor and ask Tracy to appraise it first. Dick said there was a letter saying that we can use the County garage if needed, to do repairs to equipment.

The mailbox policy was discussed. There was one mailbox that there is an issue with but no one is sure that we hit it. However, we didn't have a truck in the area on the day they said it was hit and it is bent in a way that it wouldn't have been if we had hit it. Jack suggested we update the policy on the website as most other towns say mailboxes are not our responsibility and by state law they are in our right-of-way and they are the owners responsibility but if they actually get struck by our plow they will go out and replace them with a 4 x 4 post, cross bar and the

cheapest mailbox. Some towns limit the price to \$25 and do not include custom or expensive mailboxes. NYS OSHA came in while they were doing maintenance work on the equipment and found a few minor things wrong. Dick will be getting a report.

Old Business:

The Direct Deposit Payroll is now up and running with ADP. The first checks have been deposited already.

New Business:

Madison County Health Department finally gave us a comment letter on our design for the Erieville Water system. Dick met with Dick Elliott to discuss some items the county thought should be added. He will get back with them with the feedback they requested. Hopefully this won't take more than a month. The grant process is progressing. Dick has drafted a letter to Charles Schumer hoping that he can put some pressure on the USDA to make some more money available for grant money.

Ed Nelson said he has to leave the Planning Board but will stay until someone else is found. He has a family commitment but once it is done he would like to be back on the board. Dick said he likes to have someone from the Highway Department on the Planning Board and hopes to find someone else.

Organizational Chart:

Dick went over the chart with the bolded items being the items that changed. Dick said that he has talked to Jeff Rubenstein and he would like to stay on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Dick made a motion to re-appoint Eric Delling to the Grievance Board and Rob seconded. All approved. Mike made a motion to approve the Organizational Meeting docket and Dean seconded. All approved. Mike made a motion to approve the Highway Organizational Meeting docket and Rob seconded. All approved.

Correspondence:

There was a letter from the Census Bureau asking us to provide them with a list of emergency and transitional shelters for people experiencing homelessness, soup kitchens and regularly scheduled mobile food vans. This doesn't apply to us.

There was a letter from the Health Department indicating that the last 3 reporting periods, September, October, and November we did not submit Operator's reports. Dick will send this to Mark Nourse and the board of the Erieville Water District and ask Mark to give him a call.

There was a letter from NYMIR saying that our insurance company has done a good job and therefore they will kick back some money to all the towns in the program. This year we will see a 10% reduction in our premium.

Dick said that he and the other 3 towns that are in the CAP met with Rhonda Weigand to talk about re-evaluation. The other towns are Smithfield, Brookfield, and Fenner. We have \$1,000 in the budget for her to start taking photos etc. They all agreed that the full-fledged reval can go into effect in 2010. The money that she will require for that will be about \$6.00 per parcel and we will get \$5.00 per parcel from the state for aid to do the reval.

There is a letter from Jim Stokes, the town attorney, for his legal services engagement for the year. Dean made a motion to accept this proposal and Mike seconded. All voted in favor and the motion was carried.

There was an impromptu meeting with the Sewer District to test the water and between the town of Cazenovia and Nelson they were on the same wavelength of moving forward with some kind of intermunicipal agreement. Liz Moran is going to have their town attorney do research to see what this would entail to get into an agreement.

There will be a get-together appreciation reception at Rosie's on January 31<sup>st</sup> from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm for all employees and board members. Sue will send out invitations and coordinate with Pam White.

Dick made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Dean seconded. All voted in favor and the meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan J. Henderson, Secretary