

June 2016 Supervisor's report

Many of the items on this month's are a result of previously discuss items and issues or are a part of the continuous efforts to identify the needs of the Town and to try to secure any outside funding. The request for the first budget modification stems from the absence of the Town Constable and the need to cover duties in his absence. The additional costs for the engineers are expected to be covered through an agreement with the developer of the proposed student housing, but the agreement hasn't been formulized. Additionally, the engineer is working to identify additional grants and funding streams available to the town. When this occurs, many of these costs will then be assigned to the new funding sources.

The resolution regarding the bill from WD Malone is a result of the project to repair Byer Road. This project was an example of the new working relationship with the City of Oswego and it was very successful undertaking. Through mutual agreement, the City and the Town have shared the expenses and this bill represents approximately half the costs of the project.

The next resolutions authorize the Town to establish a new account with Community Bank and recognizes the transfer needed to implement this account. For years he Town of Oswego has maintained funds for the perpetual care of the Oswego Town Rural Cemetery. It is the interest from these accounts that is used to help with the associated costs. The proposed transfer would move these funds from accounts yielding .1 and .2 percent interest into accounts yielding much higher rates (approximately 1.2 – 1.9) while providing all of the legal safeguards required and recommended by New York State.

The resolution to satisfy the long outstanding Due To/Due From accounts between the highway department and the general fund results from suggestions from the NYS Comptroller's Office and also improves the overall cash flow issues of the Town and these two departments.

The Lawn Maintenance Contract with Lawn Shark Landscaping, a local firm, is higher than in past years, but recognizes the need for landscaping of the Town Hall, previously under a separate contract, mowing the new Community Center property and improves the maintenance of the Sleepy Hollow facility, which has been somewhat lacking. It is anticipated that next year there will be a better opportunity to solicit additional bids.

There are two resolutions this month regarding engineer agreements or applications proposed by our Town Engineers, BCA Group. The first is to review ongoing efforts to improve and maintain the Sleepy Hollow facility, including looking into any possible funding to assist the Town with these efforts. The second authorizes the supervisor to sign applications and other forms to apply for grants or other funding to assist with the purchase of a new snow plow and possibly a new "Fuelmaster" type system. The purchase of a plow would be in keeping with the towns vehicle replacement procedures and schedule that was previously established.

Earlier this month I met with a representative from “Troy & Banks” regarding our franchise and other agreements. This resolution would allow for them to examine records in our behalf to insure that we are getting reimbursed as much as possible. Since no Town funds will be used to do this and any costs will come from any increased revenues, this seemed a reasonable undertaking.

Last month members of the Town Planning Board and others met to walk the proposed site of the Lakeside Commons student housing project. We had anticipated that the matter would come before the Planning Board in June. However, this has been delayed since there is no agreements in place with the City of Oswego regarding the Ontario Heights Sewer fees. However, I am anticipating a meeting with the City in the near future.