

**Town of Ancram
Town Board
Regular Meeting
January 21, 2010**

Present: Supervisor Arthur Bassin
Councilman John MacArthur
Councilwoman Madeline Israel
Highway Superintendent James MacArthur
Councilman James Miller
Councilman Chris Thomas
Town Clerk Monica Cleveland

Supervisor Bassin called the regular meeting to order following the closing of the 2009 Year End Meeting.

Supervisors report:

Mr. Bassin stated that he is reviewing the 2010 budget and has had conversations with the accountant. He stated that there are issues that have to be dealt with including situations where not enough money is budgeted in certain lines. He felt that by the March meeting the board will have had a better look at the budget and will have a report on this.

Mr. Bassin stated his priorities for 2010- He stated that these are basically items the board will try to do. He stated that there are other items which may come up but those listed are what will be concentrated on.

Mr. Bassin gave a county report. He stated that he has attended a County Real Property committee meeting. (see list for the committees), Mr. Bassin commented that the County is run by the committees and that the process works really well. The new chair of the Supervisors is Roy Brown from Germantown and that Mr. Brown feels that the County must have programs to stimulate jobs. Mr. Bassin stated that the major issue facing the County at this time is the Kohls department store PILOT. Mr. Bassin stated that the County wants to put a department store in Greenport. This would include a \$60,000.00 tax abatement. Per year for 20 years. Mr. Bassin stated that the County doesn't make this decision it is made by the Industrial Development Agency. The deal will add to sales tax and added jobs. Many people disagree with the 20 year tax abatements. Mr. Bassin sees this as an active debate. Everyone he has spoken to thinks a good idea.

Rockefeller bridge: Mr. Bassin stated that \$1.6 million was appropriated for the project and that Colarusso has received the bid. At this time the County does not expect that they will have to close the road.

Councilwoman Israel asked if there has been any discussion about the Kohls' contract regarding the jobs being given to Columbia County residents first. Mr. Bassin stated that he thinks so. Mrs. Israel stated that this would be a good idea seeing how it is Columbia County giving the tax abatement.

Councilman Thomas stated that this is the problem with IDA making a 20 year deal and the County having no say. He wondered if anyone was analyzing the numbers on the Counties behalf. Mr. Bassin stated that the IDA is the one to do the analyzing and under NYS law. This 20 year PILOT permitted. The IDA is looking at the numbers and the Board of Supervisors has no direct access to the process. The IDA is concerned with the 20 year PILOT. Mr. Bassin stated that Kohls' is ready to do this deal, but says it is ready to walk if it does not go its way. Mr. Nick Nickerson asked if this would this be the best deal and could the BOS bring in another company with better terms. Mr. Bassin stated that this is the deal that is on the table.

Highway Superintendent Report-

Superintendent MacArthur stated that he has for the board a 2009 activities and spending report which breaks down what was spent on each road in 2009. He stated that he also has another report which breaks down what was done everyday. Mr. MacArthur stated that the major repairs for 2009 included 1 mile of

Pooles Hill Rd, Five Roses and Pats Roads and 3/10 of a mile of Maple Lane. For 2010, Mr. MacArthur plans are to finish Pool Hill Rd, 4/10 of a mile of Cottontail road with widening and drainage work on Maple Lane and Town Road.

Mr. MacArthur explained to the people how roads are fixed by the Highway Department because he stated that he knows there are questions about this. Mr. MacArthur stated that to build and maintain the roads the "right way" the tax payers cannot afford it and that the roads would have to be closed for 5 or 6 months. It is suggested that the town should reclaim the roads at \$45,000.00 a mile. Mr. MacArthur stated that the reclaiming doesn't get below the problem in the roads. He stated that the Highway department has no complaints that the roads are not level but they do get complaints about pot holes. He stated that he tries to work within the budget.

Mr. Bassin addressed the possible contamination at the garage site. When the issues were brought to the Town Board in December there were water samples taken and that the town received the reports back and they are two pages long. The reported that there is no contamination in any of the wells which are actually points. The Town Board has decided to get core samples. Mr. Bassin stated that he talked to Bill Christenson of DEC about taking 6-12 boring samples. If the town did a dozen soil samples this will give a sense if there is a problem. Mr. Bassin stated that the board wants to get the issue of contamination out of the way. The project should come in around 6-7 thousand dollars and take 30-45 days to get done.

Committee Board Reports-

Mr. Bassin stated that the BAR elects a chair every year. Mr. Bassin stated that Rosalie Rothvoss has decided to resign from the board after over 20 yrs of service. This creates an opening on this board. The Town will be taking applications.

Planning Board- No report.

ZBA-

Leah Wilcox stated that Suzanne Bressler, the clerk, is resigning. A job description with an add will be placed in the paper. Mrs. Wilcox stated that the ZBA is going to make an effort on training this year.

Ethics Committee-

Mr. Lindsey stated that the Ethics committee will be spending time gathering info from the County, the State and other towns. He felt the board has a lot of info to go through. Mr. Lindsey stated that there is a question in the County about having a TB member on the committee. Mr. Bassin stated that the new ethics law was never passed and this became evident when reviewing that law. He found it interesting as to whether an official can serve on the committee or not. The current Ethics Law stated that there is to be a Board member on the committee, yet the ethics committee will have to deal with the official if something unethical is done by that member. Mr. Lindsey stated that the committee is discussing expanding to 5 members.

Grants Committee and CDBG (merged)-

Community Grants Committee is the new name of this committee. Libby McKee, Chair, addressed the board. She stated that a special meeting was held on Jan 7th and that the regular meetings will be held the 2nd Thursday of every month. The committee is looking into grants for community development, a Pool and Playground Grant. She suggested that the committee hire a professional to write grants, a Laura Oswald. Money from CDBG will fund this. This will cost \$95.00 an hour. The committee met with Scott Murphy's office. She stated that recommended that the town board adopt resolutions at the town level showing support for future grants projects. This she stated will strengthen the grants application. On the project concerning the intersection of 82/7, Mrs. McKee gave an estimated cost to carve the corner back to improve the sight line at \$100,000.00. She stated that the committee is working to get State funds for this project. Mr. Bassin stated that he has spoken to the owner of the Tin Smith House, Dennis Berry, about carving back the retaining wall on the property and that Mr. Berry has no problem with the town doing this. Mr. Bob Mayhew asked if this was state property? Mr. Rick Dubrey stated that an engineer said that the house would fall down if the wall was carved back.

Youth Commission-

Member Monica Cleveland stated that the commission will be holding an event on Friday at Kids Time in Millerton. Mr. Bob Wilcox stated that the Youth Commission is in discussion of consolidating the recreation area of the town.

Communications committee-

The communications committee will be looking to have access to the residents for the future town newsletter through the residents e-mail. The committee is looking to make the web site more timely and interactive and to include information needed by the town. A motion was made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilman Thomas to appoint Madeline Israel chair of the Communications Committee. Motion carried.

Garage Committee-

Emil Racenet, Chair of the committee addressed the board. He stated that the committee will be looking at remaining at the current site. The town will be looking into having the contamination assessment done. The committee will be speaking with the Army Core of Engineers and DEC regarding the wetlands. Highway Superintendent Jim MacArthur is looking into information regarding the retention ponds. The committee is looking into the possibility of an 80x100 building. They have talked about the salt shed and this may be put off until next year and may be placed behind the milk house. Mr. Jack Lindsey stated that there is stimulus money for sharing services. Councilman MacArthur stated that there has to be someone has to share with this. Mrs. Donna Hoyt stated that if Dan Slott gives them the bank in the back, she feels it isn't enough storage space and that material will still have to be stored in other places. She stated that the town had been told by DEC that the old buildings on the property have to come down. Mr. Bassin stated that he would like to see this letter from DEC. Mr. Bob Mayhew stated that he had walked behind the milk house and that there are no wet lands behind the building but that there are on other side of the bank.

Revaluation Committee-

Councilman Thomas stated that Jan 28th 7pm will be the first meeting. It is a committee of 6 people and they are moving forward with a process. He stated all are invited. Mrs. Donna Hoyt asked how the committee is going about revaluating it. Mr. Thomas stated that the committee will discuss this at the first meeting.

Conservation Advisory Council-

Mr. Bassin stated that there are two opinions concerning this committee and the enacting of it. One is by resolution and the other is to pass a town local law. Mr. Bassin stated that the reason for the local law so that there is a public hearing. Councilman Thomas, Councilman Miller and Councilwoman Israel suggested that the board pass a resolution and allow a public comment period. Councilman MacArthur asked why the board would have a public hearing if the board is not going to change their mind. Mr. Jack Lindsey asked if the law or resolution would the council more or less power which they choose. Mr. Bassin stated that the Local Law has more substance. Leah Wilcox stated that Town Law requires it sometimes. Councilman Miller stated that the committee is just there for advice. Mr. Nick Nickerson asked if the committee is not working out, can the board change their mind. Mr. Bassin stated that the board can always change their minds.

RESOLUTION #14 OF 2010: ESTABLISHING A Conservation Advisory Council:

RESOLVED: That the Town Board of the Town of Ancram does hereby establish a Conservation Advisory Council to be appointed by said board. Resolution offered by Councilman MacArthur and seconded by Supervisor Bassin. Carried.

Comprehensive Plan Committee-

Mr. Bassin stated that there are the following items on the Committees agenda. One- Look at the petition handed to the board in September 2009 after the town board public hearing on August 31, 2009 concerning Comp Plan issues. Second, reduce the zoning revision committee from 19 people, which is too large a number to be an effective committee. Mr. Bassin stated that the Ancram Comp Plan has met with the Copake Comp Plan committee and Copake has a much more regional view. Mrs. Donna Hoyt asked what the town's liability when we go ahead with adopting the comp plan. She stated that she spoke to the county planning board and the association of towns and that they feel that the Comp plan and Zoning revisions

should be adopted together. Mr. Jack Lindsey stated that he spoke to Jason Shaw and told him that not adopting the Comp Plan now would take the town out of the running for grants. Mr. Jason Shaw, Mr. Lindsey stated, would change his opinion in this case. Mr. Bassin stated that he would clarify this with Jason. He stated that there is no liability in passing the comp plan now. Mrs. Leah Wilcox stated that the liability is reduced if the town is actively revising the zoning. She stated that as long as there is a good faith effort, any court would give the town the benefit. Mr. Mayhew stated that Jason give the town an opinion letter. Mr. Bassin stated that he did not remember seeing this and he will track down all of these concerns.

Zoning Revisions-

This committee has not yet met. The committee is in the process of being made smaller

Senior commission-

Adriene Citrin of the commission stated that they will be meeting in February and would like to coincide and help with the emergency preparedness plan. A motion was made by Councilman Thomas and seconded by Councilman Miller to appoint Adriene Citrin chair of the Senior Commission. Motion Carried.

Cell Phone-

Mr. Bob Roth stated that AT&T promised to put money aside in January for a cell tower in Ancram. Greeley Ford stated to Mr. Roth that there will be money. Mr. Bassin asked when a site will be picked. Mr. Roth stated that the companies are reevaluating the sites. One possible site is the Firehouse and the proposed site on Westfall road ended up being in the Town of Taghkanic. Jane Shannon asked that if property was donated, would that property then become municipal property. Mr. Roth stated that the companies would like municipal land. Mr. Terry Boyles asked if a property owner had a piece of land how would the process work. Mr. Roth stated that this would be a case where the cell tower law in Ancram would come into play.

Community Day-

Councilman Miller stated that the event was slated for Aug 14th and 15th. The first meeting of this committee will be sometime in April.

Ag and Farmland Committee-

This committee met earlier this month and began steps to develop this plan. The plan is funded for the first phase. Mr. Bassin stated that the committee is working and will begin to meet monthly.

CDBG-

This committee has folded into the grants committee.

Departments-

Historian-

Mrs. Clara Van Tassel addressed the board. She stated that the NYS historical sign in Ancram Lead Mines is missing. Gary Deitch, the property owner stated that he filed a report with police. Mrs. VanTassel stated that she has met with Bill Krattinger of the NYS historical preservation office on a variety of Ancram sites. Mrs. VanTassel stated that they looked at the Milk Plant again, at the octagon house in Ancramdale and the Methodist Church in Ancram. Mr. Nick Nickerson asked if the Old Town Hall building was looked at. Clara stated that she felt this was a historical site but has not been discussed. Mr. Bassin wondered if milk house is considered historic can it still be used for highway purposes.

Town court-

Mr. Bob Wilcox stated that for 2009 there were 328 cases, a 12% increase of 2008. The 10 year average 269. VIT's are up 15%. Criminal is down 40%. There were 5 eviction cases. 10 new cases tried using town law. Coleen Lutz started as a new clerk and everyone has been recertified. The department received two JCAP grants in 2009. Mr. Wilcox stated that there will be a request for an expenditure allowing the clerks to go to the association of towns for training. A motion was made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilwoman Israel to allow the court clerks to attend training. Motion Carried. Mr. Steve Roberts asked

what the criminal cases were that are seen in town. Mr. Wilcox stated that the town court can try cases of felony assault of a minor, illegal weapons and assault with a weapon, to name some.

Building Manager-

Mr. George Wittlinger stated that there are people who have volunteered to paint the town hall. Jane Moore is volunteering her service as a supervisor of the project. Mr. Wittlinger stated that there is carpentry work needed and that he is going to ask Roger Boice to do this. A solid stain will be used and Jane will paint the tower. The Town's insurance will cover all of the volunteers. The building will be pressure washed. The telephone answering machine problem at the town hall has been fixed.

Assessor-

Mr. Ken Leggett addressed the board. He stated that he has met with ORPS about the equalization rates and that Ancram was given a 100% equalization rate without trending.

Mrs. Donna Hoyt stated that she heard Coldwell Banker did a study and that home prices are down 30% in the county. Mr. Leggett stated that he has to go by the state numbers. Mr. Bassin stated that because Ancram is in the southern part of the County, we behave more like Dutchess County. Mr. Bob Mayhew stated that there is a program that the state uses and wonders why the residents cannot get a link to this. Mr. Leggett stated that these are NY State licensed programs and the State are not going to give them out. Mr. Leggett reminded Mr. Mayhew that he has offered for him to come in and see the program. Mr. Bassin stated that when the revaluation committee meets this will be explained. Mr. Mayhew stated that when a person goes to the BAR there is nothing in writing about how they are to come to their decisions. Mr. Leggett stated that this is a question for the grievance board. Mr. Jack Lindsey made suggestion that a theoretical property be run through the system as a model to give people an idea. Abram Kells questioned the Vet exemption stating that the Town is at 50%, less than the County. Mr. Leggett stated that the County increased it a few years ago. Mr. Bassin stated that this can be looked at during the next meeting. Ken will look at this tomorrow.

Building Department-

The Board discussed the issue of Local Law of 2007 and the implications, deciding to look this over at the next meeting. Another issue is if Code Enforcement Officer Ed Ferratto cites someone about a building code violation and no action takes place, what does the town do. Mr. Bassin stated that Ed Ferratto is sending them to the lawyer. Mr. Bassin stated that he has spoke to Ed about what he does in other towns. Mrs. Hoyt stated that when she was on the board, it was brought to her attention that Mr. Ferratto was not licensed to do inspections. Mr. Mayhew stated that he does not believe that Mr. Ferratto has his fire inspection license. Mrs. Hoyt stated that he has not gotten it and that Bill Hunt told them this. Mrs. Sue Bassin stated that she thought Bill was doing the fire inspections.

Animal Control-

Mr. Deitch stated that there will be a rabies clinic March 6th at the Highway garage. He has found two Beagles and is looking for any information. Mr. Deitch offered to the board a contract that would allow him to be the primary kennel for the town with CGHS as the secondary. This will give Gary the \$305.00 to cover the vet bills. A Motion was made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilman Thomas to enter into a kennel contract with Gary Deitch. Motion carried. Adriene Citrin suggested Mr. Deitch work out an agreement with the vet Tina Aken who is local.

The following resolution was offered by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilwoman Israel and moved to adopt.

RESOLUTION #15 OF 2010:

RESOLVED: That the Town Board of the Town of Ancram, with the assistance of the Planning Committee, complete the process necessary to adopt the Comprehensive Plan, including submitting the Plan to the County Planning Department for its 30 day review and conducting the required SEQRA review, including reviewing the petition to the town following the public hearing on the Comprehensive Plan. Moved to a vote. 4 ayes (Councilman Miller, Councilman Thomas, Councilman Israel and Supervisor Bassin) 1 Naye (Councilman MacArthur) Resolution carried.

When asked what it is he opposed in the Plan, Councilman MacArthur stated that there is one section he is not in agreement with. He stated that he does not like the SCOZ law and that he will not vote for the

Comprehensive plan as long as it is included.

The following resolution was offered by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilman Thomas and moved for adoption.

RESOLUTION #16 OF 2010

RESOLVED: That the Town Board of the Town of Ancram requests the Comprehensive Planning Committee interview all members recently appointed to the Zoning Revisions Committee to insure each member is thoroughly familiar with the Comprehensive Plan, supports changing the town zoning and subdivision laws to bring them into compliance with the revised Comp Plan, and is committed to spending the time over the next 24 months to serve on this committee.

Mr. Bassin asked for comments. Councilman MacArthur stated that he does not understand this resolution. He felt this would be a simple matter to copy Comp Plan into the zoning laws. Mr. Bassin stated that the Zoning Laws do have to be consistent with the Comp Plan. Mr. MacArthur stated that he felt this was another way to spend money. Mr. Bassin stated that the zoning revision committee will be responsible for insuring that the consultant and the lawyers will do what is said in the Comp Plan. Larry Eckler asked if the committee will be working on a real time basis, or waiting for a packet from the consultant. Mr. Bassin stated that the Consultant will propose draft laws for the committee who will then go over them for weeks. Mrs. Hoyt stated that there was a County Planning board and stated that there was more of a need for a lawyer than a consultant. Mr. Bassin asked who Mrs. Hoyt was speaking to at the County Planning Department. Mrs. Hoyt stated Patrice Perry. Bonnie Hunt stated that it is more expensive to have a lawyer involved. Mrs. Hoyt stated that Nan Stolzenburg, the consultant, in her opinion is not cheap. Mr. Bassin stated that the town has a history with Nan and feels there will be a much faster response with her help. Mr. Bassin stated that the Town's commitment to the project will be under \$20,000.00 and includes the lawyer. Jim Stickle asked if the board had adopted the Comp Plan with the last resolution., Mr. Bassin stated no, that the board is sending the plan as is to the county for that part of the process. Mr. Bassin stated that one of the items to be taken care of before the adoption is to sit down with those people who signed the petition given to the previous board and talk through their questions. Mr. Bob Murphy stated that the group is hung up on three words not in the resolution.

A motion was made to rescind the first resolution #15 of 2010 by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilwoman Israel. Motion carried.

Mrs. Donna Hoyt asked for the process of interviews for the zoning committee and if the Comprehensive plan committee will be deciding. Mr. Bassin stated that he did not know at this time.

A motion was made to adopt resolution #16 by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilman Thomas. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #17 OF 2010

RESOLVED: That the Town Board of the Town of Ancram authorizes the Town Supervisor to extend the consulting agreement with Nan Stolzenburg of Community Planning and Environment Associate, to include her participation as the Town's advisor for the zoning Revisions Committee at a fee not to exceed \$22,500.00 for the zoning revisions project.

Mr. Bassin asked for comments. Mrs. Donna Hoyt asked if this included the lawyer. Mr. Bassin stated that it does.

A motion was made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilman Thomas to accept the resolution. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #18 OF 2010

RESOLVED: That the Town Board of the Town of Ancram develop and adopt a formal policy for recruiting, interviewing, selecting and training board, commission and committee chairs and member. Motion offered by Councilman Thomas and seconded by Councilwoman Israel. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #19 OF 2010

RESOLVED: That the Town Board of the Town of Ancram allow the Town Supervisor and the Highway Superintendent, subject to review and approval by the Town Board, and prior to beginning contamination

assessment work at the new current garage site, be authorized to incur normal and customary costs not to exceed \$7500 to retain experts recommended by DEC to determine if there is any petroleum contamination requiring remedial action at the current garage site on Town Rd., and if there is, to determine the cost to clean up this contamination.

Motion offered by Councilman MacArthur and seconded by Councilwoman Israel. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #20 OF 2010

RESOLVED: That the Town Board of the Town of Ancram authorizes the Town Supervisor and the Highway Superintendent, subject to review and approval by the Town Board, be authorized to develop specifications and seek bids for a new (Original wording *highway garage facility*) (*revised wording* site plan) a salt shed to be built at the current garage site at Town Rd, and to incur the normal and customary engineering costs not to exceed \$7500 related to the development of the specifications and bid package for the new garage and salt shed.

Mr. Bassin asked for comments Councilwoman Israel stated that the board needs to complete the contamination work under resolution #19 before beginning Resolution #20. Mr. Bassin stated that he would like to get the contamination done first. Mrs. Donna Hoyt asked if the engineer designed a storm drainage system. Mr. Bassin stated that this was part of the specs. Mr. Bassin stated that the DEC has told the town where the retention has to go. Mr. Mayhew stated that the town needs to know where the drainage system is. A motion was made by Councilman Thomas and seconded by Councilwoman Israel to accept the motion with the revised language. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #21 OF 2010

RESOLVED: That the Town of Ancram Supervisor will work with the Town Board and Finance Advisory Committee to review the 2010 Budget and compensation levels for all town officials and employees and propose amendments and adjustments to compensation levels and the 2010 budget for the review and approval of the Town Board at or before the March Town Board Meeting.

Mr. Bassin asked for Comments. Mrs. Donna Hoyt asked Mr. Bassin to explain The Resolution. Mr. Bassin stated as he was going through the budget he noticed in some cases that the 2009 expenses for compensation is above what was budgeted in 2010. He stated that the town is saving \$45,000.00 on the rescue squad. He would like to go through the budget and go back to the original amounts as asked by the departments. Mrs. Hoyt asked if there had been an increase on what the clerks are making. Mr. Bassin stated that the clerks are being paid what was originally budgeted for now. He stated that the board is going to do a compensation survey and sort out the issue before March.

The motion was offered by Councilman Thomas and seconded by Councilman Miller. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #22 OF 2010

RESOLVED: That the Town Board of the Town of Ancram authorizes the Town Hall Building Manager to develop specifications and solicit bids to have the Town Hall siding repaired as needed and repainted or stained in the spring of 2010 using volunteers.

Mr. Bassin asked for comments. Mr. Jack Lindsey stated that the doors in the Main Room are in need of replacement.

The motion was offered by Councilman Thomas and seconded by Councilman Miller. Councilman John MacArthur abstained from the vote. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #23 OF 2010

RESOLVED: That the Town Supervisor review all written town policies and procedures, propose revisions where necessary, and develop new policies and procedures if needed by the July Town Board meeting for approval by the Town Board. At minimum, the Town should have written policies covering procurement and investments.

The motion was made by Councilman Thomas and seconded by Councilman Miller. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #24 OF 2010

RESOLVED: That the Town Board of the Town of Ancram adopt the same income level schedules and sliding scale used by Columbia County to establish senior, limited disability and low income property tax exemptions.

Mr. Bassin asked for comments. Councilman MacArthur asked if this included an increase to the veterans

exemption. Mr. Bassin stated that this would happen at the next meeting and will include a public hearing. The motion was made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilman MacArthur. Motion carried.

Solar Grant-

The Town received the Grant for the project. Mr. Bob Murphy stated that there is only one wrinkle and that is that the system is twice as big as the State grant requested but the law will be revised to make this OK. This means that the town can then make money on it. Mr. Jack Lindsey stated that when a municipality goes on grant list it puts them in front of the line for other grants.

Open Meeting Law Primer obtained a detailed summary of Open Meeting law issues from Hugh Clarke. Mr. Bassin stated that it was good to have this and it is important that all town officials live by this. Mr. Bassin stated that there was very little the town could do to enforce the Open Meeting Law if not self enforced.

Ancram Angles asked for the use of the Town Hall on 12/4/2010 for their Christmas celebration dinner. A motion was made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilwoman Israel to allow use of the Town Hall for the Ancram Angels on 12/4/2010 subject to their obtaining the same insurance coverage from the Rescue Squad as last year. Motion carried.

Ms. Jane Shannon asked if the board could enact some guidelines for petitions and to distill the information at town hall. Mr. Bassin stated that the board cannot tell people how to make petitions. Mr. Jack Lindsey stated that the people have to be voters if they are petitioning for a vote. He stated that it is the State law that the petition has to have a name, signature and an address. The board could make uniform the way people are presenting to the town board.

Town Clerk Monica Cleveland opened sealed bids which were received at the town in November and never acted on by the previous town board.

The bids were submitted by: Amenia Sand and Gravel, Century Aggregates, Red Wing Properties, A. Colarusso & Son, Bryant Mines and Package Paremout. These bids are on file with the Clerks office.

Mr. MacArthur submitted the following recommendations:

The bids for highway material recommended by the highway superintendent are as follows:

Bank Run Gravel: ACD, Century and Bryant Mines

Item #4: ACS and Century

Crusher Run 7/8 minus: Century and ACS

Hot and Cold Mix: ACS

#3 Stone: Century and ACS

#4 Stone: Century and ACS

1/4 inch washed crushed stone: ACS

1/2 inch washed crushed stone: ACS

Item #4 processed gravel: Century and ACS

Binder: ACS

6F asphalt: ACS and Amenia Sand and Gravel

7F asphalt: Amenia Sand

Snow and Ice sand: Red Wing

1/4 inch washed gravel: ACS

Mr. Mike Citrin asked if Jim accepted the least expensive in each category.

Mr. MacArthur stated that he always buys at the lowest price but likes to have a backup.

Mr. Ron Brant asked if the town is hauling all the materials. Mr. MacArthur stated that he seldom has items hauled in.

Mr. Bob Mayhew suggested that the town have a gravel mine in town. Leah Wilcox stated that Bryant mine did not bid competitively. Mr. Bob Mayhew stated that most of good material been used out of that mine.

A motion was made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilwoman Israel to approve recommendations of the Highway Superintendent. Motion Carried.

The board discussed putting the lawn care and pool care out to bid. Councilman Miller made a motion to put out to bid. Mr. Ron Brant asked if the bid would be for both the swimming pool and lawn as a package. Mr. Rick Dubrey stated that last year the lawn bid included the pool. It was questioned why the town doesn't do the mowing themselves. Mr. Bob Mayhew stated that it is not fair that the pool is included in the bid. Mr. George Wittlinger stated that he would like to see one person to be responsible for the entire thing. The Highway Department would have to hire another person to do it. Councilman MacArthur stated that there are problems with the pool and certain things have to be taken care at the pool. Highway Superintendent MacArthur stated that he is concerned about the pool. Mr. Mayhew stated that splitting the bid is great. Mr. Jim Stickle asked about the Sand and Salt for this time of year. Mr. Wittlinger stated that next year the snow removal will be bid in August. Mr. Thomas stated that he felt mowing and plowing should be done by the town.

A motion was made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilwoman Israel to pay the bills. Motion Carried.

Mrs. Donna Hoyt stated that she had a problem with a previous town board member who had resigned was appointed to the grievance board. She stated that he will now be judging the tax payers. She stated that he left the town without a way to pay the bills She took offense to this appointment. A question was raised as to who this person is. Mr. Bassin stated that this person is Bob Podris.

Mr. Bob Mayhew stated that he felt that the carpenter work for the Town Hall should be put out to bid.

A motion was made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilwoman Israel to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Monica Cleveland
Town Clerk