

At 7:00 p.m. Supervisor Webb A. Stevens called to order the meeting of the Spafford Town Board. Councilors Richard Fesko, Ken Lieberman, Merrill Clark, and Jeff Ireland were present. Highway Superintendent Carl Wiers, Accountant Thomas Chartrand and Town Clerk Lisa Valletta were also present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

- Highway Superintendent Wiers returned to full duty on December 24, 2007.
- Roads that suffered wash out damage from the storm: Lanning Road, Grouts Road, Dave Hull Road, Merrill Road, Pine Grove Road and Collard Road. Three of these roads need culverts replaced. Mr. Wiers estimates the cost of the culvert pipes will be \$9,000. The repair costs are not allowable under FEMA, no natural disaster was declared in Onondaga County. Councilor Lieberman and Councilor Ireland will appeal to State and Federal representatives for funds. Mr. Wiers stated all the affected roads have been returned to a usable state. Mr. Wiers will take photos of the affected areas showing what was done to restore the roads. There was a discussion of the culvert pipe material and costs. Mr. Wiers explained the pipes would be installed at the first opportunity in the Spring.

A motion to accept the Highway Superintendent’s Report was made by Councilor Lieberman, seconded by Clark. The motion PASSED. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0

**MINUTES**

A motion to accept the minutes of the December 6, 2007 and December 13, 2007 Town Board meetings as submitted was made by Councilor Lieberman, seconded by Councilor Ireland. The motion PASSED. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0.

**RESOLUTION 11-2008**

**Audit of Claims**

On a motion by Councilor Fesko, seconded by Councilor Lieberman the following resolution was PASSED  
AYES – 5 Stevens, Fesko, Lieberman, Clark, Ireland  
NAYS – 0

Resolved the bills on Abstract #2, be paid in the following amounts:

General Fund	#1 through # 40	\$ 65,082.57
Highway Fund	#1 through # 13	\$ 23,892.50

(Highway Fund includes Machinery & Snow bills when applicable).

**RESOLUTION 12-2008**

**Water District Expenses**

On a motion by Councilor Fesko, seconded by Councilor Lieberman the following resolution was PASSED  
AYES – 5 Stevens, Fesko, Lieberman, Clark, Ireland  
NAYS – 0

Resolved subject to approval by the Town Board of Marcellus and the Town Board of Otisco the bills in relation to the establishment of the Spafford Area Water District are to be paid in the following amounts:

Capital Fund	#1 through #4	\$ 33,983.19
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TOWN CLERK’S REPORT

A motion to accept the Town Clerk’s December 2007 Cash Report as presented was made by Councilor Fesko, seconded by Councilor Lieberman. The motion PASSED. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0.

ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

The Annual Meeting and training session for the Association of Towns is February 17 - 20 in New York City. Assessor Kim Stone-Gridley will be attending the session with the Town of Owasco and has offered to act on behalf of the Town of Spafford. Mrs. Stone-Gridley further offered to collect any materials or information available at the training sessions for the Town of Spafford. The Town of Owasco is covering her cost of attending. There will be no cost to the Town of Spafford.

GRIEVANCE DAY

The Town Clerk explained that Grievance Day has been held on a date other than the official date to accommodate the previous assessor’s schedule. Mrs. Stone-Gridley requests the Town Board authorize Grievance Day be conducted on the official day which is the fourth Tuesday of May.

RESOLUTION 15-2008

Grievance Day

WHEREAS, the Town of Spafford has held Grievance Day on the fourth Wednesday of May for the past several years to accommodate the Sole Assessor’s schedule, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Spafford appointed a new Sole Assessor as of December 1, 2007, and

WHEREAS, the new Sole Assessor is available to conduct Grievance Day on the New York State specified fourth Tuesday of May,

NOW, THEREFORE, On a motion by Councilor Lieberman, seconded by Councilor Fesko

BE IT **RESOLVED** the Town Board of the Town of Spafford hereby declares the fourth Tuesday of May of each year as the official Town of Spafford Grievance Day.

**AYES – Stevens, Fesko, Lieberman**, Clark, Ireland

FLOOR COVERING REPLACEMENT ESTIMATES

Due to a conflict of interest, Town Supervisor Stevens recused himself from the discussion regarding the estimates received for replacing the floor covering in the office area of the Town Hall. Deputy Town Supervisor Lieberman conducted the discussion. The following estimates were submitted under the specifications set by the Town Board for vinyl commercial tile throughout the office area:

LakeCountry Construction	\$4860.00
Baker Carpet House	\$4061.00
Balian’s Carpets	\$4162.50

There was a review of specifications provided and the obligation of the Town Board to accept the low bid unless there is a reason for disqualification. There was a discussion of the estimates.

RESOLUTION 16-2008

Accept Floor Covering Replacement Estimate

On a motion by Councilor Ireland, seconded by Councilor Clark the following resolution was

**PASSED** AYES – 4 **Fesko, Lieberman**, Clark, Ireland  
NAYS – 0

ABSTAIN -1 Stevens

Resolved to accept the estimate from Baker’s Carpet House in the amount of \$4,061 for removal of the damaged carpet and replacement with Armstrong vinyl commercial tile or equal as per the specifications. Town Supervisor Stevens resumed direction of the meeting.

TAX CERTIORARI ATTORNEY OFFER

Supervisor Stevens consulted Hiscock & Barclay regarding the cost of tax certiorari cases. Hiscock & Barclay’s fees are comparable to those of town resident Mr. O’Connell, notwithstanding the 50% discount offered by Mr. O’Connell for cases that are within the Skaneateles school district. Supervisor Stevens opened the discussion of the possible course with his opinion that the Town of Spafford should honor the relationship with Hiscock & Barclay. The ensuing discussion reviewed the number of certiorari cases that arose from the previous town wide revaluation. Councilor Fesko made a motion to table the decision of which attorney to use for tax certiorari cases stemming from the town wide revaluation. The motion was seconded by Councilor Lieberman. The motion PASSED. AYES - 5, NAYS - 0.

PROGRESS OF REVALUATION

Supervisor Stevens contacted Mr. Larry Fitts as authorized by the Town Board to determine the progress of the revaluation. Mr. Fitts assured Supervisor Stevens that he was merely one week behind schedule; therefore Supervisor Stevens released the payment to Mr. Fitts. The Town Clerk explained to the Board that Mrs. Gridley is in contact with Mr. Fitts and following his progress.

TEAMSTERS’ UNION

Supervisor Stevens stated any communication with the Teamsters’ Union is being dealt with by the Town’s attorney.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilor Lieberman, seconded by Councilor Fesko the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. subject to the Call of the Town Clerk. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by,

Next meeting to be held  
February 14, 2008 @ 7 p.m.  
@ Spafford Town Hall

Lisa M. Valletta  
Town Clerk  
Town of Spafford