

WEST BLOOMFIELD TOWN BOARD

Regular Meeting

September 9, 2009

Present: Supervisor Champlin, Councilmen Ferguson, Hagen, Rehberg

Absent: Councilman Miller

Also Present: Town Clerk Mary Grundman, Highway Superintendent Jim Powers, Steve Degraw, Laurel Wemett, Marna Evans, Gary Evans, Karl Hritz, Todd Campbell, Dan Peters

Supervisor Champlin opened the meeting at 7:00 and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

RESOLUTION #88

Minutes

Supervisor Champlin asked for approval of the August minutes. Councilman Rehberg made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilman Ferguson.

Adopted: Ayes –Champlin, Ferguson, Hagen, Rehberg Nays - None

Resolves that the August minutes are accepted as presented.

RESOLUTION #89

Supervisor Champlin presented the Board with a resolution to support the Ontario County Real Property Tax Service in the application for funding as follows:

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
GENERAL EFFICIENCY PLANNING GRANT**

WHEREAS, The County of Ontario wishes to pursue grant funding to support an improvement to the real property tax administration, and

WHEREAS, the Ontario County Real Property Tax Services Agency supports the various municipalities in the administration of assessment programs, and

WHEREAS, The Town of West Bloomfield is interested in exploring a more efficient and consistent system to value commercial, industrial and complex agricultural properties; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of West Bloomfield supports the further study of the Centralized Commercial Property Valuation Project; and further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Robin Johnson, Director, Ontario County Real Property Tax Services, 20 Ontario Street, Canandaigua, NY 14424.

Councilman Rehberg made the motion to adopt the resolution in support of the Ontario County Tax Service General Efficiency Planning Grant, seconded by Councilman Hagen.

Adopted: Ayes –Champlin, Ferguson, Hagen, Rehberg Nays - None

Resolves that the Town of West Bloomfield supports the Ontario County Tax Service General Efficiency Planning Grant application.

Town Hall

Planning Board Chairman Todd Campbell was present representing the Historical Society. On behalf of the Historical Society, he asked the Board to consider placing restrictions on the sale of the Town Hall building that would require the new owner to preserve the appearance of the building. Supervisor Champlin stated that the building does not have any historic value due to all of the changes over the years and that the building is for sale because the Board felt obligated to offer it. Marna Evans agreed that the building is beyond repair but the Town should keep the land. Supervisor Champlin said bids for demolition would be the next step. The question was asked, does anyone have the original plans so the building could be returned to its original state. Supervisor Champlin said when the building was built, most people just built without plans, so that would probably not be possible. Marna Evans asked if selling it for salvage was an option. Supervisor Champlin explained that the

Board has had several estimates for salvaging and demolition, and that all options will be considered. The Board agreed that they are not going to set conditions on the sale of the building but would ask any buyer to preserve the look of the building.

Appointed Assessor

Supervisor Champlin asked Gary Evans if he wanted to speak to the Board. Mr. Evans stated that he was very much against the Appointed Assessor, because he believes it does away with any objectivity the Assessor may have. He also questions State mandates and wanted to know if there was a date for the change to an appointed assessor and if there is a fine if the Town doesn't comply. Supervisor Champlin said he doesn't have an exact date. Mr. Evans said that you're stuck with that person even if they aren't doing a good job. Supervisor Champlin said there are ways to remove the person with cause. Mr. Evans asked who sets the pay scale, Supervisor Champlin said the Town Board does. Supervisor Champlin said he stands with the Town Board and the County because the training and qualifications set for Assessor's is extensive and he feels that an appointed Assessor will be held to a strict standard. He also stated that the Board will probably make an appointment now and make it effective January 1, 2010. He asked Assessor Dan Peters if he had any comments. Dan stated that the requirements for an Appointed Assessor are more strict and the State watches them. He feels the issues should be addressed as they come up. Mr. Evans said state mandates are a problem, Supervisor Champlin told him about the mandates at the county level and some come with requirements in order for the Town to receive money due them.

RESOLUTION #90

Highway & Water Reports

Superintendent Powers gave the Highway and Water reports for August. Councilman Ferguson made the motion to accept the highway and water reports, seconded by Councilman Rehberg.

Adopted: Ayes – Champlin, Ferguson, Hagen, Rehberg Nays - None

Resolves that the Highway and Water Reports are accepted as presented.

RESOLUTION #91

Supervisor's Report

The Supervisor's report for August was read and discussed. Councilman Rehberg made the motion to approve the reports, seconded by Councilman Hagen.

Adopted: Ayes – Champlin, Ferguson, Hagen, Rehberg Nays - None

Resolves that Supervisor's report is accepted as presented.

RESOLUTION #92

Justice Reports

The Justice reports were read and discussed. Councilman Hagen made the motion to approve the reports, seconded by Councilman Ferguson.

Adopted: Ayes – Champlin, Ferguson, Hagen, Rehberg Nays - None

Resolves that the Justice reports are accepted as presented.

RESOLUTION #93

Approval of Bills

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| Abstracts in the amounts of: | General | Vouchers | 259-290 | \$22448.45 |
| | Highway | Vouchers | 109-125 | \$45850.55 |
| | Water | Vouchers | 58-66 | \$7635.74 |

Were audited. Councilman Hagen made the motion to approve payment, seconded by Councilman Ferguson.

Adopted: Ayes – Champlin, Ferguson, Hagen, Rehberg Nays – None Resolves that the payment of bills is approved.

RESOLUTION #94

Appointed Assessor

Supervisor Champlin asked for a motion to appoint Dan Peters Assessor effective January 1, 2010. Councilman Rehberg abstained, Councilman Hagen made the motion to appoint Dan Peters, Assessor effective January 1, 2010.

Adopted: Ayes – Champlin, Ferguson, Hagen Abstain - Rehberg Nays - None
Resolves that Dan Peters is the sole Appointed Assessor effective January 1, 2010.

Stuart Brown

Supervisor Champlin distributed a letter from Stuart Brown for the Board to review. Mr. Brown is a grant writer and can assist in applications for loans through the USDA.

Recreation Program

Supervisor Champlin advised the Board that the advice he got from Attorney Anderson about the program was that the Board should look at the program more seriously. Hired help needs to be qualified and there are liability issues. Supervisor Champlin is getting information from other towns to see how their programs are run and will have something for the Board after the budget is done.

2010 Budget

Supervisor Champlin advised the Board that he and Highway Superintendent Powers are working on a draft to be presented to the Board and they are meeting with the Accountant next week.

Duvall Residents

Supervisor Champlin asked if anyone else wished to address the Board. Alice Duvall spoke to the Board about her residence on County Road 14. She stated that she asked Scott Storke about putting a trailer behind her house and he was very vague. She says she can't get any answers when she asks what to do and wants to talk to the Planning Board. Supervisor Champlin said he didn't want to discuss anything because there was a citation issued and because Mr. Storke is not at the meeting. The Planning Board Chairman explained that Scott and the Board can not tell her what to do, it's up to a resident to decide what they want. Mrs. Duvall said she's been told she can put the trailer behind her house and federal law allows it. Supervisor Champlin said Town Law is the rule and Town Law does not allow it. He offered to try and arrange a meeting with the Planning Board Chairman, the Code Enforcement Officer and Mrs. Duvall and himself and she agreed.

At 8:32 Councilman Hagen made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Ferguson.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Grundman, Town Clerk