

The regular monthly meeting of the Hamilton Town Board was held on Thursday, June 14, 2012, at 7:00 p.m., at the Town Office, 16 Broad Street, Hamilton, NY. Present were: Eve Ann Shwartz, Supervisor; Carolyn Todd and Chris Rossi, Town Council; Bert Glazier, Highway Supt.; Linda Manchester, Supv. Secretary and Asst. Bookkeeper; Mayor Margaret Miller, Merrill Miller, Gerald Hayes, Deb & Harvey Kliman; Vinnie Faraone, and Tom Doyle. Deputy Supv. Peter Darby had surgery, and Town Councilor Dave Holcomb had to work – the day of the meeting.

Eve Ann welcomed the public and asked if they wished to speak. Mayor Miller said the next meeting night is the Syracuse Symphony night – July 12<sup>th</sup> – and maybe the Town Board would like to change the time of their meeting. The Town Board agreed and made the TIME of the July 12, 2012 Town Board Meeting – 5:30 p.m. This change is to be put in the newspaper and on our website.

Mr. Hayes said Earlville is okay with shared services and would like to go with Hamilton to purchase their fuel oil, and hopefully save money. He said Earlville Field Days are July 20, 21, & 22. He said Quincy Square will do a talk on Civil War Ancestry soon, and the Earlville Opera House is open for the summer.

Harvey Kliman presented a collection of Trails of Madison County booklet, and said he will try to get more to put around the Village & Town, for the public. Mayor Miller reported Emily (an intern) has been working on the Greenhouse Gas study.

A Motion was made by C. Todd, seconded by C. Rossi and carried accepting the May 10, 2012 Town Board Minutes.

A Motion to Pay the General Bills was made by C. Todd, seconded by C. Rossi and carried in the amount of \$ 3323.16, #100-116.

A Motion to Pay the Highway Bills was made by C. Todd, seconded by C. Rossi and carried in the amount of \$11,242.06, #86-108.

Eve Ann reported the Town Board received all the monthly financials and Bert said he expects FEMA money to come in another couple weeks.

Discussion about a request for a total of \$1,000 from the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee; rather than the \$500 the Town has budgeted. Also, the Symphony Syracuse charges \$11,000 - \$15,000 to come, and the Village would like to request more financial help; Colgate contributes \$7,000. C. Todd did a presentation in favor of contributing to Symphony Syracuse (workers, facilities, etc. the Village provides for this event).

A Motion was made by C. Rossi, seconded by C. Todd and carried to allocate \$750 for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee and \$500 for the Symphony Syracuse.

Eve Ann Shwartz read the 2012 Year Tax Collector's Report, and said Cathy Hotaling got high marks as usual from the Madison County Treasurer that her books are very accurate. Eve Ann thanked Cathy for her good job. A copy of this Report will be kept with the original minutes.

Eve Ann asked Vinnie Faraone why did SOMAC separate their Insurance from the Town's Insurance, and he explained they had a loss (flood issue) and the current policy was not very good. The new one, he said, makes more sense – it covers flood issues, responders in their own vehicles, and such. The Town will be receiving a pro-rated check from Mang. Mayor Miller said she hopes the Town will help SOMAC and contribute their refund to them. The Town paid \$6521 for SOMAC's Insurance, so they should receive at least that much money, Eve Ann said. Eve Ann will talk to Attorney Steve Jones about the SOMAC matter. Eve Ann wondered if the Town still would need the 4 million dollar Umbrella Policy Coverage – with SOMAC off their insurance; as the Town will have less liability.

A Motion was made by C. Rossi, seconded by C. Todd and carried to transfer the Town's Insurance back to SOMAC to have on their own insurance policy; and Transfer the vehicles back to SOMAC; and re-visit the Town's 4 million dollar Umbrella Policy.

Linda said Dave Craine (Mang) said to wait until the Transfer of Vehicles actually happens before you address the Town's Umbrella Policy. Linda said it cost \$1200 to go from 2 million to 4 million on the Umbrella policy.

Bert Glazier then gave his Highway Report. He said he has on the Auction Site: [www.auctionsinternational.com](http://www.auctionsinternational.com): Backhoe, 2011 Pickup Truck, 2012 Plow Truck. They will be on there for 2 weeks, and the Town does not have to accept anything they do not want to. Other Towns may be interested in purchasing these, Bert said.

He said they have been mowing, ditching, grading roads, and bought a used Broom they paid \$1500 for & put \$900 work into it. A new broom would cost \$15,000. He said Sand Bids will be done early – Legal Ad to be done soon for the newspaper. The Town Highway staff has helped the Village of Hamilton, the Town of Lebanon, and the Town of Sherburne with various highway projects. He said they had a Safety Inspection today and did well on that. He said NYS has a program where they will monitor highway employees licenses – it is free and a good idea, he felt. Eve Ann said it is a good idea, do it. Bert said the Town Clean-Up day needs more advertising the next time; as 9 or 10 people came – however a lot of Ag bags were received. Eve Ann talked about ag plastic being used to convert to fuel oil. Bert went to Ithaca to see a cold process of milling road surfaces up, and putting them back down.

Eve Ann talked about the fact she told Tackabury's the Town is going to a dedicated bookkeeper – the ad is on the website thanks to Rochelle, and is in the Mid York, Oneida Daily Dispatch, and Norwich Evening Sun newspapers. She said Eve Ann, Peter and C. Rossi will form an Interview Committee – meeting on June 26, 27, or 28<sup>th</sup>.

Eve Ann said Paul McGinnis, Codes Officer, left his Codes Reports for April and May; for the Town Board. She said he has a Planning Bd. and ZBA Meeting coming up. A sub-division on Mason Rd. and Peg Urban needs an area variance. Cathy and Carol are working more with Paul to help him, and our Boards can help Paul too, Eve Ann said. Eve Ann said there is no replacement for Chris Hoffman to take zoning

minutes yet. Paul will take notes at these meetings for now, but if anyone knows someone who might be interested, let her know – or maybe do an Ad for a steno.

Eve Ann said in our Town Zoning Law there is no Requirement to notify neighbors up to 500 feet – it is a courtesy. The Town Board agreed to tell Codes Enforcement Officer Paul McGinnis to notify adjacent neighbors. Also Eve Ann would like names and addresses on Paul's Codes Reports, from now on.

Eve Ann explained the Town Office Lease with Stephen Hall has been sent for another three year term, at the same rental price, but she has asked that the front door be painted, more handicap accessible issues be looked into. She said she got estimates from Jordan Ashcroft, her contractor, for the door/restroom handicap work – and she wonders if there are Grants available. The Mayor suggested she contact ARISE. Eve Ann said she will get all the information together and talk to Steve Hall. C. Todd asked if there could be an option for a ramp on the back door. C. Todd said when the auditor was here about the Community Block Grant – she informed her if a person had special needs, we could hold our meeting in the Library. Discussion: Support to move forward on this – maybe PCD – Dominick can help; the Mayor said you can look it up on the net: Central New York ARISE, for information. Eve Ann asked Linda to research this.

Merrill Miller then gave a Profit & Loss Statement for SOMAC - June 2011 to May 2012; to the Town Board, a copy will be kept with the original Minutes. She explained between the demand for skilled personnel, the economy, and such – there are not as many volunteers. She said SOMAC once had 6 paramedics and now has 1. There is a lack of drivers, Colgate students help when they are here. She said the level of care this community needs costs money. They do transfers out of the community now. They hired staff to do transfers, but lost money – so they need a volunteer staff, and not a paid staff. They need a paramedic : 24/7. Vinnie explained they also do Georgetown calls, share Lebanon. They explained they have a Colgate student doing a study to explore what SOMAC could do. Example: go regional, go commercial, create a tax district. They explained patients need to be stabilized, and be transferred to other hospitals – it could end up being a 3 hour experience. The Mayor said there could be a Contract with SOMAC, like there is a Contract with the Fire Company. She said their Chief is Madison's Steve Johnson. Eve Ann asked if the County could be a leader in this. Vinnie explained we have mutual aid here and some have private ambulance services ( Ex. Kunkel). He explained if the ambulance responds to a situation, and is refused, they get no money for that. Eve Ann said if one ambulance is transporting, another ambulance is needed here (and staff). Eve Ann said the Supervisors and Mayors should get together and see what can be done – a taxing unit may be the answer. Harvey Kliman said the Fire Dept. needs manpower, too. The Mayor said SOMAC is also paying for a bookkeeper now. Ruth Ann Loveless can help with fund raising, the Mayor said.

A Motion was made by C. Todd, seconded by C. Rossi and carried that when the Town receives a Refund Check back from the Insurance Company (regarding SOMAC) – that money goes to SOMAC immediately. Eve Ann said our Website is live. Website Training was attended by C. Todd, Cathy, and C. Dewey. The Village had several of their employees at the training. She said the Assessor, Rochelle, already has

Website experience. Rochelle thought news and notices should be on the top. The Town and Village will be making some changes on the web. The Mayor said the Village is so busy now that the website is not a high priority. Discussion about putting out a press release about the website – and the Mayor said wait, and do that together. Eve Ann said the Town Board Members need to be involved with the Website also- as Matt’s training was fast/difficult; and our staff needs help. Matt will be sending out a training video.

The current Energy Task Force (P. Darby & C. Rossi) have natural gas, windmills, alternative energy, and renewable energy to work on. They will do research and make recommendations to the Town Board about actions to be taken on these issues. She said Madison County is finalizing road use with Delta Energy. She discussed the Gov. Office leaked some information about Counties in NY where gas drilling may occur, and Madison was not one of them yet. She said she looked at the County Landfill’s solar cover, and they generate all the electricity they need to run the recycling center. She said they have received a Grant to set up an energy charging center. She had a poster regarding Solarize Madison Q & A Meetings being held in the local area -that she passed around, and a copy is in the Town window.

Eve Ann had a packet with information from the Madison County Solid Waste Dept. with a History of the Landfill and how it got transferred from the County to the Town. She passed it around to the Town Bd.

Discussion about PILOT payments due from the Village – Eve Ann & Steve Jones, Esq. – said go back 6 years, statute of limitation, to settle this matter. Eve Ann said she needs more information, as maybe the County will not get any money.

A Motion was made by C. Rossi, seconded by C. Todd and carried authorizing Eve Ann to make the decision about the PILOT payments due from the Village of Hamilton.

Discussion about Town of Madison Windmill Project – C. Todd said 150 people attended a meeting about a moratorium. H. Kliman explained a letter was written to the Madison Town Bd. that pilots are worried about them because their lights are on their towers, and not on their blades –and worry about that fact, if the pilots were flying too low.

D. Kliman said Mid-York Senior Homes did some re-modeling, and was having a Grand Opening June 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

Eve Ann spoke about PCD’s review of Greater Hamilton Economic Development Plan and how that was going to be revised, prioritized, look for funding/grants – affordable housing is important in the Village and Town. If could- develop in the Town, close to the Village, Eve Ann said. PCD received \$35,000 funding from the Madison County IDA.

C. Todd said she went to the Village’s Meeting – Richard Holcomb is the Fire Chief again. Also the Firemen worry about the intersection of Lebanon St. and Maple St. & the possibility of a traffic light

being put there--- they need to get through that intersection quickly when there is a fire; plus it would be expensive the Mayor said.

C. Todd said computer tech support for the Town Office is currently with Robert Maxwell and he's been ill – she thought perhaps Don Rhodes at Colgate could help – see what fees he might charge/or have a contract. Eve Ann said have a staff meeting on their needs. H. Kliman said Verizon has a higher speed option available, if the computer time works slow. Bert said he thinks Time Warner is terrible.

The Hamilton Police are busy checking for any illegal bath salt activity in the area was said, and Eve Ann said the Sheriffs should be notified also, if any illegal activity moves into their district.

Eve Ann said at the "County" there was talk of possible privatization of ADAPT Program – drug and alcohol counseling, which would mean losing some employees. There was also a Bill to modify the definition of Indian Reservation –for tax purposes at the State level - in favor of Madison County. C. Todd & D. Kliman thanked Eve Ann for her County reports.

A Motion to Adjourn was made C. Rossi, seconded by C. Todd and carried at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine S. Hotaling, Town Clerk

