

The regular monthly meeting of the Hamilton Town Council was held on Thursday, April 11, 2013, at 7:00 p.m., at the Town Office, 16 Broad Street. Present were: Eve Ann Shwartz, Supervisor; Peter Darby, Deputy Supervisor; D. Holcomb, C. Todd, C. Rossi, Town Council; B. Glazier, Highway Supt.; Sue Reymers, Bookkeeper; G. Hayes, Mayor Miller, Sean Graham, Tom Fagan, Merrill Miller.

Deputy Supervisor P. Darby started the meeting; Eve Ann will be here soon. He welcomed everyone and asked for public comments. G. Hayes said the Earlville Village Elections had been held last month and everyone who was in office stayed in office. The Town helped Earlville take the stump down from their Christmas tree. The Village swept the streets. He thanked the Town. The Foreman of their DPW Crew is leaving-and if anyone knows of someone who would be qualified and interested, let G. Hayes know – it is a full time job.

A Motion to Accept the March 14, 2013 Town Board Minutes was made by C. Todd, seconded by C. Rossi and carried with Revisions. Revisions are attached as "Exhibit A".

A Motion to Pay the General Bills was made by C. Todd, seconded by D. Holcomb and carried.

A Motion to Pay the Highway Bills was made by C. Rossi, seconded by C. Todd and carried.

Bert Glazier then gave his Highway Report. He said they are sweeping roads, working on mowers – getting them ready for Spring, and cut some trees on Williams Road. Two trucks are in Auction International and we received the 2013 one ton off state bid, from Carbone. It is licensed and in service, the other two are for sale. They did ditching on Spring Street and Mason Road, and some carpenter things in the garage and a few repairs. Our CHIPS went up \$24,046.80. CHIPS went up from \$85,672.26 to \$109,719.06.

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P. Darby said the Town, the Village and Colgate are meeting with Bernie Bus on May 7th to initiate discussions about possible joint garage and facility. Is it worth pursuing or not. The Solar Panels are going to be installed sometime in May.

Sean Graham, Village of Hamilton Administrator, then spoke. He said the Village of Hamilton is a sanctioned municipal gas utility, identical to their electric utility, and they are now in the design stage. If you are interested in natural gas in the Township-they would need to create a Franchise and in order to create a Franchise this Town Board would have to hold a Public Hearing. Sean gave hand-outs to Board Members containing all the information. The Village would have to file this with the Public Service Commission. Peter asked: for example, if some of the houses outside the Village of Hamilton – ex. Jim Leach – wanted natural gas; does the Town create the Franchise and Contract with the Village of Hamilton. Sean said no, it is just like our electric utility – the Village only has electric in a portion of the Town of Hamilton. Sean said the Town would grant the Village of Hamilton, identical to their electric utility, the Franchise for the Town. Homes near Colgate could hook up with Colgate's. There are dual Franchises all over New York, Sean said, therefore if there is an opportunity for your residents to get gas – it might cost a fortune for the Village to run a line where it is located; so you might want to create a Franchise for somebody else, too. Peter asked if the Town gave the Village a Franchise for the whole Township – then whatever opportunity presented itself – the Village would be all set, and just have to work out the details on that opportunity. Sean said yes, the Village would be in the Town's rights of way and would have to work with Bert and the Town Board by letting them know what they are planning on doing- and why they were doing it-30 days in advance. Economics play a huge role in the gas industry – for example: Eaton Street, newer homes, and everyone put electric heat in. We can't build a long line for just one home, say, at the end of the Eaton Street-it would cost the Village a lot of money. With this, you do not have to annex into the Village; like you do for sewer and water, Sean said. Since this is a Franchise, we would be there, Sean said. The Mayor said Eaton is going to schedule their Public Hearing on this for their May Meeting – so if you wanted to do that, you could too. Peter asked : if they were able to get funding to install the infrastructure through the whole township –could their pipes handle a significant increase in use. Sean said they are looking it out 20 years. In the Village the pipes will only be 2 or 4 inch

lines running down the street, but the backbone is going to be 8 or 10 inch. It is like a Header on a water system-you just keep coming off. We did not take the whole Town into consideration, Sean said, but yes-developing some of the Town. If natural gas drilling is developed in the Township, Peter asked – would you have the capacity to run the gas the other way. Sean said they can't, he looked into it, and the problem with well gas is: there are 3 types of gas: well gas (goes into the collection system), then there is transportation gas, and distribution gas. What you would have to do is get it to distribution quality gas. It is like wind-if you can somehow get it to the grid and sell it on the grid-it offsets your customer's costs, if you own the wells. EmKey is a good example – they can't do it because of low pressure when coming out of the collection system, and it is high pressure when it gets into the transmission, and then gets down to medium pressure when it comes into the distribution system. Peter said he went to a presentation with Joe Morabito and Mike German – and Peter's understanding was that in Corning – they are taking gas from Pennsylvania wells and ultimately delivering them to another pipeline. Sean said that is what he is saying-you would need to build a compressor – yes, you can do it – but like the Bradley Brook compressor – they are dumping it on the Tenn. Line. The most expensive part is the transportation costs (same way in electricity). If you are interested in this or have any questions- just let us know, Sean said. Sean said: it starts at the corner of 12B & Route 20 – the Tenn. Pipe (transmission company) runs that way and they are negotiating with them and Kinder-Morgan (gas managers). The Village is working with Eddie Carhart and Terry Mosher, who own the majority of the property – they have started doing cultural resources out there already. When they get to Woodman Road, along 12B, they have 3 options – behind Damion's and into the Airport- and they want to be sure to serve the economic development property. There is a heavy load behind the Smith block buildings and the Colgate Inn. Price Chopper, and other Town of Madison stores, are looking for natural gas, too – and that is where their attorney Jim Stokes is tonight; talking to Madison. The Village's goal is to get down to the high school, the hospital, and the university. Without Colgate University, this does not work. This is a take and pay system – they do not want tax payers involved in this, the users will have to pay for it, Sean said. Sean said it is about a 50% savings compared to oil, they estimate. The Mayor said they want commitments from residents, thus they are mailing out surveys. C. Todd asked: regarding Madison – could the center of their Town get natural gas.

Sean said Supv. Ron Bono asked him if they could serve the Madison High School – it is not a big deal, but who is going to pay for it. May be some Grants out there. You have to have enough load for it to pay for itself – you have to look at the economics before putting pipe in; Sean said. There is not a lot of rural distribution of putting natural gas in, D. Holcomb said – and Sean said that is why; but it does not mean it can't happen. The Carhart farm and Mosher farm will be doing grain drying – so that will be a good load. So it is economical to try and serve them, the Mayor said. The Mayor said we would not be having this – if it was not for our major customers either – Colgate, Hospital, and High School. The Village's deadline is by the end of June/July this year – to know who wants it and who does not want it, Sean said. The Village needs commitments because they have to bond for the money, Sean said. They sent a Survey out with their electric bills. D. Holcomb said there has been natural gas in the Village of Morrisville, Waterville, and Deansboro for 50 or so years – and it does not go out very far – it is not cost effective. Hearings are being held this week at the Public Service Commission to talk to the IOU's (Investor Owned Utilities) – NYSEG, National Grid – Because they are wondering how to get telecommunications, gas, and high speed internet out there to the small Towns, Sean said. The IOU's are saying the small Towns need to invest 6 or 7 million dollars – so it is a vicious circle, he said. For History: Sean said NYSEG & Niagara Mohawk came to the Village in the past and said they wanted to bring gas; the Village said that's great, we talked to them, sat down with them at an MUC meeting, went through the Plans (that was when Ed Hotaling was President of the MUC Board) – they said they wanted to make sure they got down to Colgate and the Hospital. We said okay; we want to see the Plans for the rest of the Village, and they never came back – they are not interested if they can't make money. Sean said they are a non-profit, they need reserve funds in case something goes wrong. They are planning on full occupancy at their Airpark; anything they build will be low pressure – less than 124 pounds – they are not in the transmission business, and do not want to be in the transmission business. We get a Permit from the Public Service Commission for up to 124 pounds, so as things develop – they can continue to build out. We are trying to think long range, the Mayor said. You are asking the Town to set a date for a Public Hearing to consider a Franchise Authorizing the Village of Hamilton to have an opportunity to operate natural gas within the Town of Hamilton, Eve Ann said. Sean said yes. We would be glad to attend the Public Hearing with Maps,

Sean said. Eve Ann and Peter said it won't have much impact on Town residents, so let's schedule the Public Hearing for the next Board Meeting.

Resolution # _14_ was made by P. Darby, seconded by D. Holcomb and carried scheduling a Public Hearing on May 9, 2013, at 7:00 p.m., at the Town Office, 16 Broad Street, Hamilton, New York to consider a proposed Franchise Agreement Authorizing the Village of Hamilton to construct and operate a natural gas utility within the Town of Hamilton.

Sue Reymers, Bookkeeper, worked on the Profits and Loss Report, there is no Balance Sheet because she is still working on the AUD Report. AUD Report should be done by next week – Sue made a connection with someone new – who has a background in Government Accounting; her name is Carol King. She has worked at BOCES and is doing the Town of Sherburne's books, and is a Town of Lebanon Council woman; she is very helpful. Sue is looking for a Resolution to have permission to work with her-at her rate of \$25.00 per hour. Sue also gave a Report to the Town Supervisor, dated April 11, 2013. Sue said in regard to the Profits and Loss Report: Madison County road fund-received about \$84,000 income to date; we are waiting for 2 more checks to come in (according to Bert). We did receive the Time Warner Franchise fees from 2012-it is now paid quarterly. CHIPS was increased. We are getting a refund from Mang Insurance Of \$561 – because of increasing our deductible last month. The street lighting Sue put both districts on budget billing to help with the deficit we carry at year end. Peter asked why the PCD money had not been paid – Sue was not sure of the time frame they expected it. Peter said talk to Shannon about when to pay PCD; and Sue said she will. Eve Ann thanked Sue.

Resolution # _15_ was made by P. Darby, seconded by C. Rossi and carried authorizing Sue Reymers to employ Carol King as much as she needs her, at the rate of \$25 an hour.

Sue Reymers said May 1-3 she will be going to the annual Town Finance School in Saratoga Springs. This is co-presented by the Association of Towns and NYS OSC. Cost estimate is \$662 for all expenses. She will need reimbursement in May.

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This will come out of the Supervisor's line, Eve Ann said. Discussion about maybe it is time for the Town to get a Credit Card to cover certain circumstances, and look at the Village's policy on this. Eve Ann thanked Sue for her Report.

Resolution # 16 was made by P. Darby, seconded by C. Rossi and carried that Sue Reymers is authorized to go to the annual Town Finance School and be reimbursed the estimated \$662 cost for registration, hotel, meals and travel.

A Motion was made by P. Darby, seconded by C. Todd and carried that the Town's Official Bank is NBT now, since Alliance Bank was taken over by NBT Bank recently; this motion is being done because of the name change.

The Tax Collector then reported that since the bank has changed hands – she has not received her statement from NBT Bank, and she went over and spoke with Sherry Coventino (NBT Bank). Sherry gave the figure for the Town's Tax Collection currently being: \$127,603.93. Peter said the bank tellers are having a little trouble adjusting to the new software. There is \$2,896.41 of Penalty money for the Months of February and March – that is the Town's money- included in that figure. April Penalty money will belong to the Town, too – but once the collection is turned over to the County and the County is doing the work; they will keep the penalty money. Eve Ann thanked Cathy for her Report. Peter asked Sue where does that Penalty Money go as income in the Budget. Sue said: A1090 –tax penalty money goes there. Peter said since the penalty money is paid for our Tax Collector's additional labor - that being an "A" expense makes sense.

Eve Ann said the Codes Report shows no building permits were issued in March. Paul has been working with Mr. Keith – who has submitted his Building Permit Application and Fee of \$30. Also, the Town Clerk said Mr. Keith made a Freedom of Information request, and Paul went through his file-and gave Mr. Keith the copies he requested. Our goal is cooperation and move forward, Eve Ann said.

C. Todd then spoke about Code Enforcement: the Town of Hamilton has four (4) Documents in conjunction with Building Permits. (1) Building Permit – she sent a draft of a new Building Permit around- wherein she, Peter and Paul thought there should be some changes. Ex.- How these inspections are assigned and charged.

Paul wants the form to stay the same way. Collection Fees are a problem. The new proposal is to charge up front – the fees for a given project-and that change has been incorporated into the Application.

The former Application Document was 9 pages, now it is 2 pages, C. Todd said. Now people will come in and give a general idea of what their building project is, there will be a determination of the number of inspections, the type of project, and then they pay the anticipated fee at the time they file this application. She said there will be a residential example.

Next is the Fee Schedule –the current one is about 5 pages. Paul is not ready to dramatically change this fee schedule. Maybe down the road – first couple of pages could be the fees-and last pages could be an explanation of the fees. Eve Ann said Carolyn is trying to make the paperwork simple and clear. Eve Ann would like to review the proposed paperwork, and would like the Town Board to review it, too. C. Todd said the Special Use Permit form is not being changed. Other towns (and our Village) do not charge according to the square footage-they charge according to the cost of the project. Commercial projects are charged more by other towns; they require many more inspections. We don't want to discourage commercial building, D. Holcomb said. Commercial construction costs will be based on contractor's bid price, to be submitted with building permit application; is the Village of Hamilton's policy. If there is a cost overrun-they go and get it, the Mayor said. Eve Ann said they need to find out from Paul if commercial inspections have some other aspect of them, beyond just doing more of them, that would justify our creating a different commercial permit fee schedule.

A Motion was made by P. Darby, seconded by C. Rossi and carried appointing William Nolan, Darrell Griff, and Mary Galvez to the Planning Board for a 3 year term. Mary Galvez will be the Chair Person.

Merrill Miller was present on behalf of SOMAC. Eve Ann said she spoke with Supv. Goldstein of Lebanon at the County Tuesday – and some folks from the Eaton Fire Ambulance Service, as well as Georgetown, were at Lebanon's meeting-and they were very concerned about the word that SOMAC might be coming into their territory-there were some misunderstandings about that. Jim asked her what is the financial situation/status of SOMAC, and he said a referendum

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would have to go to the taxpayers. She has asked Steve Jones some questions about SOMAC, Eve Ann said; and he will get back to her. Eve Ann said she does not want to go to the taxpayers and say – now you are going to take over providing a tax base for SOMAC, without the Town making sure that the financial stability of SOMAC is insured. Both the Town of Hamilton and Town of Lebanon increased their financial support of SOMAC. Eve Ann called up the Mayor and said the Town wants to help SOMAC get its finances in order, and how do we go about doing that. If it goes on their tax bills, they will ask questions. Merrill Miller said a Business Manager is the answer to continue having their bills accounted for, paid on time, as there is a limit to how much volunteer work can be handled. All the state regulations, paperwork, etc. need to be followed, M. Miller said. They are now on an electronic system, the Mayor said. SOMAC books are available for the public, they have a finance campaign which has had middling success, but there are some large donors that have not yet put their signatures on a check, Merrill Miller said – April 30th is the deadline, she said. Their goal was \$150,000 – and they have about \$50,000 now – the Mayor said. That money is to help pay for their new ambulance. Tracy Kelly is helping with the bills, and Bert Marshall's office does the payroll; Tracy is no longer going to do that as of June. The Town of Lebanon does not have a member on the SOMAC Board, and the Mayor asked Supv. Goldstein to help with that. The Town of Hamilton needs to have a representative on the SOMAC Board too; Eve Ann said. We need to get down to how much money SOMAC is losing every month, is this the best way to provide round the clock paramedics; are they doing transports or not. Someone out there understands the ambulance corp. business – maybe the Town could help identify that person and help pay for an analysis of how you are doing business - and what things could be done to improve it. We need to know what the scope of that loss is going to be, Eve Ann said. We have had discussions about consolidating services – a regional approach – M. Miller said. Maybe the hospital's billing could help, Eve Ann said. C. Todd said she is wondering about them having an Administrative Regional Approach, such as billing; a regional Business Manager. The Mayor said Waterville is trying creative ways, it is a struggle. Eve Ann thinks there should be a meeting. Eve Ann will talk to her team, and see who will take David Crumb's place on the SOMAC Board, on behalf of the Town. M. Miller said David Crumb has provided valuable information to SOMAC while representing the Town, and he did very well. Eve Ann said good.

The Mayor will do a sheet of web sites for Parry's Welcome Wagon baskets so people know how to get information – okay, run it by Sue, Eve Ann said.

C. Rossi said the Energy Working Group (EWG) did not have a meeting because they met with Town Comp Plan Committee. The next EWG Meeting is May 2. Comp. Plan – they have a meeting April 23, at 7 p.m., at the Library – Nan won't be there, but she did do what we asked her to do: a step-by-step flow chart with a check list to process. We will review those to see what the EWG can do, and what we think Nan can do – so we can determine a scope of work for her, and she can give us an estimate. At that meeting we will have members of the Town Council that would like to attend, and we will invite the EWG again-shall we extend an invite to the people on the Planning Board now as well, C. Rossi asked. That's a good idea, Eve Ann said, they can come for informational purposes. C. Rossi said other members of the Community can be invited too – she wanted the Town Board's thoughts. A good representation of the whole Town is needed, Eve Ann said. C. Rossi thought more copies might be needed of the Comprehensive Plan. This meeting notice needs to be in the newspaper, on the web, and posted on the Town door. After the meeting on April 23, we hope to have an estimate of how much money it will cost us for Nan's work. Nan can be paid up front, or get paid as she goes along. Eve Ann said tell Nan to submit the bills for the work she has already done.

Eve Ann said the PCD partners met to talk about the results of the housing workshop for presentation and the next step is the need to meet with developers, contractors, landlords and realtors – find out from their point of view – what are the barriers to revitalized housing in the town – what are the things that are stopping people from that happening in our community. Eve Ann suggested Nan do this focus group – she would read the presentation with all the facts and figures about the status of housing, etc. It is a sub- committee of the Comprehensive Planning Process. Good housing is needed if you want to attract businesses and young families to come live here. Eve Ann recommends Nan comes and work with the PCD, and the Town pays for it – PCD has already provided staff time, gathering research- and Nan would have to do that. The housing needs of Earlville, Poolville & Hubbardsville is not included in that. How many times would Nan meet with PCD, and what kind of cost is involved, C. Todd

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said. Eve Ann said landlords need to be encouraged to renovate property, if they are going to do that. Eve Ann will get together with Nan and get an estimate to bring back to the Board.

Town Road Use Law & Survey – Town of Lebanon and Brookfield are going to join with us, there is new interest from the Town of Nelson, and Smyrna & Sherburne are still considering; Eve Ann said. Bert said he felt Sherburne will go along with this; C. Rossi will talk to the Supervisor there. Nelson mentioned it to Bert too, he said. Also Madison is thinking about it, Eve Ann said. Supv. Goldstein wants Attorney Steve Jones to take the responsibility for reviewing the Agreement for all 3 towns – Lebanon, Brookfield, & Hamilton (he is their Attorney)-to make it the same.

Records Retention – The Town has been offered some temporary work space at the former Parry's building, the Records Retention Committee is going to a Workshop on historic records in Chittenango. Soon we will know if we have an Upstate Institute intern to work on this, we have a great crew that will help move the documents (and they supplied the vacuum cleaner-under the Highway Budget); Eve Ann said. C. Todd said there will be some expenses involved-acid free boxes, etc. and they will be working on some kind of budget of what they need. Eve Ann is supportive of this and she said if we do not get an Upstate Institute intern we will have to hire a college student to do this – there is a certain amount the staff should do – and it is a good time to do it, the summertime when things are slower. C. Rossi said the Cooperstown Graduate Program is museum studies, and there might be somebody that wants to be an archivist-who would be interested. If you tell me what work you need, I can pass it along to the Director of CGP; C. Rossi said. C. Todd said she emailed Eve Ann that the Town will need one person who knows everything in a supervisory position, as part of this process.

C. Todd said: per Mr. Hodge's request of honoring Maf & Judy last month, the Village has discussed having memorial bricks people can purchase, putting them in front of the gazebo, and honoring people –and having a memorial for people- because there is a need. John Rathbone, who did the Veteran's Memorial, is perfectly fine with copying that idea.

Eve Ann said she went to the County meeting, but not much to report.

Town Clerk -FYI only: Designating Polling places for Districts 1, 2, 3, & 4 for the November General Election- voting purposes will be needed soon; and Joseph Terras of 98 Eaton Street, Hamilton NY, was not given his Vet's Exemption on his taxes, so his tax bill was reduced \$81.47, by Madison County.

A Motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing tax assessment and litigation was made by P. Darby, seconded by C. Rossi and carried.

A Motion to come out of Executive Session was made by P. Darby, seconded by C. Todd and carried.

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by C. Todd, seconded by C. Rossi and carried at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine S. Hotaling, Town Clerk

Exhibit A:

Revisions to Minutes of March 14, 2013:

Page 870 – Judge Haight brought donuts and coffee – “compliments” of Dunkin Donuts.

Page 870 – David Keith:”You people could drop the charge” through: “ fixing the house up” – put all this wording in quotes.

Page 871 – Tom Hodge was here for (delete “for”) put in: “in search of” support.

Page 875 –Chris said the “Town Council” (not EWG) requested two interns: 1 to work on the Greenhouse Gas study and 1 to assist with the Comprehensive Plan.

Page 876 – She counted 164 boxes and “box equivalents” on the shelves.

