

**TOWN OF NORTH HARMONY  
PUBLIC HEARING LOCAL LAW #3 OF 2010  
CONTROL AND LICENSING OF DOGS  
MONDAY, 12/13/10 7:45 PM**

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<b>SALLY P. CARLSON, SUPERVISOR</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>
<b>RALPH WHITNEY, COUNCILMAN</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>
<b>ART THOMAS, COUNCILMAN</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>
<b>FRANK STOW, COUNCILMAN</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>
<b>DICK SENA, COUNCILMAN</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Brad Lawson, Zoning CEO; Gary Ryan, Highway Superintendent; Dave Lloyd, Stormwater Planning; Howard Peacock, Justice; Robin Miller, Bookkeeper; Charlotte Grover, Dog Control; Betty Ryan, Dave Stapleton, Attorney; Nancy Thomas, Town Clerk

**Mrs. Carlson** brought the hearing to order at 7:45 PM. She stated that the board had discussed the law at the 11/30/10 meeting.

**Mr. Thomas** stated that the law should include any dog chained or kept on a cable must be 10 feet from the property line on all sides. He also stated that the pit bull breed gets a bad reputation according to the ASPCA which puts them on the 10 most dangerous dog list. There was general discussion of the various breeds of dogs and their propensity to bite. **Section 4. C. replaced: C. Any dog which is kept restrained or required to be kept restrained on a cable or run shall be kept at a distance of no less than 10 feet from any/all property lines. This means the dog at the fully extended length of a cable or run should be no closer than 10 feet from any/all property lines. Section 4. C. through G. lettering change to D. through H.**

**Ms. Grover** asked that changes be made to **Section 6. C. addition: Fees are based on a one (1) year period beginning on the date of the first offense. Section 6. C. (1-3) addition: or any part of a day Section 6. C. addition of (4) For any impoundments in excess of three (3) in a one year period the charge shall be set by the Justice Court of the Town, plus the charge of \$12 per day, or any part of a day, to the Town for each day of impoundment.**

The hearing was closed at 8:00 PM.

*Nancy M. Thomas*  
*Town Clerk*

**TOWN OF NORTH HARMONY  
BOARD MEETING  
MONDAY, 12/13/10 8:00 PM**

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<b>SALLY P. CARLSON, SUPERVISOR</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>
<b>RALPH WHITNEY, COUNCILMAN</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>
<b>ART THOMAS, COUNCILMAN</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>
<b>FRANK STOW, COUNCILMAN</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>
<b>DICK SENA, COUNCILMAN</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Brad Lawson, Zoning CEO; Gary Ryan, Highway Superintendent; Dave Lloyd, Stormwater Planning; Howard Peacock, Justice; Robin Miller, Bookkeeper; Charlotte Grover, Dog Control; Betty Ryan, Dave Stapleton, Attorney; Nancy Thomas, Town Clerk; Jay Gould, Legislator

- **PLEDGE**
- **MINUTES**

MOTION #164 OF 2010

ON A MOTION MADE BY MR STOW AND SECONDED BY MR. THOMAS, THE MINUTES OF THE 11/8/10 TOWN BOARD MEETING WERE ACCEPTED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION #165 OF 2010

ON A MOTION MADE BY MR. THOMAS AND SECONDED BY MR. SENA THE MINUTES OF THE 11/30/10 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PUBLIC HEARING WERE ACCEPTED UNANIMOUSLY.

- **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
- **Ashville Fire District – Election of Commissioner 12/14/10 6-9:00 PM (On the ballot Gail Martin, Randy Gleason, Bill Hoke)**
- **Toys being collected by the Highway Superintendents Assoc. at Hogan’s Hut**
- **Transfer Station closed on Sat. 12/25/10. Will be open on Tues. 12/28/10 9 am to 3 pm.**  
*The Town Clerk agreed to have an article placed in the P.J. and will also make up flyers to pass out to the public at the station on 12/18/10 reminding the public of the change in hours.*

- **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- **CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. **TIME WARNER – Contracts and Rate Increases**  
Cable prices going up: Basic up from \$14.07 to \$15.75; Standard up from \$50.28 to \$53.54
2. **U.S. CENSUS – Boundry Changes (Not applicable to TONH)**
3. **BOCES BOARD – Letter of Thanks**
4. **NYMIR – Short Term Insurance available for Sewer Discharge type incidents**
5. **SUNRISE COVE – Letter of Complaint about Electrical Supply**

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**Mrs. Carlson** said this was for an electrical line that St. George Contracting dug up by mistake at the entrance to Sunrise Cove. She said the Sunrise Cove Association had spoken to the contractor but they had neglected to inform the town of the incident. She said St. George had subsequently hired an electrician to find the problem and it has been repaired.

6. **TALK OF THE TOWNS – Article on Amalgamating smaller municipalities – drove costs up, not down in Nova Scotia when tried (pg. 4 – levels cost up to highest denominator)**
7. **CHAUTAUQUA CO. ORPS – Mortgage Tax received \$21,481.66 (up \$1,804.68 from 2009)**
8. **WATER GARDEN PROJECT – Initial funding check of \$2,000 received from Chaut. Co. Bed Tax grant funding**
9. **IRS – Eliminating coupon books for withholding and requiring electronic (on line) payments**
10. **WESTFIELD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – Letter of thanks for the Town’s support – They will remain a full service hospital**
11. **St. Susan’s – Homeless Persons Memorial Service – Tuesday 12/21/10**

- **OLD BUSINESS:**

- **HIGHWAY BUILDING – ENGINEERING RE-SURVEY FOR CHANGES IN TOPOGRAPHY AND RESPONSE FROM LEGAL FOR ENGINEER QUALIFICATIONS**

**Mr. Stow** said in response to the legal notice the town has received information for the new building from a number of engineering firms. He provided a list of the engineers and their costs for the various portions of the project as requested.

**Mr. Sena** said the numbers ranged a lot for the same services. He said perhaps Mr. Lawson could help lay out a more complete set of specifications to submit to the engineers for cost estimates.

There was further general discussion of the matter and exactly what specifications need to be met for the highway building and what services the town itself could provide (i.e. perk test, etc.).

**Mrs. Carlson** said the town would need another topographic survey because of the excavation that has been done at the site.

There was discussion of whether or not another legal add for bids would be needed. After discussion the board decided that another add would not be necessary. They decided the town could send their more specific revised information requests to the engineers who had previously responded.

**Mr. Stapleton** asked if the town is in the process of developing, through an engineering firm, details and specifications in order to go out to bid on something.

**Mrs. Carlson** said yes.

**Mr. Sena** said yes, but some of the companies, after receiving the additional information, submitted bids.

- **CHENEY CREEK PROJECT**

- **CAMERA/SECURITY SYSTEM FOR TOWN BLDG.**

**TOWN BOARD**  
**12/13/10 (Pg. 3)**

**Mrs. Carlson** said the town has received quotes for a camera and keyless entry system for the community building as a result of the recent break in.

**Mr. Thomas** suggested that bars be placed on the rear window and at least 3 motion detection lights be installed on the rear of the building. He said the previous alarm system was difficult to deal with; people would forget how to shut it off; it would go off for no reason, etc. He said the minimum amount of money should be spent to secure the backside of the building.

**Mr. Ryan** said the highway could install bars on the rear window.

**Mrs. Thomas** said she would like to have either the motion detector repaired or a keyless entry system installed.

**Mr. Thomas** said he has heard other places, such as Chautauqua, have difficulties with their systems not working properly and causing all kinds of problems.

**Mr. Stow** noted that the keyless entry system through FSC would cost \$4,300.00.

**Mrs. Carlson** said Mike Gleason was going to supply a quote for motion lights on the rear of the building.

*There was further general discussion of the matter.*

MOTION #166 OF 2010

ON A MOTION MADE BY MR. WHITNEY AND SECONDED BY MR. SENA, THE MATTER OF COMMUNITY BUILDING SECURITY WAS TABLED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION. **THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

**Mrs. Carlson** said the public hearing on the comprehensive plan had been held and there were a couple of minor changes made. She said Mr. McCord had indicated that those pages could be corrected and replaced in the plan booklet.

MOTION #167 OF 2010

MR. SENA MOTIONED TO ADOPT THE DRAFT TOWN OF NORTH HARMONY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AS SUBMITTED WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES:

- Page 3 – Table of contents change
- Page 89 – Reword fire district language – two departments to one department
- Pages 105-127 – Appendix: Add Appendix B
- Place copy of survey document with questions as an Appendix A
- Move survey report to Appendix B

**MR. WHITNEY SECONDED AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- **LOCAL LAW NO. 3-2010 – CONTROL AND LICENSING OF DOGS**

MOTION #168 OF 2010

MR. THOMAS MOTIONED TO ADOPT LOCAL LAW NO. 3 OF 2010 DOG LICENSING AND CONTROL LAW OF THE TOWN OF NORTH HARMONY WITH THE FOLLOWING REVISIONS:

- **Section 4. C. replaced: C. Any dog which is kept restrained or required to be kept restrained on a cable or run shall be kept at a distance of no less than 10 feet from any/all property lines. This means the dog at the fully extended length of a cable or run should be no closer than 10 feet from any/all property lines.**

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**12/13/10 (Pg. 4)**

- **Section 4. C. through G. lettering change to D. through H.**
- **Section 6. C. addition: Fees are based on a one (1) year period beginning on the date of the first offense. Section 6. C. (1-3) addition: or any part of a day**
- **Section 6. C. (4) addition: For any impoundments in excess of three (3) in a one year period the charge shall be set by the Justice Court of the Town, plus the charge of \$12 per day, or any part of a day, to the Town for each day of impoundment.**

**MR. SENA SECONDED AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- **GOOSE CREEK CORP.**

**Mr. Stapleton** said the town had received a hand written EAF from Goose Creek Corp. He said he had reviewed and had gone back to look at some the historical data on the Loomis estate. He said in 1996 there had been 2 or 3 years of intensive legal work involving a full SEQRA, engineering work, survey and subdivision agreement for the lakeside Loomis property. He said Mr. Mangione had given the impression that nothing of that nature had happened. He said he had spent time at county planning looking at tax maps and he said he understands that at this time we do not have any type of licensed survey. He said we do have an old survey that has been marked to suggest the changes that will occur in the lots. He stated that if the subdivision of the properties is to have any value they must be surveyed and deeded to the individual owners. He said with new surveys perhaps they could develop with county GIS some type of electronic plat that could be approved by the town and filed with the county clerk. He said at this time there are no dedicated road easements or maintenance agreements for the road coming off Rt. 394 as it accesses these properties. He said looking at the GIS maps it appears the road way comes off Rt. 394 and crosses Kelly O'Neil's property and goes back into Town of Busti property. He said there are several of the properties that are in the Town of Busti. He said the Goose Creek Corp. will have to deal with two townships just as the lakeside property had. He suggested that the plat should include a 50' wide easement area for dedication purposes in the future for possible installation of sewer and water. He said all of this would benefit the owners in future mortgage situations. He said it is obvious that the applicant does not have the detail that the town needs to reach an agreement. He said at a minimum the town should have a clear plat.

**Mrs. Carlson** said the map provided appears to be something that perhaps Mr. Loomis drew up and shows no lot footage. She said she had told Dan that if the lots are to have any value, they need a surveyors map.

**Mr. Sena** said the Assessor would like to have these properties individually deeded.

*There was further general discussion of the matter and what town and property law require.*

**Mr. Stapleton** said at a minimum the town needs some type of recordable plat that can be reviewed. He said Mr. McCord at County Planning said they would be glad to review the plat.

**Mr. Stow** asked if Busti should also be involved.

**Mr. Stapleton** said it would not be a bad idea to put them on notice of what is occurring, but they would not be required to give formal approval. He said he has provided a packet of materials for the subdivision of the lakeside Loomis Bay property to Pat Rice for the Planning Board to review. He said he is not suggesting a full blown EAF or that the surveyor has to provide drainage information.

**MOTION #169 OF 2010**

**MR. SENA MOTIONED THAT THE APPLICATION OF GOOSE CREEK CORP. BE REFERRED BACK TO THE PLANNING BOARD FOR FURTHER REVIEW. MR. STOW SECONDED AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- **BOCES SEWER BAN (12/3/10) - Ban amount received \$160,000.00 @ 3.03000% interest (\$4,834.53) matures 12/2/11**

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**Mrs. Carlson** said the Town Clerk has been keeping records of the towns expenditures on the project and there should be adequate BAN funding to reimburse the town for its expenses. She said if not, BOCES has agreed to cover those costs.

- **SUNRISE COVE ELECTRIC – Repair complete**
- **SHEILA SAXTON – RELEASE OF LIABILITY FOR PIPE WORK AT S. MAPLE PROPERTY RECEIVED**

**Mr. Ryan** said there is a drainage pipe from a town ditch coming across the back of Ms. Saxton's property. He said the pipe was rusted out and there had been some filling done that plugged the pipe which was causing septic back up and overflow into the Hoag Road ditch. He said he has received a release agreement from Ms. Saxton and the town had taken a backhoe there and done some work which has solved the immediate problem. He said the pipe still needs to be replaced. He said in the spring they will need to get a survey that shows property stakes so that they can do the work necessary and mark the pipe location on the map.

**Mrs. Carlson** said she would provide Mr. Ryan a copy of the information that Mr. Stapleton has given her on the property.

- **ICE PICK – CHAUTAUQUA LAKE (guess date of ice off the lake)**

**Mrs. Carlson** said the group sponsoring the event has run into some problems with NYS Racing and Wagering over selling specific times because it then becomes a lottery and NYS is the only one who can establish a lottery. She said if it were random draw to pick your time it then becomes a raffle which is allowed. She said they have an attorney who is looking into the matter. She said the money raised is to go to a charitable organization.

- **NEW BUSINESS:**
- **AMEND BUDGET - \$4,950 increase to GF Revenues A2610 Justice Court to offset Appropriations A6410.4, A6510.4, A6772.4 and A6989.4 not calculated in budget total. Actual Appropriations changed from \$735,264 to \$740,214.00**

**Mrs. Carlson** said the appropriation amount of \$4,950.00 (Total of Economic Assistance and Opportunity) had not been included in total appropriations. She said she would like approval to increase the Justice Court A2610 GF revenue amount to offset this and it will cause no increase in the warrant amount.

MOTION #170 OF 2010

MR. SENA MOTIONED TO AMEND THE 2011 BUDGET TO INCREASE GENERAL FUND REVENUE A2610 JUSTICE COURT BY \$4,950.00 AND TO INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS UNDER ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND OPPORTUNITY BY \$4,950.00 . MR. THOMAS SECONDED AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- **RAISE FOR PAT O'BRIEN HIGHWAY MEO EFFECTIVE 1/1/2011**

MOTION #171 OF 2010

ON A MOTION MADE BY MR. THOMAS AND SECONDED BY MR. STOW, PAT O'BRIEN, HIGHWAY M.E.O. WAS AWARDED A \$1/HR (\$20.94/HR) RAISE AS REQUIRED BY THE HIGHWAY EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK EFFECTIVE 1/1/2011. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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- **ADVERTISE FOR EXCAVATOR – 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting 2011**

Mrs. Carlson said Mr. Ryan has asked for authorization to advertise for a rubber tired excavator.

MOTION #172 OF 2010

MR. STOW MOTIONED TO AUTHORIZE THE HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT TO SEEK BIDS FOR A RUBBER TIRED EXCAVATOR. MR. SENA SECONDED AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- **SET DATE FOR 2010 YEAR END MEETING**

MOTION #173 OF 2010

ON A MOTION MADE BY MR. STOW AND SECONDED BY MR. THOMAS, THE TOWN OF NORTH HARMONY WILL HOLD A YEAR END MEETING ON TUESDAY, 12/28/2010 AT 12:00 PM. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- **DISPOSAL OR REPAIR OF SMALL GENERATOR AT HIGHWAY BLDG.**

Mr. Ryan said the generator is 7-10 years old.

Mr. Stow said the diode has probably gone bad and that if that is the case it would be worth repairing.

*After general discussion it was decided that it should be taken to Westburgh Electric for a repair quote and if it is repairable, it could be used to run the sump pump at the town building.*

- **SAXTON PROPERTY ON S. MAPLE – Run off from Hoag – Boundaries needed**

*Discussed previously under Correspondence.*

- **ELECTRIC AT FERRY (NOV. \$37.04)**

Mr. Sena noted that the workers at the ferry landing are using the town's electric.

Mrs. Carlson said we would keep track of this and discuss it with Mr. Spanos.

- **PAYMENT POLICY FOR ZONING AND PLANNING BOARDS**

MOTION #174 OF 2010

MR. SENA MOTIONED TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING PAYMENT POLICY FOR THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:

- **No Meeting – No Payment (Quorum not met constitutes No Meeting)**

- **One Meeting per month unless pre-approved by Town Board**

- **Alternates – Payment only if needed to seat 7 member board**

MR. WHITNEY SECONDED AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- **YOUTH REC \$6,825.00 PAID TO C.O.I. FOR SUMMER 2010 PROGRAM**

Mrs. Miller said that COI was not authorized to collect registration fees for the 2010 program. She said she had collected \$1,000.00 in registration fees and their contract is \$5,825.00. She said COI has requested that the town give them the \$1,000.00 registration fees which would total a payment to them of \$6,825.00. She said she has not received a contract from COI for 2010 and she has made several attempts to get them to provide that contract.

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MOTION #175 OF 2010

MR. THOMAS MOTIONED TO WITHHOLD PAYMENT TO CHAUTAUQUA OPPORTUNITIES, INC. FOR 2010 SUMMER YOUTH REC PROGRAM UNTIL THE REQUESTED CONTRACT HAS BEEN RECEIVED. MR. SENA SECONDED AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

• **PROPERTY FORCLOSURES**

**Mrs. Carlson** said that Boice Lydell's property located next to the towns on Rt. 474 is on the county foreclosure list. She said she does not know if it will go as far as tax auction but wondered if the board would be interested if it does. Mrs. Carlson said she would provide the SBL to the clerk to get more information.

• **CHAUT. CO. SHERIFF – HOURLY RATE FOR 2011 \$27.64 (up about \$2.00)**

**Mrs. Carlson** said she had discussed with Chuck Holder a figure "not to exceed" so that the town could possibly include some Ashville Day patrol and the Stow Ferry celebration

• **CREATE MEMORIAL FOR VETERAN'S PARK ASHVILLE**

**Mrs. Carlson** said that Ron Saxton had stopped by and requested to serve on the Veteran's committee to see if something could be done to create a memorial at the part for all the veterans from North Harmony. She said Ken Frantz had started a list and Mr. Saxton said he would be willing to work on it.

**Mr. Thomas and Mr. Whitney** agreed to work with Mr. Saxton on the project.

• **GLADY'S AVENUE**

**Mr. Stapleton** said the topic could be discussed at a future meeting.

• **REPORTS:**

**JAY GOULD, LEGISLATOR**

**Mr. Gould** said the following occurred in the legislature in November:

- Jay Gould reappointed to the DWI board
- Grant for snow plow at airport (local share \$7,800) (state/\$7,800) (federal/\$296,000)
- Adopted 2% waterways occupancy tax (North Harmony recommended for \$40,000 grant)
- Special Budget meetings held in October and November will raise property tax about 8.8% (about where it was 3 years ago)
- Equalization rate for North Harmony at 97.5%
- Bond passed for \$1,400,000 for 2 more engines for gas to electric at the landfill. Senator Schumer got grant funding of \$1,300,000 for this project. First engine to be installed in 2011 and second in 2012.
- Tonnage rate at landfill raised to \$27.50 for 2011 (\$27.00/2010)
- BOCES will have school resource officer again
- 3% sales tax (Bemus Bay Pops \$3,700) (Light the Lakes \$12,000)

**Mrs. Carlson** asked if anything had been included for the county bicentennial.

**Mr. Gould** said he didn't know.

**GARY RYAN, HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT**

**Mr. Ryan** said the department has been busy trying to keep up with the snowfall this past month.

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**HOWARD PEACOCK, JUSTICE**

**Mr. Peacock** said the court had another record breaking month with \$60,395.50 collected in fines.

**BRAD LAWSON, ZONING CEO**

**Mr. Lawson** said permits are slowing down a bit, but the town had a great year with new homes. He said our stable tax rates make this a good area to locate. He said he had received an anonymous complaint regarding some properties on Panama-Stedman Road. He said he would check this out. He said in the New Year he will be working with the Planning Board on Zoning Code changes.

**DAVE LLOYD, STORMWATER PLANNING**

**Mr. Lloyd** said the Cheney Creek Project is about 95% complete. He said they were not able to get the turf stabilization mat down before the snow, but would do that in the spring. He said Dave Wilson suggested they wait until spring to do any plantings along the creek edge. He said he talked to Chris Miller who will be the towns contact at Chautauqua Co. Planning replacing Rick Constantino. He said Ms. Miller has agreed to extend the town's contract for the Cheney Creek project until June and the Water Garden Project until August, so that plantings can be done.

**Mrs. Carlson** said Mr. Lloyd has created a notebook on the Cheney Creek Project that is very well done and encouraged the board members to review it.

**HIGHWAY COMMITTEE**

**Mr. Stow and Mr. Whitney** made an appointment with Mr. Lawson to develop clearer specifications for the highway building project.

**PARKS**

**Mr. Sena** said the parks are all buttoned up for the winter. He said he will take up painting and other projects in the spring.

**TOWN CLERK, NANCY THOMAS (copy of report in Minute Book)**

**Mrs. Thomas** said she had nothing further to add to her written report.

**Mrs. Miller** commented that the Williamson Law Town Clerk Program report is very nice.

MOTION #176 OF 2010

ON A MOTION MADE BY MR. STOW AND SECONDED BY MR. SENA, THE TOWN CLERK'S REPORT WAS ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**SALLY P. CARLSON, SUPERVISOR: (copy of report in Minute Book)**

MOTION #177 OF 2010

MR. STOW MOTIONED THAT THE SUPERVISOR'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED. MR. WHITNEY SECONDED AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION #178 OF 2010

MR. WHITNEY MOTIONED TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF THE GENERAL FUND VOUCHERS AS AUDITED AND REVIEWED EARLIER. MR. THOMAS SECONDED AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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MOTION #179 OF 2010

MR. WHITNEY MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT OF THE HIGHWAY FUND VOUCHERS AS AUDITED AND REVIEWED EARLIER. MR. STOW SECONDED AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Mr. Whitney** asked to address the board. He read the following letter into the record.

December 13, 2010

At the November town board meeting, Councilman Sena made some inaccurate and uninformed statements and I would like to take this opportunity to correct those statements for the record. In his own words, the tree issue has been resolved, although none of the excavation posed a threat to his property, with respect to town property lines. Hopefully, as a result of a statement from our Supervisor, following Mr. Sena's statement, the "holding of a meeting without my knowledge at the Town of Carroll's highway building" has been resolved. The facts are that the Town Board's visit to Carroll's highway building occurred in the Spring of 2008 following a request from Mrs. Carlson and Mr. Ryan at the March 2008 board meeting to get ideas on creating a new highway building since ours had "ongoing deterioration issues." Mr. Sena did not join the Town Board until January 2009, following his appointment at the December 2008 meeting.

Several other issues need to be addressed. First, Mr. Sena has made an inference that only he takes the time to read and understand bills thoroughly since most of the time he is "the first one signing and the last one to finish." That is a blanket insult to each of the other board members as to how seriously we take our job and how thoroughly we carry out our responsibilities to the citizens and taxpayers of North Harmony.

Months ago the Town Board charged our Highway Superintendant and his department with preparing the ground/area for the proposed new highway building (leveling, removing trees, removing dirt). It only makes sense that we would rely on the practical needs and experience of the highway crew for a location of a badly needed replacement highway building.

Yes, we are considering the largest capital project in our town's history, long overdue since the present building dates to 1957 and is ill-equipped to house today's larger equipment, let alone its maintenance needs, and then there is the deteriorating structure of the north bays. At the April 2009 meeting, Supervisor Carlson said that the "condition of the building is deplorable." Each of the town board members have been appointed by the Supervisor to one or more of the several committees. Committees exist to gather information about their respective area/department, act as a liaison with the department and to make recommendations to facilitate the decision-making process to be carried out by the town board.

Sometimes it may be appropriate and logistically possible for the entire board to meet on a committee assignment project. The decisions to have a topographical survey done by Tolman Engineering in order to do a building layout and estimate and have core samples taken to test the soil, were made at regular town board meetings in 2009 and 2010 respectively. However, before those and other decisions can be made, ground work is often done by committees, as is done at every level of government or organization. Mr. Stow and I have been working to acquire initial information such as plans for the Town of Carroll building, as well as input from the highway workers as to the building needs, door sizes and office space. It only makes sense to consult with the workers who have had to make do with a less-than-adequate facility for too long, but

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still must fulfill their duties to maintain the roads of North Harmony. Nothing is written in stone!! The hiring of an architectural and engineering firm will give us the real facts and information as to drainage, building location and construction costs to the town. With the input from all of these sources, then the entire town board will decide how to proceed and how to best spend our taxpayers' money.

Ralph Whitney  
North Harmony, Town Councilman

MOTION #180 OF 2010  
ON A MOTION MADE BY MR. THOMAS AND SECONDED BY MR. STOW THE MEETING  
WAS ADJOURNED AT 10:30 PM.

*Nancy Thomas*  
*Town Clerk*