

**Town of Charlton
Saratoga County
Town Board Meeting**

September 14, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Charlton, Saratoga County, New York was held at the Charlton Town Hall, 758 Charlton Rd, Charlton, NY and called to order by Supervisor Grattidge at 7:30 p.m.

Supervisor Grattidge led the pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Councilman Grasso, Councilman Ranaletto, Councilman Robbins, Supervisor Grattidge.

Also in attendance: Town Clerk Brenda Mills, Attorney Craig.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION #127

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Councilman Ranaletto

Seconded by Councilman Robbins

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board has approved the minutes of the Town Board Meeting on August 10, 2020.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. **CARRIED**

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk's office took in \$1,835.50 for the month of August. \$352.13 was paid to the Supervisor's Office as revenue and \$1,483.37 was paid to other Governmental agencies.

RESOLUTION #128

Acceptance of the Town Clerk's Report

Motion by Councilman Grasso

Seconded by Councilman Robbins

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board has accepted the Town Clerk's report as read.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. **CARRIED**

SUPERVISORS REPORT

For the month of August:

- I attended the normal Town and County meeting
- Peaceable Bridge Project has begun, completion by 10/30/20
- Pump problems fixed in the Water District, water restrictions lifted
- Worked on 2012 Tentative Budget

The Sales Tax received was \$117,344.00 and the Mortgage Tax was \$13,387.00.

The Town of Charlton has had the best 2020 Census response in the county, with over 82% of residents responding. The average response in the county is 65%.

The Supervisor confirmed that the Board received the monthly financial reports and Key Bank Custodial report.

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MONTHLY REPORT OF SUPERVISOR

TO THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF CHARLTON :

Pursuant to Section 125 of the Town Law, I hereby render the following detailed statement of all moneys received and disbursed by me during the month of August, 2020:

DATED: September 9, 2020

SUPERVISOR

	Balance 07/31/2020	Increases	Decreases	Balance 08/31/2020
A GENERAL FUND - TOWNWIDE				
CASH - CHECKING	27,656.06	49,667.44	49,666.18	27,657.32
CASH - SAVING	224,637.17	61,301.26	99,666.18	186,272.25
PETTY CASH	600.00	0.00	0.00	600.00
Park Fees Reserve	49,121.50	5.05	0.00	49,126.55
TOTAL	302,014.73	110,973.75	149,332.36	263,656.12
DA HIGHWAY FUND				
CASH - CHECKING	301.40	38,354.77	38,354.77	301.40
CASH - SAVINGS	6,988.38	87,804.90	38,354.77	56,438.51
CASH, SPECIAL RESERVE	15,508.11	0.00	0.00	15,508.11
TOTAL	22,797.89	126,159.67	76,709.54	72,248.02
F WATER #1 FUND				
CASH - CHECKING	33.54	10,703.27	10,703.27	33.54
CASH - SAVINGS	341,230.06	27,008.69	10,703.27	357,535.48
CASH, SPECIAL RESERVES	202,322.80	0.43	0.00	202,323.23
TOTAL	543,586.40	37,712.39	21,406.54	559,892.25
SW WATER #2 FUND				
CASH - CHECKING	0.00	122.82	122.82	0.00
CASH - SAVINGS	28,315.26	3.16	122.82	28,195.60
TOTAL	28,315.26	125.98	245.64	28,195.60
TA TRUST & AGENCY				
CASH - CHECKING	9,457.49	40,138.09	39,488.09	10,107.49
TOTAL	9,457.49	40,138.09	39,488.09	10,107.49
H CAPITAL PROJECTS				
CASH - CHECKING	148,948.00	50,000.00	0.00	198,948.00
SAVINGS	-106,189.00	0.00	0.00	-106,189.00
TOTAL	42,759.00	50,000.00	0.00	92,759.00
TOTAL ALL FUNDS	948,930.77	365,109.88	287,182.17	1,026,858.48

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Grattidge has released the 2021 Tentative Budget. Once again, there will be no Town tax or Highway tax. Because of the 2020 income reductions caused by the COVID19 pandemic, there are proposed reductions in replacement of computer hardware, contingency fund, capital projects spending, \$85,963 (4.4%) reduction in the General Fund and Highway Fund spending. There is a proposed 2% increase in salaries for all employees and Elected Officials to keep current with the employment market. There is a slight reduction in road construction fund and an increase in machinery replacement costs. If the State CHIPS money comes in for the Highway as it did last year, we will be spending about that same next year as we did last year. The budget will be available at the Town Clerk's office and on the Town website.

Supervisor Grattidge set the following dates for budget workshops: September 28th at 5:30 and October 5th at 7pm. The workshops will be held in the 2nd floor meeting room at Town Hall.

The Town will host Bulk Item Drop-off the week of October 19th-24th. The hours will be Monday through Friday 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. until noon. A list of acceptable items is posted on the Town website and will be included in the Town newsletter.

Fall Brush pick-up is the week of October 26th-30th. Residents should have their brush curbside by October 25th as only one pass-by is done through Town.

The Highway Department will conduct bagged leaf pick-up the week of November 9th – 13th.

Construction is in progress for the Verizon Wireless cell tower at 764 Charlton Road.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Town has received the official resignation from Councilwoman Heritage who resigned from her position as Town Councilperson effective August 31, 2020.

DEPARTMENT, COMMITTEE & COUNCILMAN REPORTS

Highway – Superintendent Heritage gave the following report for the month of August:

1. Continue working on the park trail at Elmer Smith park
2. Truck/equipment maintenance
3. Picking up brush around town from storms
4. Mowing town lawns
5. Mowing road sides
6. Helped Greenfield pave
7. Screening topsoil
8. Ditching on upper Cook road
9. We had our work place violence and sexual harassment training
10. 29 dig safe 811 locations for the month
11. Hauling gravel
12. Filling pot holes
13. Had the county hydro seed where ditching was done
14. I attended the highway superintendents luncheon
15. Started the 2021 highway budget

Building & Zoning – In August, 10 building permits were issued and 1 search was conducted. \$1,210.00 in fees was collected. 6 CCs were issued and the closed permit value for the month was \$44,500.

Parks – The trail at the Elmer Smith Park is almost complete and looks really nice. The Town has applied for a grant for a trail around Mill Pond. It will be 100% funding from the County and does not require matching funds from the Town. Parks Committee Chairman David Pohl said that Elmer Smith Park is being used by many people. He also noted that vandals have been breaking the end caps off of the bleachers.

Ambulance Advisory Committee – Councilman Robbins has sent reports to the commissioners. There are not a lot of changes in the amounts requested. Fred Acunto has resigned from the committee. He was thanked for his service over many years in Charlton. The Board will be looking for a resident to fill the position.

Councilman Robbins said that he spoke with a resident who corresponded about road work in Charlton. He said that the priority is in safety and maintenance of the roads, not aesthetics.

Water - The work on the pump house expansion is expected to be started in the next couple of weeks. The chlorination system is being delivered to the Town Hall this week and will be stored in the basement until installation time.

Town Board – A notice has been posted on the Town website announcing the vacancy and the Town Board is seeking residents interested in a seat on the Board. Applications are due by September 25th.

Cell Tower – Construction is underway for the new Verizon Wireless cell tower at 764 Charlton Road. Foundation work is complete and they have also run a conduit for power and data. The equipment pads have been placed and the stone has been laid in the tower yard. We expect the tower to go up in the next few weeks and the equipment will follow. It is still expected to be operational some time later fall.

Planning Board – The Board met on August 17th and approved the lot line adjustment between the Ball property and the Stone property on Charlton Road. There was also a sketch plan review of a 2 lot subdivision of the Gilmore property to create one new lot on Eastern Avenue. The Board approved the 2 lot subdivision of the Ellms property. The Board also did a sketch plan review of a 2 lot subdivision of the Aabo property on Shadick Road. There has been no activity on the Heflin subdivision on Cook Road.

Councilman Grasso said that the Building and Zoning Department had received and denied an application from US Light Energy for a community solar project on the Holbrook farm on Route 67. It was denied because it did not conform to our existing zoning. Councilman Grasso said that the applicant is interested in coming to the Town Board to give a presentation, and he asked the Board if that was something that the Board wanted to consider, possibly inviting them to the next meeting. The Councilman said he discussed the application with the Town Attorneys, he thinks that the next step from the applicants would be to either pursue a Use Variance by the ZBA and an Exceptional Use Permit from the Town Board or petition the Town Board for a change to our Land Use Laws. Supervisor Grattidge said presently community solar projects are not allowed. Councilman Grasso said that they are not allowed because of the size and is community solar as opposed to serving only one property.

Councilman Grasso congratulated the Charlton Fire District #1 for their new firehouse which he said looks great. People should be referred to the Fire Department for information about the old firehouse building. The Town has had engineers out to investigate the shared septic system between the Fire Department and the Community Center. The Town Engineer is going to put together a septic systems modification plan that will allow the systems to be independent. The Fire Department will need to put in a new septic system for that building. The work is expected to be done this fall, so that may have some impact on use of the Community Center.

Constables – In August, there were 31 patrols, 25 complaints, 12 911 calls, and 5 accidents/5 EMT calls responded to. 2,849 miles were traveled, and 27 tickets were issued (9 issued on Route 67).

Dog Control – In August, there were 7 calls received, 4 expired licenses followed up on and 3 dogs seized returned to owner, and 1 dog bite case reported.

Saratoga County Economic Development Committee allows grants to Towns for economic development or a wide range of projects. Supervisor Grattidge said that there is \$7,100 available he would like to use the money to extend broadband to the outer areas of Charlton. The Supervisor has submitted an application and we should receive the money next year. Dan and Joe Anderson have called and said that they are interested in getting on the Broadband Committee.

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, AND AUTHORIZATIONS

RESOLUTION #129

A RESOLUTION FOR BUDGET TRANSFER – HIGHWAY

Motion by Councilman Grasso
Seconded by Councilman Ranaletto

Roll Call: Councilman Grasso: Aye, Councilman Ranaletto: Aye, Councilman Robbins: Aye, Supervisor Grattidge: Aye. **CARRIED**

09/14/2020

Resolution # 129

Resolution for Budget Adjustments/Transfer of Funds

Be it resolved that the Supervisor is authorized to make the following transfer:

For Budget Year 2020, Highway Fund,

Increase account, DA5112.2, Road Construction, by \$5,000.00

Decrease account, DA5110.414, Maintenance of Roads, by \$5,000.00

Moved by Councilman Grasso

Voting: Councilman Grasso Aye

Councilman Robbins Aye

Seconded by Councilman Ranaletto

Councilman Ranaletto Aye

Supervisor Grattidge Aye

I certify that this is a true and exact copy of this original as passed by the Town Board of the Town of Charlton on

Dated: September 14, 2020

Brenda Mills, Town Clerk

RESOLUTION #130

A RESOLUTION FOR BUDGET TRANSFER – GENERAL FUND

Motion by Councilman Grasso

Seconded by Councilman Robbins

Roll Call: Councilman Grasso: Aye, Councilman Ranaletto: Aye, Councilman Robbins: Aye, Supervisor Grattidge: Aye. **CARRIED**

09/14/2020

Resolution # 130

Resolution for Budget Adjustments/Transfer of Funds

Be it resolved that the Supervisor is authorized to make the following transfer:

For Budget Year 2020, General Fund,

Increase account, A1660.4, Central Storeroom-Contractual, by \$500.00

Decrease account, A1680.2, Central Data Processing, by \$500.00

Moved by Councilman Grasso

Voting: Councilman Grasso Aye

Councilman Robbins Aye

Seconded by Councilman Robbins

Councilman Ranaletto Aye

Supervisor Grattidge Aye

I certify that this is a true and exact copy of this original as passed by the Town Board of the Town of Charlton on

Dated: September 14, 2020

Brenda Mills, Town Clerk

ABSTRACT OF CLAIMS

RESOLUTION #131

Approval of Abstract of Claims

Motion by Councilman Grasso

Seconded by Councilman Ranaletto

The Town Board members audited Abstract #115, voucher numbers 511 - 602 in the amount of \$231,825.36 and **Abstract #18**, voucher number 1801-1803 in the amount of \$1,338.79 and **Abstract #19**, voucher #1901 in the amount of \$8162.97

Roll Call: Councilman Grasso: Aye, Councilman Ranaletto: Aye, Councilman Robbins: Aye, Supervisor Grattidge: Aye. **CARRIED**

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Two representatives of U.S. Light Energy asked the Board for a status of the application for a solar farm on the Holbrook property. Supervisor Grattidge said that the application was denied by the Building and Zoning Department because it goes against the Zoning Ordinances that were established 4-5 years ago. When we put the solar rules together a few years ago, we did not want to see these big solar arrays in Town. We are interested if people want to have solar for their own personal use. The Supervisor said that there is the process of the variance but he wants to be very up front by saying that is the way that they want Charlton to stay.

RESOLUTION #132

Motion to adjourn the meeting

Motion by Councilman Grasso

Seconded by Councilman Robbins

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. **CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Mills
Town Clerk