

MEETING, TOWN BOARD OF GENOA

October 12, 2011

A Regular meeting of the Town Board of Genoa, Cayuga County, State of New York was held at the Town Hall, 1000 Bartnick Road, Genoa NY on October 12, 2011

Present	Lorie Fessenden, Supervisor	Michael Piechuta, Code Enforcement
	Cheryl Shields, Board member	Frank Sellen, Highway Superintendent
	Dale Sellen, Board member	Robert Foltz
	Stuart Underwood, Board member	Mark Conner
	Al Armstrong, Board member	Matt Rejman
	Sue Moss, Clerk	Eric Reeves
		Sonjia Turner

The Regular meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Supervisor Lorie Fessenden with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Bob Foltz spoke to the Board about the 2 estimates he obtained for inside repairs on the Town Museum. JP Builders gave him an estimate of \$2800. This includes repair to the hallway, closet and bathroom. Tom May gave Bob an estimate of \$790. The Board asked Bob to call both and find out when the job could be done. The item has been tabled for now.

REPORTS

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT

Supervisor Fessenden

RESOLUTION 83-2011 **APPROVAL OF SUPERVISOR’S REPORT**

On a motion of Board member Shields, seconded by Board member Underwood, the following resolution was ADOPTED Ayes 5 Fessenden, Sellen, Underwood, Armstrong, Shields
Nays 0

Resolved that the September Supervisor’s Report be approved

RESOLUTION 84-2011 **APPROVAL OF TRANSFERS**

On a motion of Board member Shields, seconded by Board member Underwood, the following resolution was ADOPTED Ayes 5 Fessenden, Sellen, Underwood, Armstrong, Shields
Nays 0

Resolved that the following transfers be approved:

- \$77.57 from A1220.4 to A3620.4
- \$770.00 from SW1-8220.4 to SW1-8310.4

CLERK'S REPORT

Report on Revenues from Clerk's Office for September 2011

Certified Copies	\$ 10.00
Dog Licenses	235.00

Disbursements for September

Pd to Supervisor	\$ 245.00
NYS Animal Population Control Fund	35.00

RESOLUTION 85-2011 **CLERK'S REPORT**

On a motion of Board member Shields, seconded by Board member Sellen, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Fessenden, Sellen, Underwood, Armstrong, Shields

Nays 0

Resolved that the September 2011 Clerk's Report be accepted

HIGHWAY REPORT

Dale Sellen

The men have been hauling 1st stone from Seneca Stone. They have finished the last 2.5 miles of chip sealing. Hill Road, Green Road and Bruton are done, with a total of 12 miles all together. This should help catch up on some needed repair from heavy traffic.

Over 10,000 tons of screened and crushed gravel were applied to Center Road. The rebuild is getting about complete. They still have more driveway and shoulder work to be finished. The wooded section has been cut back and cleared for better sight distance. The men have also been cutting and clearing other spots that were grown in. They also chipped brush from Wilcox cemetery. Looks as though it will need it again before winter.

Matt has been mowing spots that the farmers have gotten crops off as well as the shoulders. Looks as though there will be plenty more.

The men have been hauling cinders from AES Cayuga. These will be the last for this year. We should be close to having enough to get through to spring.

ASSESSOR'S UPDATE

Lorie Fessenden

Conference: During the Month of September I attended the Annual New York State Assessors' Association Conference and training seminar. Some of the topics this year included but were not limited to; non-profit exemption, school tax budgeting, the 2% tax cap, star exemption, assessor educational requirements and ongoing changes to continuing ed. and reimbursement. This conference/seminar always offers a wealth of formal education and even more real life application while learning from other Assessors, appraisers as well as county and NYS staff.

School Taxes: The main focus has been on the School tax bill this month. I took care of all the routine issues like star and veterans exemption questions, explaining tax rate calculations, library taxes, and all the other parts of the bills, as well as complete each request for apportionment. In addition to the normal questions, you all may remember I required each property owner to produce all documentation to recalculate each exemption. Many of the residents receiving the Low-income Sr. Citizen exemption had been incorrectly receiving an exemption on the school tax portion. I removed that portion of the exemption for those who did not qualify this year. So, unfortunately for those who have become accustomed to a school tax bill of around \$10.00, now have a bill of about \$300.00. The other exemption to greatly affect the school tax bill is the AG exemption. Basically every property owner that leases their

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land to a farmer received a greatly reduced exemption value. While most of the specific exemption changes were minimal, some property owners saw the school tax double from last year. I explained these changes to all I spoke to and met with. I reminded them of the letters I sent last year and the conversations we had at the time applications were returned this spring explaining the exemption rules. Many of these exemptions were incorrectly calculated and granted 20 and even 30 years ago. Property owners understand they have been receiving the benefit of this error and understand it must be correct. However, most property owners understandably didn't realize the direct impact their exemption has on their bill.

Sales and Exemption reporting: I finalized the list of the last year's valid sales for the sales transmittal going to the state and updated each of the records for the IVP enhanced star recipients for the upcoming exemption year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Heather Garner, Assessor

Supervisor Fessenden told the Board that she had received a letter from NYSORPS indicating that Heather had not informed them that the Town would not be doing a reval. She has been given an extension to take care of this matter.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Mick Piechuta

Date: 8/10/11 – 9/14/11

Hours: 22.5

Miles: 98

PERMITS ISSUED: 0

INSPECTIONS:

D. Dean	Powers Rd
K. Gallego	Rt. 90
J. Posner	FL #7
R. Brown (C of C)	Atwater Rd.
D. Bosworth	Clearview (Elmwood – site visit)
B. MacArthur	Rt. 90
Country Touch Cafe	Rt. 90
J. Grant	Rt. 90 (seven rentals)

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/CONCERNS:

- Met with, or talked to, a number of people with ideas for future projects and answered questions about zoning or restrictions of the code.
- Worked on a new Fee Schedule for 2012.
- Met with Carol DiSanto who is putting together a training program for realtors about what the codes are and what needs to be done when real estate changes hands.
- Continue working on inspecting rental property in the town.

Mick passed out a proposed/revised fee schedule for building permits. A decision will be made soon.

Sonjia Turner addressed the Board about fracking and asked how the Town is going to deal with this. Supervisor Fessenden told her that the Town could be sued if we forbid it but there are other alternatives such as road weight limits. She said that someone from Cornell, who has been studying this for some time, will be speaking to the Board, perhaps at the November meeting.

DOG CONTROL REPORT

Lorie Fessenden

No report has been received (for September) so the fee will be held until such report is received.

PROGRAMS AND GRANTS

Lorie Fessenden

The cost of the Swim Program, per child, was \$60. Lorie has asked the Supervisors from Scipio, Venice and Ledyard to contribute to our 2012 budget for next year's Swim Program. The children in these Towns also attend the Swim Program.

WATER REPORT

Mark Conner

September

Total – 1,953,800

Average – 65,100

Mark commented that water usage is down now that summer is over. He has been in touch with Moody Associates about cleaning well 2A. Two years ago, Capital Well Co. cleaned another well and Mark was not impressed with the job. He said they were not very professional. Moody's estimate for the job is \$15,000 and Capital's estimate is \$12,500. This has been tabled until the November 9 meeting.

The fire hydrants do not need painting at this time.

There is a Town Law (Town Law #1 of the year 1972) that states water service will be shut off after 60 days of no payment. The Town has never done this. It was suggested that this law be revisited because the unpaid water bills are put on the Town/County tax bill.

Brenda has asked if she can purchase a new computer. Her present computer was purchased in 2004. She has the money in her equipment account.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

WATER COMMITTEE REPORT

Cheryl Shields

Cheryl reported that she is still waiting for info from Tim Buehl.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING

Al Armstrong

The Committee is condensing everything and hopes to have something in November.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

HISTORIAN

RESOLUTION 86-2011 **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

On a motion of Board member Shields, seconded by Board member Underwood, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Fessenden, Sellen, Underwood, Armstrong, Shields

Nays 0

Resolved to accept presented bills

OLD BUSINESS

The assessment concerns of Don Potter have been turned over to the BAR chairman, George Nettleton. There has been no word yet from George.

GHA repair – the Board will wait to hear from Bob Foltz

The cracked window in the Town Hall hasn't yet been repaired .

Southern Cayuga Ambulance has asked the various Towns for double the money received last year. Lorie talked with the other Town Supervisors. They are going to go along with this but their amounts are not as much the Town of Genoa. The Town of Genoa will stipulate that this money is to be used only for the ambulance. The land purchase discussed at the last meeting contains 1.2 acres. Lorie will contact the Town Attorney to find out how much this purchase will cost in legal fees.

NEW BUSINESS

Insurance agent, Dan Rivers, spoke with Lorie and Dale earlier in the day regarding a new employee health insurance policy. He will get back to Lorie by Friday and she will share that information with Frank.

RESOLUTION 87-2011 **APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 14 MINUTES**

On a motion of Board member Shields, seconded by Board member Underwood, the following resolution was ADOPTED Ayes 5 Fessenden, Sellen, Underwood, Armstrong, Shields
Nays 0

Resolved that the minutes of September 14, 2011 be approved

With no further business, on a motion of Board member Shields, seconded by Board member Underwood, the Board meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. Carried unanimously

Susan B. Moss, Town Clerk

The Board meeting was followed by a Budget Work Session which opened at 9:05 p.m.

Discussions took place on specific line items that need continual review.

Supervisor introduced to the other Board members a hard copy of a local law to override the tax cap for 2012. Discussion on this document will continue at the next special work session scheduled for November 2.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.