

At 7:00 p.m. Supervisor Stevens called to order the regular monthly meeting of the Spafford Town Board. Councilors Richard Fesko, Ken Lieberman, Merrill Clark and Jeffrey Ireland were present. Highway Superintendent Carl Wiers, Town Justice Jerome Schinaman, Code Enforcement Officer Kim Fairchild, Accountant Thomas Chartrand and Town Clerk Lisa Valletta were also present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Highway employees attended a PESH training class. Everything is going well in the Highway Department.

Councilor Clark commented to Mr. Wiers that the gate at the Transfer Station is often left open. Councilor Clark stated he stops and closes the gate at least once a week, and the next day it is open again. Mr. Wiers will monitor the situation; when Appleton's trucks pick up the collected trash, they don't close the gates behind them.

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

MINUTES

Supervisor Stevens noted a correction was needed on the spelling of Mr. Schooley's name. It was incorrectly spelled Skule.

*Supervisor Stevens excused himself from the meeting for a telephone call.
Deputy Supervisor Lieberman assumed lead of the meeting.*

A motion to accept the minutes of the February 14, 2008 Town Board meeting with the correction was made by Councilor Ireland, seconded by Councilor Clark. The motion PASSED. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

There was a discussion of the NYSEG bill for electrical service at the Transfer Station.

Supervisor Stevens returned and resumed lead of the meeting.

RESOLUTION 26-2008

Audit of Claims

On a motion by Councilor Clark seconded by Councilor Lieberman the following resolution was PASSED

AYES – 5	Stevens, Fesko, Lieberman, Clark, Ireland
NAYS – 0	

Resolved the bills on Abstract #3, be paid in the following amounts:

General Fund	# 99 through # 125	\$ 13,722.85
Highway Fund	# 28 through # 40	\$ 14,953.27

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

RESOLUTION 27-2008

Water District Expenses

On a motion by Councilor Ireland, seconded by Councilor Fesko 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	# 13 through # 18	\$ 16,094.98
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TOWN SUPERVISOR'S MONTHLY REPORT & STATEMENT

Accountant Thomas Chartrand reviewed the February Town Supervisor's Report and Statement. He noted that receipts included funds from the Tax Collector (taxes received), the Town Justice (court fines), State of New York (youth program funds) and interest. The interest rate is holding at about 3%. Expenses include the disbursement of tax money collected for the fire district.

Mr. Chartrand suggested a budget transfer from Unallocated Insurance, Contractual to Buildings, Equipment to offset the cost of the floor replacement in the office area.

The Annual Financial Report for the Town of Spafford for 2007 is complete and has been filed with the State and has been delivered to the Town Clerk's office.

RESOLUTION 28-2008

Budget Transfer

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 to authorize the transfer of \$2,200 from General Fund A1910.4, Unallocated Insurance, Contractual to General Fund A1620.2, Buildings, Equipment.

TOWN SUPERVISOR'S MONTHLY REPORT & STATEMENT

A motion to accept the Town Supervisor's Monthly Reports & Statement as presented was made by Councilor Lieberman seconded by Councilor Ireland. The motion PASSED. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

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

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Kim Fairchild reviewed the monthly report with the Town Board. He notified the Board he is working with a property owner with long-standing permits. Mr. Fairchild is looking to have the property owner finish the projects and enable closing of the permits. Four applications for new businesses were received during February.

Supervisor Stevens asked if Mr. Fairchild received a copy of the request from the Zoning Board of Appeals Chair for a thirty day extension to complete the State mandated training. Mr. Fairchild did receive a copy and has no issue with the extension.

A motion to extend the deadline for completion of the training by thirty days was made by Councilor Fesko and seconded by Councilor Clark. The motion PASSED. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0.

A motion to accept the Code Enforcement Officer's Report was made by Councilor Lieberman, seconded by Councilor Clark. The motion PASSED. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0.

TOWN JUSTICE GRANT UPDATE

Town Justice Jerome Schinaman reminded the Board he had submitted a grant application in 2007 and it was approved. Under the grant, Justice Schinaman will receive: \$280 for the purchase of a new shredder; a judge's bench with platform; and a new desktop computer printer and multifunction printer. After examining the space available with the Town Clerk, the platform and bench will be placed between

RANJINI GOVENDER

Supervisor Stevens invited scheduled speaker Ms. Ranjini Govender to address the Town Board. Ms. Govender explained there is a dispute regarding the Ripich property on East Lake Road. The neighbors are dissatisfied with the permit process the Ripiches underwent to obtain their building permits. Ms. Govender is one of the concerned neighbors. She provided a review of the issues and history of the filings. Councilor Lieberman asked if he was correct that the neighbors did not oppose the application when it was originally submitted. Ms. Govender stated that was correct. Councilor Lieberman asked Mr. Fairchild if the project had Department of Health approval. Mr. Fairchild stated that it did. Supervisor Stevens thanked Ms. Govender for her presentation and stated the issues are the jurisdiction of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

PROPERTY PURCHASE

Supervisor Stevens informed the Board of the receipt of the purchase contract for land adjoining the Town Hall property. A 9.05 acre parcel is being purchased from Mr. Karl F. Leubner for \$50,000. The contract calls for a deposit of \$1,000 with the balance of \$49,000 to be paid at closing.

RESOLUTION 31-2008

Property Purchase

On a motion by Councilor Fesko, seconded by Councilor Lieberman the following resolution was

<u>PASSED</u>	<u>AYES – 4</u>	Stevens, Fesko, Lieberman, Clark
	<u>NAYS – 1</u>	Ireland

Resolved Supervisor Stevens is authorized to sign the property purchase contract with Mr. Karl F. Leubner for a 9.05 acre parcel for a total of \$50,000.

BORODINO CEMETERY

Supervisor Stevens informed the Board of Mr. Orville Osborne's willingness to sell a parcel of land to be added to the Borodino Cemetery for \$5,000. In addition to the purchase price, the Town of Spafford would be responsible for the cost of the survey and the Town's legal fees. The purchase price and additional fees would be taken from the Borodino Cemetery fund.

RESOLUTION 32-2008

Borodino Cemetery Land Purchase

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

<u>PASSED</u>	<u>AYES – 5</u>	Stevens, Fesko, Lieberman, Clark, Ireland
	<u>NAYS – 0</u>	

Resolved Supervisor Stevens is authorized to negotiate the purchase of land from Orville Osborne to expand the Borodino Cemetery.

TOWN SUPERVISOR'S 2007 RECORDS

Mr. Chartrand presented the 2007 Town Supervisor Records to the Town Board for audit and review.

RESOLUTION 33-2008

Calling a Public Hearing

WHEREAS, a Local Law has been introduced before the Board, to wit: Local Law No. 2008-2, the content of which is as follows:

A Local Law Regarding the Determination of Value for Assessment Purposes of Converted Condominium Units

Section 1. Assessment of Converted Condominium Units

Pursuant to § 581(1)(c) of the Real Property Tax Law (RPTL), the Town of Spafford does not recognize converted condominium units, as defined in § 581(1)(c) of the RPTL, as condominium units for purposes of assessing the value of said condominium under § 339-y of the Real Property Law.

Section 2.

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing in the office of the New York State Secretary of State.

NOW, THEREFORE, on a motion by Councilor Ireland, seconded by Councilor Clark be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Spafford, County of Onondaga, State of New York, shall hold a Public Hearing on said proposed Local Law 2008-2, and that such Hearing shall be held at the Town Hall of the Town of Spafford, located at 1984 Route 174, Skaneateles, New York, on April 10, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk give notice of such Public Hearing by the publication of a notice in at least one newspaper circulated in the Town, specifying the time when and the place where such Public Hearing will be held, and in general terms, describing the proposed Local Law. Such notice shall be published once at least five (5) days prior to the Public Hearing.

AYES – 5 Stevens, Fesko, Lieberman, Clark, Ireland
NAYS – 0

RESOLUTION 34-2008

Suspension Of Town-Wide Revaluation

WHEREAS, the Town of Spafford entered into contract in June 2007 with Fitts Appraisal Company, Mr. Larry Fitts as president, for a town-wide revaluation, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Spafford hired a new Sole Assessor, Mrs. Kim Stone-Gridley in December 2007 and,

WHEREAS, Mrs. Stone-Gridley, has discovered inaccuracies in the property data for the Town of Spafford tax roll, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fitts has also found discrepancies in the data for the Town of Spafford tax roll, and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Stone-Gridley and Mr. Fitts have both advised the Town Board of the potential difficulty of defending property values that may arise from said revaluation, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fitts is willing to delay completion of his contracted work and,

WHEREAS, Mrs. Stone-Gridley will verify and correct the property data

NOW, THEREFORE, on a motion by Councilor Fesko, seconded by Councilor Clark

BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Spafford does hereby suspend the town-wide revaluation and the contract with Fitts Appraisal Company for the period of one year.

AYES – 5 Stevens, Fesko, Lieberman, Clark, Ireland
NAYS – 0

OLD BUSINESS

- Councilor Ireland stated he met with Congressman James Walsh to discuss the possibility of obtaining funding for the large culvert project on Spafford Landing Road. Congressman Walsh explained that appropriations are done for this year, perhaps in the next funding cycle. Councilor Ireland is still waiting for a budget estimate from Mr. Schooley.
- Supervisor Stevens asked if the parking lot next to the Borodino Grange could be finished when the winter weather breaks. Mr. Wiers responded that is the intention. \$7,850.99 remains in the grant for the parking lot. There was a discussion of finishing the surface of the parking lot.
- Councilor Clark met with an electrician and the Shoemakers. The layout for installation of an electrical service at the bell site on the Spafford four corners has been agreed upon. The electrician will contact NYSEG for cost.

Adjournment

On a motion by Councilor Ireland, seconded by Councilor Lieberman the meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m. subject to the Call of the Town Clerk. Carried unanimously.

Work session – 4/4/08
Next meeting to be held
April 10, 2008 @ 7 p.m.
@ Spafford Town Hall
A Public Hearing is scheduled for
this session --- L.L. 2008-2

Respectfully submitted by,

Lisa M. Valletta
Town Clerk
Town of Spafford