

September 9, 2004 Pre Town Board Meeting Open Forum

Residents from Holzwarth Road were present to discuss damage caused by the heavy rains August 29th. Those affected by the flooding requested the Town Board appeal to the City of Syracuse Water Department as well as Onondaga County and New York State for assistance and maintenance of the ravines. Supervisor Ireland invited the residents to meet with him on Saturday morning to prepare a letter to send to the appropriate officials.

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REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING September 9 , 2004

On Thursday, September 9, 2004 at 7:50 p.m., Town Supervisor Gordon Ireland called to order the regular monthly meeting of the Spafford Town Board. This meeting followed the open discussion forum. Councilors Fred Chappell, Billy Vinzant, Jeffrey Ireland and Joyce Barnett were present. Highway Superintendent Carl Wiers, Accountant Thomas Chartrand, and Town Clerk Lisa Valletta were also present.

Bills

The following bills were presented for approval, (Machinery bills are included in the Highway bills):

<u>FUND</u>	<u>VOUCHER #'S</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>MOTION</u>	<u>SECOND</u>
<u>CARRIED</u>				
General	255-273 & 275-278	\$27,020.34	Vinzant Chappell	aye
Highway	155-170	\$73,907.41	Chappell	Vinzant aye

Councilor Barnett requested information regarding the bill for Mr. Edward O'Hara, III. Supervisor Ireland explained it is the Town's share of the purchase price for the property at 1856 East Lake Road. A bill for the closing costs is still expected.

Voucher #274 was submitted by Mr. Julian Corsello for the mowing of the cemeteries and lots in the Town of Spafford. Mr. Corsello's bill was tabled until the next meeting to allow his presence for discussion of the year's billing.

Minutes of August 12, 2004 Town Board Meeting

A motion to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2004 Town Board meeting was made by Councilor Chappell and seconded by Councilor J. Ireland. The motion PASSED – AYES 5, NAYS – 0. Voting aye – G. Ireland, Chappell, Vinzant, J. Ireland, and Barnett.

Town Supervisor's August 2004 Report & Statement

Accountant Thomas Chartrand reviewed the August 2004 Report & Statement for the Town

Board. He explained August expenses were normal. The second half of the reimbursement from Onondaga County for snow and ice removal was received. A motion to approve the August 2004 Town Supervisor's Report & Statement as prepared and submitted by Accountant Chartrand was made by Councilor Vinzant and seconded by Councilor Chappell. The motion PASSED – AYES 5, NAYS – 0. Voting aye – G. Ireland, Chappell, Vinzant, J. Ireland, and Barnett.

Miscellaneous

October Health Insurance Bill

A motion to pay the October premium for the Highway Superintendent and the Highway employees health insurance was made by Councilor J. Ireland and seconded by Councilor Vinzant. The motion PASSED – AYES 5, NAYS – 0. Voting aye – G. Ireland, Chappell, Vinzant, J. Ireland, and Barnett.

Budget Work Session

A work session for the 2005 Town of Spafford budget is scheduled for September 30 at 7 p.m.

Assessment Board of Review Re appointment

A motion to re appoint Mrs. Ruth Vinzant to the Assessment Board of Review was made by Supervisor Ireland and seconded by Councilor J. Ireland. The motion PASSED – AYES 5, NAYS – 0. Voting aye – G. Ireland, Chappell, Vinzant, J. Ireland, and Barnett.

Councilor Barnett suggested there be a written policy regarding the re appointment of officers to the various Town boards.

Town Clerk's August 2004 Report

Mrs. Valletta presented her cash report for August 2004. A total of \$2,143.08 was realized in fees for the Town. A motion to accept the Town Clerk's report as presented was made by Councilor Vinzant and seconded by Councilor J. Ireland. The motion PASSED – AYES – 5, NAYS – 0. Voting aye – G. Ireland, Chappell, Vinzant, J. Ireland, and Barnett.

Miscellaneous

Newsletter

Mrs. Valletta requested any Town officials seeking to include an article in the upcoming fall newsletter submit their items within two weeks.

Mr. Chartrand requested a motion be considered for paying the postage on the newsletter. A motion authorizing postage for the newsletter was made by Councilor J. Ireland and seconded by Councilor Vinzant. The motion PASSED – AYES – 5, NAYS – 0. Voting aye – G. Ireland, Chappell, Vinzant, J. Ireland, and Barnett.

Marriage Fees

Mrs. Valletta explained to the Town Board the number of marriage licenses being issued by the Town of Spafford has increased. Town Clerks in neighboring towns are informing couples that live out of state the Town of Spafford is open on Saturdays, and the couples are coming here for their licenses. The Town of Spafford has the lowest marriage license fees in Onondaga County at \$30.00. The next lowest is the Town of Fabius at \$35.00. The fee covers the cost of the application and the license. Mrs. Valletta requested the Town Board consider increasing the fee charged by the Town of Spafford to \$35.00. A motion to increase the fee for a marriage license from \$30.00 to \$35.00 was made by Councilor Vinzant and seconded by Councilor J. Ireland. The motion PASSED – AYES – 5, NAYS – 0. Voting aye – G. Ireland, Chappell,

Vinzant, J. Ireland, and Barnett.

Pictometry

Supervisor Ireland explained a letter had been received regarding an update to the Pictometry program. Councilor Vinzant explained that Pictometry consists of aerial photographs of the entire County. The Town of Spafford can receive electronic access to those pictures for a fee. The topic was tabled to allow Councilor Vinzant time to research the program further; but he feels the program would have only limited value for the Town.

Highway Superintendent's Report

Flood Damage

Moon Hill Road & Church Road

Highway Superintendent Carl Wiers explained the paving done on Moon Hill Road and Church Road on August 24 & 25 was damaged by the flooding. After repairs are made, the roads still need to be sealed. On Moon Hill Road, ditches and some of the new pavement were washed out, as well as retaining walls at the bottom of the hill. The retaining walls have been rebuilt. The ditches still need to be fixed and lined with gabion.

Masters Road

A culvert pipe on Otisco Valley Road became plugged and sent water down Masters Road, washing out and undermining the pavement. The Highway Department has begun repairs on Masters Road.

Spafford Landing Road

A creek on the hill just north of the Town line plugged up, causing water to flow in a different direction. Debris came off the hill and blocked the road, sending water and debris through a house and across the road into camps on the lower side of the road. One of the other culverts on the road also became plugged. The culverts were cleared and the road was opened on the day of the storm. A retaining wall will need to be rebuilt next year.

Bacon Hill Road

A pipe at the top of the hill, south of Holzwarth Road, couldn't handle all of the water resulting in water being sent down the hill and washing out the ravine at the bottom. The new five foot culvert pipe that was installed in the fall of 2003 couldn't handle the amount of water and a section of the road was washed out. The road has been repaired. Next year, a retaining wall will need to be built and the cross culvert pipe by Holzwarth Road will have to be replaced.

Bacher Road

The four foot pipe at the top of the hill couldn't handle the amount of water, the water was sent down the hill, washing out driveways, ditches, and part of the road. The road is passable for now, when there is time, it will be repaired.

New Pick Up Truck

The new truck should be here any day. The reason given for the delay was that the vendors are overbooked.

Grader

The total cost for a new grader is \$165,991.00 which includes \$6,670.00 for a three year-full machine warranty. If the grader is ordered tomorrow, it will be here by December and payment can be made in January 2005. There was a discussion of how to fund the purchase and the need for the new grader. A motion to purchase the new grader was made by Supervisor Ireland and seconded by Councilor J. Ireland. The motion PASSED – AYES – 5, NAYS – 0. Voting aye –

G. Ireland, Chappell, Vinzant, J. Ireland, and Barnett.

Water Line

The water line between the Town Hall and the Highway Garage froze during the last winter. Mr. Wiers contacted Mr. Mel Simmons for an estimate to prevent the line freezing again. The estimate for running new water lines with heat tape was under \$1,000.00. Mr. Simmons was contacted because he originally installed the system. The Highway employees will do the excavation work. A motion to hire Mr. Simmons for the aforementioned work to be done was made by Councilor Chappell and seconded by Councilor J. Ireland. The motion PASSED – AYES – 5, NAYS – 0. Voting aye – G. Ireland, Chappell, Vinzant, J. Ireland, and Barnett.

Digital Camera

The Polaroid cameras currently owned by the Town of Spafford could not produce the photographs necessary to show the damage caused by the recent storm. Ms. Joyce Green, 1850 East Lake Road, has offered a used digital camera to the Town at a reduced price, less than \$100.00. Mr. Wiers would be allowed a trial period with the camera to determine if it suits his needs prior to purchase. Supervisor Ireland recommended the Town Clerk's office remain the repository for the camera, should Mr. Wiers decide to purchase it.

Borodino Landing

Mr. Frank Moran informed the Town Board that a final asking price had been decided upon by Mr. and Mrs. Denslow for their property at the end of Bockes Road. The price is \$700,000.00. After a discussion, the Town Board decided to reject the purchase price. Councilor Vinzant and Councilor Barnett will accompany Mr. Moran to the Denslows' to pass on the Town Board's decision.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 8:55 p.m. by Councilor J. Ireland and seconded by Councilor Vinzant. The motion PASSED – AYES – 5, NAYS – 0. Voting aye – G. Ireland, Chappell, Vinzant, J. Ireland, and Barnett.

Respectfully submitted by,

A special meeting will be held
September 30, 2004 @ 7:00 p.m.
@ Spafford Town Hall
The next regular meeting will be held
October 14, 2004 @ 7:30 p.m.

Lisa M. Valletta
Town Clerk
Town of Spafford