

The regular meeting of the Berkshire town board was opened at 7:01 pm by Supervisor Simmons opening with the pledge of allegiance.

**A motion to approve the minutes from April 20<sup>th</sup> was made by John Stoughton and seconded by Fraser Williams and carried.**

Members present: Mike Simmons supervisor, John Stoughton, Lillian Hoffmier, Fraser Williams. Absent: Ronald Hartwig. Also present was Karl Spoonhower, highway superintendent.

Privilege of the floor: Louise Beebe asked about the mowing of the cemetery in Berkshire. Commented on the fact that it wasn't being done very well in the back part.

#### Reports:

County planning board: James Lacey- Gary Henry Co. planning board chair and is also on the Candor planning board is working on a road use law. The law will address issues dealing with gas companies moving into this area to drill for natural gas. Jim Lacey is very anxious to see this law.

Berkshire planning board: Joe Palmari- There are laws that have been done that are still waiting to be sent to the state. We need to get them back from the lawyer so that they can be submitted. Mike Simmons will send the attorney an email to see where they are. John Gehm- planning board member we are still working on the junk-yard law. The signs for off road vehicles are ordered. Lee Virtue- code enforcement asked the planning board Representatives who decides which laws get worked on? He feels that the unsafe structure law should be a priority.

Code enforcement: Lee Virtue- I am working on 7 violations and have 11 permits out.

Town Clerk: Constance Liddington- report passed

Justice: Charles Brundza- No report

Highway: Karl Spoonhower- the new truck is in and everything is fine with that. We are working with other towns to make our blacktop patching to help save money. Should have the back roads worked and patching done on the black top ones by the end of the month. There has been no word on the chips money yet so we are holding off on spending until we get word from them.

Dog control: Ronald Raab- no report

Assessor: Cathy Edwards- Grievance day is May 28<sup>th</sup> 2010.

Supervisor: Mike Simmons- none

#### Old Business:

News Letter-Newsletters are out. Printing was 197.00 for 419 newsletters and 44.00 for postage.

Sidewalks- a part of the sidewalk was broken by a tree contractor. The contractor will be responsible for paying to fix it. We will continue with the plans for the rest of the sidewalks to be done.

Own wide clean up- clean up was completed and the junk paid for a lot of the cost of the clean up.

Page 2

Town Hall- Ronald Hartwig and Fraser Williams met with Steve McElwain and he will make some sketches and write up some specs for the roof at the town hall. The cost will be very little or nothing to the town. Fraser Williams will push on getting this done so we can proceed with getting bids from contactors for this project.

Attorney for the town- Malon Perkins from Dryden whom is the attorney for the towns of Caroline and Dryden has agreed to represent the town of Berkshire on an as needed basis. His cost is 200.00 per hour his assistant is 85.00 per hour. A motion to hire Mr. Perkins was made by John Stoughton and seconded by Fraser Williams and carried.

New Business:

Code officer- Start working on the junk car law beginning with the block around the town hall and working your way out.

Board concerns:

Fraser Williams- NYSEG is moving the pole out front of the town hall, they have already moved the wires. Frontier has to move theirs as well. When they move them they will be putting a box on the end of the building, I make a motion to pay Frontier 70.00 per hr. to do this work, Mike Simmons seconded the motion and it was carried.

Approval of the warrants:

Mike Simmons made a motion to approve the general warrant as audited by the board vouchers #56-69 totaling 12,091.51 seconded by Lillian Hoffmier and carried.

John Stoughton made a motion to approve the highway warrant as audited by the board vouchers #59-77 totaling 203,013.50 seconded by Fraser Williams and carried.

A motion to adjourn at 7:42 pm was made by Lillian Hoffmier and seconded by Fraser Williams and carried.

Respectfully submitted

Constance Liddington