

Richard said that we have the grader back and it is operating properly at this time. He said the company really tore it apart and checked everything. The rear axle housing and brakes were an issue and are now hopefully fixed.

Richard said our two way radios are old and not working properly and it would be too expensive to fix them. He checked with Steuben County and they have their own radio person who is very busy at this time. He said he checked on new radios which are hard to find but he did find a place in Hornell. He said we have never purchased a service contract on our radios in the past. He will continue to check for a good place to purchase radios and have these serviced once purchased.

Our CHIPS money will not arrive until the 28th. Richard asked if we can put this back into his highway fund so he can stay in the black this budget year. Wendy said we can do so as a budget adjustment but will need a motion from the Board. Motion was made by Judith Whitbred and seconded by Steven Frederick that when the CHIPS payment of \$54174.56 arrives that the Town Supervisor be authorized to do a budget adjustment to put this money into the highway fund. Put to vote: Gary Lewis, aye; Judith Whitbred, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Steven Frederick, aye; Michael Volino, aye. Carried.

Richard said he estimated we saved \$12000 by using Vestal Asphalt for our oil and stone this year.

Side Dump Box Bid: Richard said he would like to advertise for bids for a 14 foot side dump spreader box. He said he estimates this will cost about \$24,000. Motion was made by Steven Frederick and seconded by Gary Lewis that the Town advertise for sealed bids for this side dump spreader box as requested and that bids be accepted until 7:00 p.m. on the 20th of October at which time they will be opened. Put to vote: Gary Lewis, aye; Judith Whitbred, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Steven Frederick, aye; Michael Volino, aye. Carried.

Motion was made by Steven Frederick and seconded by Michael Volino that all miscellaneous reports be accepted as presented. Put to vote: Gary Lewis, aye; Judith Whitbred, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Steven Frederick, aye; Michael Volino, aye. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Southern Tier Coalition on Gas and Oil: Judy Whitbred said she and Gary attended the last meeting that the Southern Tier Coalition on Gas and Oil had at the Town Hall and it was a very informative meeting. Judy mentioned the request for a resolution that was tabled at the last meeting and said she would like to have this voted on by the Board and sent around to Governor Paterson and other state representatives who will have voting powers regarding this issue. Gary Lewis and Steve Frederick both said they would like more facts proving that water is being polluted since there is always the case of the media being biased. Steve Frederick said passing this resolution shows that Board is expressing an interest in this matter and he said that it will probably become a political issue before too long.

Motion was made by Judith Whitbred and seconded by Steven Frederick that the following resolution be passed and forwarded to the Southern Tier Coalition as well as our state officials and representatives:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of Thurston, Steuben County, New York has been following the spoken and published information relating to the Marcellus Shale natural gas formation production potential in New York State; and

WHEREAS the Board recognizes the dire and declining financial position of the State of New York and the analogous local need for employment and economic stimulation; and

WHEREAS the Marcellus is larger in size (65 million acres) than the Barnett Shale in Texas (3 million acres) with a production potential of fifty years or more; and

WHEREAS the DEC has been conducting a comprehensive review of the environmental issues pertaining to horizontal drilling and hydro-fracturing related to gas production in the Marcellus and it appears that the regulations relating to the production of natural gas in New York State are and will be the most controlling in the United States; and

WHEREAS it is the opinion of this Board that the opponents to gas production in New York State have lost sight of the fact that the landowner is the original environmentalist, having been referred to as conservationists – by definition, a person who advocates conservation of natural resources. Furthermore, opponents also have lost sight of the fact that gas companies have been and will continue to produce gas in New York State by vertical drilling, and if horizontal drilling is prevented vertical drilling will continue. The Board notes that one horizontal well per 640 acres is far more protective of the environment than numerous vertical wells in the same acreage because it has a smaller environmental footprint; that numerous vertical wells will result in greatly increased traffic, greatly increased noise, greatly increased water consumption, greatly increased waste product, with the entire industry expanded beyond necessity; and

WHEREAS it appears from published reports from the DEC that the watershed for New York City will be protected and there will be no environmental impact on that region, and there will also be no environmental impact on the western region of New York State. Each region, in addition to the entire State, will benefit economically from the revenues realized from the gas industry;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Thurston Council Members respectfully request that the New York State Legislature stand aside regarding the issue of drilling in the Marcellus and allow the DEC to complete the SGEIS and issue permits for horizontal drilling; and further, in the event the State Legislature passes legislation for a moratorium of any length, creating a delay or total ban of drilling in New York State that Governor Paterson veto any and all such legislation and permit the Marcellus industry to progress.

FURTHER the Thurston Town Clerk is instructed to send this resolution, passed on the 15th day of September, 2010, to our representatives in Albany, and to Governor Paterson.

Put to vote: Gary Lewis, aye; Judith Whitbred, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Steven Frederick, aye; Michael Volino, aye. Carried.

Auditing of Town Officials Books: The Board noted that it is time to audit the books of all town officials who handle money and appointments were set up as follows:

October 5 at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Hall, Steve Frederick and Judy Whitbred will audit the books of the Town Justice;

October 6th at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall, Steven Frederick and Judy Whitbred will audit the books of the Town Clerk;

October 28th at 4:00 p.m. in the Town Hall, Gary Lewis and Mike Volino will audit the last four years of the Town Supervisors books;

The Town Clerk will call the Tax Collector, Sandy Nowicki, and set up a time for Gary Lewis and Mike Volino to audit her books during October.