

Town of Austerlitz
Organizational/Regular Town Board Meeting
January 12, 2012

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Moment of Silence in memory of Marilyn Berry and Linda McCagg, followed by the pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call. Present: Jeffrey Braley, Supervisor, Jon Mesick, Carol Pinto, Matthew Verenazi, Bryan Geel, Town Board Members, Susan Haag, Town Clerk, Robert Meehan, Highway Superintendent.

Minutes

A motion to accept the December 8, 2011 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes was made by C. Pinto and seconded by B. Geel.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried

Budget Amendment 2-2011

		Increase-Appropriations Decrease-Est. Revenue	Increase-Est. Revenues Decrease-Appropriations
GENERAL FUND			
TO: BLDG INSPECTOR	A3620.4	401.00	
FROM: BLDG INSPECTOR	A3620.2		401.00
TO: TRAFFIC CONTROL	A3310.4	1.00	
TO: GARAGE	A5132.4	2,433.00	
TO: STREET LIGHTING	A5182.4	40.00	
TO: SENIOR PROGRAMS	A6772.4	69.00	
TO: PARKS	A7140.4	1.00	
TO: YOUTH PROGRAMS	A7310.4	1.00	
TO: CELEBRATIONS	A7550.4	65.00	
TO: SERIAL BOND INTEREST	A9710.7	1.00	
FROM: ATTORNEY	A1420.4		2,611.00
	Total:	3,012.00	3,012.00
		Increase-Appropriations Decrease-Est. Revenue	Increase-Est. Revenues Decrease-Appropriations

Budget Amendment 3-2011

HIGHWAY FUND			
TO: GENERAL REPAIRS	DA5110.1	5,560.00	
TO: GENERAL REPAIRS	DA5110.4	25,291.00	
TO: MACHINERY	DA5130.4	8,689.00	
TO: SNOW REMOVAL	DA5142.4	2,906.00	
TO: SOCIAL SECURITY	DA9010.8	1.00	
TO: DISABILITY	DA9055.8	1.00	
TO: HOSPITALIZATION	DA9060.8	2,363.00	
TO: BOND INTEREST	DA9730.7	1,004.00	
FROM: STATE AID - CHIPS	DA03501		45,815.00
	Total:	45,815.00	45,815.00

A motion to approve budget amendment 2-2011 and budget amendment 3-2011 was made by B. Geel and seconded by J. Mesick.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Auditing of Accounts and Claims

A motion to approve General Fund #1-41 in the amount of \$13867.32, and Highway Fund #1-25 in the amount of \$40925.35, was made by J. Mesick and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Reports

Monthly cash disbursements for the month of December 2011 were presented. Supervisor Braley reminded the Town Board members that most of the bills being paid at this meeting are 2011 bills and therefore the December figures will eventually change. December saw a lot of money going out, but C.H.I.P.s money come in as well.

Supervisor Braley continued noting that every road in Town is open and passable at this point. The new Town Road map came back, but still needs to be tweaked and then sent back for final proof. Once complete, this can be accepted as the official Town Road map. Copy of maps will be available for fire districts, etc. and possibly put online.

Future work to be completed at the Town Park is still in the works. Supervisor Braley advises that the Town needs to get the Town Engineer back on this project. Town Board Member Pinto will contact Morris Associates asking them to submit recommendations for work to be completed, the material ideas and related costs. The Town Board notes the following work that needs to be completed: the tennis court needs a retaining wall because the court is moving; Parking area and the entrance to parking is an issue; Some drainage work still needs to be done. There is a file on this project that the Town Engineer can look at for background. Highway Superintendent Meehan can meet with the Town Engineer to go over each item. R. Meehan advised that there is some playground equipment to put up in the Spring. The Harry E. Buckert sign needs to be repainted and a new scoreboard purchased.

On a County Level, Supervisor Braley advised that the month of December is always quiet. The Columbia County Extension's funding has been cut off due to the joining of the Columbia County and Greene County operations. The County Board of Supervisor's meeting last night was interesting as the New Year started. There are nine new supervisors who joined the group. The new Chairman is the Kinderhook Supervisor, Pat Gratten. The County Board will probably be less progressive and more conservative moneywise. There seemed to be less tension in the air which gives one hope.

Town Clerk Report for the month of December 2011 submitted. Town Clerk Susan Haag noted that a listing of all contracts, escrow accounts, and bonding was given to the Town Board, as well as, a listing of Public Officer REQUIRED Schooling Report. Town Clerk and Tax Collector 2010 and 2011 books have been audited.

Highway Superintendent Meehan reported that the number 5 truck is finally back together. This is a major snow plowing truck. The Highway Department is in good shape with equipment. The Dugway Road Bridge opened back up last week. There is a new culvert on Stonewall Road, but another one has collapsed by Casey's. Pierson Road needs a culvert replacement in the near future. Cindy Elliot will be meeting with Highway Superintendent Meehan to go over where to place stakes for the Doyle subdivision.

Planning Board Report for the month of December 2011 submitted. A 2011 year end summary was given as well.

Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee Report for the month of December 2011 submitted. A 2011 year end summary was given as well.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Report for the month of December 2011 submitted. A 2011 year end summary was given as well. Shared services analysis given out. Discussed vehicle purchase and options.

Justice Roberts Justice Court Report for the month of November 2011 submitted.

Justice Lagonia Justice Court Reports for the months of November and December 2011 submitted.

Supervisor Braley reported that due to the new District Attorney taking office in January, all traffic cases will be prosecuted.

2011 Dog Control Report submitted. Supervisor Braley noted he is the Deputy Dog Control Officer, and explained the difference in costs in housing strays between the Columbia County Humane Society, a private operation or in the Town. The Town currently has kennels at Supervisor Braley's house and one of J. Braley's tenants takes care of the strays for \$15.00 a day.

2011 Historian Report submitted.

A motion to accept the above reports was made by C. Pinto and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Correspondence

Columbia County Emergency Medical Services requests a letter in support of the EMS CON application. Supervisor Braley has written this letter and also one for Red Rock and Chatham Rescue Squads for a grant.

NYMIR advises that their Board of Governors have voted to submit an application to the NYS Insurance Department for rate decreases to be effective January 1, 2012 and thereafter.

Austerlitz Fire District requests that Town roads be plowed during the night when a snow storm is occurring. Supervisor Braley feels the Town does an adequate job. Highway Superintendent Meehan noted that he is doing what he can with 4.5 or more miles of new roads in Bryarcliffe and no additional truck. When the roads are soft it takes longer to plow because the trucks need to go slower so they do not ruin the roads. Currently the roads are not frozen. Last year the highway crew was down a man.

Unfinished Business

Supervisor Braley addresses the Tentative "Inventory of Austerlitz Highway Equipment". This is a work in progress. Town Board Member Pinto noted that it is State Law to have this on file.

New Business

Supervisor Braley advises the Town Board to look over the list of Contracts /Planning Board Escrow Accounts and Bonding.

Supervisor Braley advises the Town Board to look over the Public Officer Required Schooling list for 2011.

Organizational Resolutions

RESOLUTION 1-2012

Be it resolved that, First Niagara and the Kinderhook Bank are hereby designated as the official depositories for all town funds for the year 2012.

RESOLUTION 2-2012

Be it resolved that the Hudson Valley Newspapers, having circulation in the Town of Austerlitz, are hereby designated as the official newspapers for the Town of Austerlitz for the year 2012.

RESOLUTION 3-2012

Be it resolved that the Supervisor is appointed as the budget officer and is hereby authorized to invest idle funds of the Town of Austerlitz in those investments as approved by law, the State Comptroller, and the Investment Policy of the Town of Austerlitz as it becomes apparent that such funds will not be required to meet immediate commitments of the Town.

RESOLUTION 4-2012

Be it resolved that after the audit of properly submitted claims to the Supervisor, the Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Assessor, Election Inspectors, Justices, Justice's Clerk, Councilpersons, Planning Board, Assessor's Clerk, Zoning Board of Appeals, Animal Control Officer and Code Enforcement Official, mileage reimbursement for the use of privately owned vehicles on official town business, such expenses, will be made at the rate that is promulgated by the Federal Government and provided that funds are available in the budget. Be it further resolved that with the exception for the Code Enforcement Official, Assessor, and Animal Control Officer, mileage shall not be paid for normal travel within the town in ordinary performances of duties of the office held or for the travel to and from meetings of the Town Board or committees thereof. Daily automotive log substantiated.

RESOLUTION 5-2012

Be it resolved that the Superintendent of Highways is authorized to advertise for sealed bids for the furnishing of Calcium Chloride, culvert pipe and banding, sand, gravel, shale, salt, crushed stone, fuel oil, diesel fuel, and gasoline that may be required for the year 2011. Be it further resolved that if a state or county bid for the foregoing materials is available to the town, the Superintendent of Highways may elect to purchase such supplies and/or materials under such contract rather than by competitive bidding, pursuant to State Law. All purchases will be made in accordance with the Town Procurement Policy.

RESOLUTION 6-2012

Be it resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Austerlitz shall meet on the second Thursday of each month and said Board meetings will be held at the Town Hall, 812 Route 203, Spencertown, NY. All meetings will commence at 7:00 p.m.

RESOLUTION 7-2012

Be it resolved that pursuant to section 29, subdivision 10a of Town Law that the Supervisor is directed to submit to the Town Clerk within sixty days after the close of the fiscal year, a copy of the report sent to the State Comptroller which is required by section 30 of the General Municipal Law, and the Town Clerk shall cause a summary of such report to be published in the Town's official newspaper within ten days after receipt thereof; this shall be in lieu of preparation of the report required by subdivision 10, section 20 of Town Law.

A motion to adopt Resolutions 1-7, 2012 was made by B. Geel and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION 8-2012

Be it resolved that the Town Board hereby affirms the following Planning Board members with term dates expiring as of the Organizational Town Board meeting of each respected year and appoints Susan Geel to a term ending at the Town Board Organizational Meeting in January of 2017:

B. Puccio: 2013

C. Knauss: 2014

R. Madonia: 2015

Charles Lawson: 2016

A motion to adopt Resolution 8, 2012 was made by C. Pinto and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: abstain

B. Geel: abstain

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion carried 3:2.

RESOLUTION 9-2012

Be it resolved that Charles Knauss, a member of the Planning Board, is hereby designated as Chairman of the Town of Austerlitz Planning Board, and Charles Lawson, a member of the Planning Board, is hereby designated as the Deputy Chairman of the Town of Austerlitz Planning Board.

A motion to adopt Resolution 9, 2012 was made by C. Pinto and seconded by M. Verenazi.

Discussion: Town Board Member Mesick noted that he is fine with having Charles Lawson as Deputy, but would prefer someone else as Chairman.

J. Braley: abstain
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: no
Motion carried 3:2.

RESOLUTION 10-2012

Be it resolved that the Town Board hereby appoints to the Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee the following members with term dates expiring as of the Organizational Town Board meeting in January of 2013.

Barbara Smith
Edwin Barden
Timothy Stalker
Shawn Hancock

Mark Feinberg removed as he indicated he was not available to serve again.

A motion to adopt Resolution 10, 2012 was made by C. Pinto and seconded by J. Mesick.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION 11-2012

Be it resolved that Tim Stalker, a member of the Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee, is hereby designated as Chairman of the Town of Austerlitz Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee.

A motion to adopt Resolution 11, 2012 was made by J. Mesick and seconded by B. Geel.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION 12-2012

Be it resolved that the Town Board hereby affirms the following Zoning Board of Appeals members with term dates expiring as of the Organizational Town Board meeting of each respected year and appoints Michael Fabiano to a term ending at the Town Board Organizational Meeting in January of 2017:

D. Cassuto: 2013
K. Gabosh: 2014
N. Kern: 2015
Penny Rubin: 2016

RESOLUTION 13-2012

Be it resolved that Karl Gabosh, a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, is hereby designated as Chairman of the Town of Austerlitz Zoning Board of Appeals, and Michael Fabiano, a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, is hereby designated as the Deputy Chairman of the Town of Austerlitz Zoning Board of Appeals.

A motion to adopt Resolution 12-12, 2012 was made by B. Geel and seconded by J. Mesick.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION 14-2012

Be it resolved that the 2012 salaries for the following elected officials and appointees, and the schedule of payment of such salaries, shall be as follows:

Supervisor	\$ 7075.00 per year payable monthly
Councilpersons (4 each)	\$ 2317.50 per year payable monthly
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	\$ 26826.00 per year payable bi-weekly
Registrar of Vital Stats	\$ 450.00 per year payable annually
Superintendent of Highways	\$ 49995.00 per year payable bi-weekly
Highway Superintendent Clerk	\$ 14.33 per hour payable bi-weekly
Justices (2 each)	\$ 11255.00 per year payable monthly
Justice’s Clerk	\$ 8670.00 per year payable monthly
Justice’s Deputy Clerk	\$ 14.33 per hour payable monthly
Town Assessor	\$ 18334.00 per year payable monthly
Assessor Assistant	\$ 14.33 per hour payable monthly
Town Accountant	\$ 11250.00 per year payable monthly
Code Enforcement Officer	\$ 45000.00 per year payable monthly
	Town of Austerlitz’ Portion \$14604.25
Historian	\$ 1800.00 per year payable monthly
Planning Board Chairman	\$ 2800.00 per year payable monthly
Planning Board Members (4 each)	\$ 915.00 per year payable monthly
Clerk/Typist (Taker of the Minutes)	\$ 50.00 per meeting payable monthly
Animal Control	\$ 2000.00 per year payable monthly
Clerk/Typist (Blding Insp/Plan Bd/ZBA)	\$ 14.33 per hour payable bi-weekly
Custodian	\$ 2100.00 per year payable bi-weekly

RESOLUTION 15-2012

Be it resolved that the wage scale and fringe benefits for highway employees for the year 2012 shall be as follows: An increase of \$0.48 shall be added to all current Highway Employees wages for the year 2012 with the exception of probationary employees.

Motor Equipment Operator	\$13.50 per hour payable bi-weekly
Skilled Laborer #2	12.50 per hour payable bi-weekly
Laborer	10.50 per hour payable bi-weekly

New Hires – MEOs begin at the rate of \$13.00 per hour and are increased at the rate of .50 cents per hour every six months until they reach the current Motor Equipment Operator rate.

Skilled Laborers begin at \$10.00 per hour and are increased at the rate of .50 cents per hour every six months until they reach the current rate for Skilled Laborer.

Vacation

-Completion of one year	-----	one week
-Completion of two years	-----	two weeks
-Completion of seven years	-----	three weeks + 1 day every year after
-Completion of fourteenth year	-----	four weeks

Paid Holidays

- New Years Day
- Martin Luther King Day
- President’s Day
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Columbus Day
- Veterans Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day

*To entitle employees to receive holiday pay they must work the day prior to and the day after the holiday.

Sick Days

- Five days per year/may accumulate sick days up to 80 maximum

*More than 3 consecutive sick days require a Doctor’s note.

Personal Days

-Five days per year

Medical Insurance

-100% paid by the Town for grandfathered Town employee and family. Single full time new hires, 75% paid by the Town. Full time new hires with family, 75% paid by the Town for employee and employee will pay twenty-five (25) percent of the difference between cost of family insurance and single coverage.

Retirement

-Mandatory immediate enrollment for all fulltime employees into the New York State Retirement System.
-Part-time employees have optional enrollment.

Bereavement

-Three days paid for immediate family members only.

Clothing Allowance

\$300.00 per year.

A Motion to adopt Resolution 14-15, 2012 was made by B. Geel and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION 16-2012

Be it resolved that Susan A. Haag, as Town Clerk, is hereby appointed Registrar of Vital Statistics for a term beginning January 1, 2012 and ending at the Town Board organizational meeting in January 2013.

RESOLUTION 17-2012

Be it resolved that the Supervisor is authorized to pay certain invoices: utility, telephone, health insurance, and postage without prior audit.

RESOLUTION 18-2012

Be it resolved that the Town Clerk is hereby appointed to the position of Records Access Officer.

RESOLUTION 19-2012

Be it resolved that all diesel fuel, heating oil, and furnace maintenance will be purchased under state contract through Main Care, Inc for the period of January 12th, 2012 until the next town organizational meeting on January 11, 2013.

RESOLUTION 20-2012

Be it resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Austerlitz hereby authorizes attendance for schooling and annual conferences for employees of the Town. Be it further resolved that the Town Board hereby authorizes the payment of said employees' actual and necessary expenses incurred at each school or conference in so much as said expenses have been included in the annual budget.

RESOLUTION 21-2012

Be it resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Austerlitz hereby appoints Deborah Welch as Assessor Assistant for a period of one year beginning January 1, 2012 and ending at the Town Board organizational meeting in January 2013.

RESOLUTION 22-2012

Be it resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Austerlitz hereby appoints Sally Van Wagner as clerk for the Highway Superintendent beginning January 1, 2012 and ending at the Town Board organizational meeting in January 2013.

RESOLUTION 23-2012

Be it resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Austerlitz hereby appoints Steve Aciani as Broker for the Town's Health Insurance beginning January 1, 2012 and ending at the Town Board organizational meeting in January 2013.

RESOLUTION 24-2012

Be it resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Austerlitz hereby appoints Mary Davis as a clerk/typist for the Planning Board, Building Inspector, and the Zoning Board of Appeals beginning January 1, 2012 and ending at the Town Board organizational meeting in January 2013.

A Motion to adopt Resolutions 16-24, 2012 was made by J. Mesick and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Supervisors Appointments

The Supervisor hereby appoints Bryan Geel to serve as Deputy Supervisor without pay for a period of one year beginning January 12, 2012 and ending at the Town Board organizational meeting in January 2013. In the position of Deputy Supervisor, Bryan Geel can act as Supervisor when the incumbent Supervisor is unavailable or not capable of performing the duties of Supervisor. Be it noted that said Deputy Supervisor can attend Columbia County assemblences but does not have voting power on Columbia County affairs.

The Supervisor hereby appoints Sarah Light, as Town Historian, beginning January 1, 2012 and ending with the organizational meeting in January 2013.

Town Appointments

The Town hereby affirms the appointment of Tal Rappleyea as Attorney for the Town beginning January 1, 2012 and ending at the Town Board Organizational meeting in January 2013.

The Town hereby appoints M. J. Fitzgerald, Inc. as Accountant to perform accounting services beginning January 1, 2012 and ending at the Town Board Organizational meeting in January 2013.

The Town hereby affirms the appointment of Patrick Prendergast and Morris Associates, as Civil Engineers, to provide approved engineering services beginning January 1, 2012 and ending at the Town Board organizational meeting in January 2013.

The Town hereby appoints Wes Powell, as Dog Control Officer to perform those duties as outlined in Article 7 of the Ag and Market Law, beginning January 1, 2012 and ending at the Town Board organizational meeting in January 2013, and Jeff Braley as the Deputy Animal Control Officer without compensation.

The Town hereby appoints Glenn Smith, as the Code Enforcement Officer, beginning at the organizational meeting in January of 2012 and ending with the organizational meeting in January 2013.

Highway Superintendent Appointment

The Highway Superintendent hereby appoints Sally Van Wagner to serve as Deputy Highway Superintendent without pay beginning January 1, 2012 and ending at the Town Board organizational meeting in January 2013. In the position of Deputy Supervisor, Sally Van Wagner can act as Highway Superintendent when the incumbent Highway Superintendent is unavailable or not capable of performing the duties of Highway Superintendent.

Court Clerk Appointment

The Town hereby appoints Eileen Olson, as Court Clerk beginning January 1, 2012 and ending with the organizational meeting in January 2013 and Arlene Newton, as Deputy Court Clerk beginning January 1, 2012 and ending at the Town Board organizational meeting in January 2013.

A Motion to approve the Town Appointments was made by J. Mesick and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

2012 Policies and Procedures

Cellular Phone/Phone Card/Telephone/Fax Policy

Cellular Phones/Phone Cards are issued only through the direction of the Town Board of the Town of Austerlitz. Cellular Phones/Phone Cards/Telephones/Fax will be used only for municipal purposes. Usage will be monitored monthly through audit by the Town Board of the Town of Austerlitz.

Gas Card/Credit Card Policy

Gas Cards and Credit Cards are issued only through the direction of the Town Board of the Town of Austerlitz and will be used only for municipal vehicles, equipment and supplies. Charges against individual cards will be monitored monthly through audit by the Town Board of the Town of Austerlitz.

NOTICE OF HIGHWAY WEIGHT RESTRICTION

HIGHWAY LAW – 320. Injuries to highways

320. Injuries to highways

Whoever shall injure any highway or bridge maintained at the public expense, by obstructing or diverting any creek, water course or sluice, or by dragging logs or timber on its surface, or by drawing or propelling over the same a load of such weight as to injure or destroy the culverts or bridges along the same, or of such weight that will destroy, break or injure the surface of any improved state highway, county road or town highway, or by any other act or shall injure, deface or destroy any mile-stone or guide post erected on any highway, shall for every such offense forfeit treble damages.

11. Temporarily exclude from any portion of any town highway any vehicle with a gross weight of over four or more tons or any vehicle with a gross weight in excess of any designated weight on any wheel, axle, any number of axles, or per inch width of tire when in its' opinion such highway would be materially injured by the operation of any such vehicle thereon. Such exclusion shall take effect upon the erection of signs on the section of highway from which such vehicle are excluded, and a notice that such vehicles are excluded shall be published in a newspaper in the county where the highway is situated. The exclusion shall remain in effect until the removal of the signs as directed by the town board. Upon written application by any operator of a vehicle subject to this section, the town board may issue a permit providing appropriate exemption to such vehicle, if it is deemed that said vehicle is performing essential local pickup or delivery service and that a failure to grant such permit would create hardship. Every such permit may designate the route to be traversed and contain other reasonable restrictions or conditions deemed necessary. Every such permit shall be carried on the vehicle to which it refers and shall be open to inspection of any peace officer, acting pursuant to his special duties, or police officer. Such permits shall be for the duration of the restriction imposed under this section.

INVESTMENT POLICY

Scope

This investment policy applies to all moneys and other financial resources available for investment on its own behalf or on behalf of any other entity or individual.

Objectives

The primary objectives of the local government's investment activities are, in priority order;

- To conform with all applicable Federal, State and other legal requirements (legal);
 - To adequately safeguard principal (safety);
- To provide sufficient liquidity to meet all operating requirements (liquidity); and
 - To obtain a reasonable rate of return (yield).

Delegation of Authority

The governing board's responsibility for administration of the investment program is delegated to the Town Supervisor who shall establish written procedures for the operation of the investment program consistent with these investment guidelines. Such procedures shall include an adequate internal control structure to provide a satisfactory level of accountability based on a database or records incorporating description and amounts of investments, transaction dates and other relevant information and regulate the activities of subordinate employees.

Prudence

All participants in the investment process shall seek to act responsibly as custodians of the public trust and shall avoid any transaction that might impair public confidence in the Town of Austerlitz to govern effectively.

Investments shall be made with judgment and care, under circumstances then prevailing, which persons of prudence, discretion and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs, not for speculation, but for investment, considering the safety of the principal as well as the probable income to be derived.

All participants involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with proper execution of the investment program, or which could impair their ability to make impartial investment decisions.

Diversification

It is the policy of the Town of Austerlitz to diversify its deposits and investments by financial institution, by investment instrument, and by maturity scheduling.

Internal Controls

It is the policy of the Town of Austerlitz for all moneys collected by any officer or employees of the government to transfer those funds to the chief fiscal officer within 10 days of deposit, or within the time period specified in law, whichever is shorter.

The Supervisor is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that deposits and investments are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly, and are managed in compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Designation of Depositaries

The banks and trust companies authorized for the deposit of monies up to the maximum amounts are:

Depository Name	Maximum Amount	Officer
National Union Bank of Kinderhook	\$3,000,000.00	Town Clerk
National Union Bank of Kinderhook	\$ 30,000.00	Court
First Niagara Financial Group	\$1,000,000.00	Supervisor

Collateralizing of Deposits

In accordance with the provisions of General Municipal Law, s10, all deposits of Town of Austerlitz, including certificates of deposit and special time deposits, in excess of the amount insured under the provisions of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act shall be secured:

-By a pledge of "eligible securities" with an aggregate "market value" as provided by GML s10, equal to the aggregate amount of deposits from the categories designated in Appendix A to the policy.

-By an eligible "irrevocable letter of credit" issued by a qualified bank other than the bank with the deposits in favor of the government for a term not to exceed 90 days with an aggregate value equal to 140% of the aggregate amount of deposits and the agreed upon interest, if any. A qualified bank is one whose commercial paper and other unsecured short-term debt obligations are rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization or by a bank that is in compliance with applicable federal minimum risk-based capital requirements.

-By an eligible surety bond payable to the government for an amount at least equal to 100% of the aggregate amount of deposits and the agreed upon interest, if any, executed by an insurance company authorized to do business in New York State, whose claims-paying ability is rated in the highest rating category by at least two nationally recognized statistical rating organizations.

Safekeeping and Collateralization

Eligible securities used for collateralizing deposits shall be held by National Union Bank of Kinderhook and First Niagara Financial Group subject to security and custodial agreements.

The security agreement shall provide that eligible securities are being pledged to secure local government deposits together with agreed upon interest, if any, and any costs or expenses arising out of the collection of such deposits upon default. It shall also provide the conditions under which the securities may be sold, presented for payment, substituted or released and the events which will enable the local government to exercise its rights against the pledged securities. In the event that the securities are not registered or inscribed in the name of the local government, such securities shall be delivered in a form suitable for transfer or with an assignment in blank to the Town of Austerlitz or its custodial bank.

The custodial agreement shall provide that securities held by the bank or trust company, or agent of and custodian for, the local government, will be kept separate and apart from the general assets of the custodian bank or trust company and will not, in any circumstances, be commingled with or become part of the backing for any other deposit or other liabilities. The agreement should also describe that the custodian shall confirm the receipt, substitution or release of the securities. The agreement shall provide for the frequency of revaluation of eligible securities and for the substitution of securities when a change in the rating of a security may cause ineligibility. Such agreement shall include all provisions necessary to provide the local government a perfected interest in the securities.

X. Permitted Investments

As authorized by General Municipal Law, §11, the Town of Austerlitz authorizes the Town Supervisor to invest moneys not required for immediate expenditure for terms not to exceed its projected cash flow needs in the following types of investments:

- Special time deposits accounts;
- Certificates of deposit;
- Obligations of the United States of America;
- Obligations guaranteed by agencies of the United States of America where the payment of principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States of America;
- Obligations of the State of New York;
- Obligations issued pursuant to LFL §24.00 (with approval of the State Comptroller) by any municipality, school district or district corporation other than the Town of Austerlitz;
- Obligations of public authorities, public housing authorities, urban renewal agencies and industrial development agencies where the general State statutes governing such entities or whose specific enabling legislation authorizes such investments;
- Certificates of Participation (COPs) issued pursuant to GML, §109-b;
- Obligations of this local government, but only with any moneys in a reserve fund established pursuant to GML, §6-c, 6-d, 6-e, 6-g, 6-h, 6-j, 6-k, 6-l, 6-m, or 6-n.

All investment obligations shall be payable or redeemable at the option of the Town of Austerlitz within such times as the proceeds will be needed to meet expenditures for purposes for which the moneys were provided and, in the case of obligations purchased with the proceeds of bonds or notes, shall be payable or redeemable at the option of the Town of Austerlitz within two years of the date of purchase.

XI. Authorized Financial Institutions and Dealers

The Town of Austerlitz shall maintain a list of financial institutions and dealers approved for investment purposes and establish appropriate limits to the amount of investments which can be made with each financial institution or dealer. All financial institutions with which the local government conducts business must be credit worthy. Banks shall provide their most recent Consolidated Report of Condition (Call Report) at the request of the Town of Austerlitz. Security dealers not affiliated with a bank shall be required to be classified as reporting dealers. The Town Supervisor is responsible for evaluating the financial position and maintaining a listing of proposed depositories, trading partners and custodians. Such listing shall be evaluated at least annually.

XII. Purchase of Investments

The Town Supervisor is authorized to contract for the purchase of investments:

Directly, including through a repurchase agreement, from an authorized trading partner.

By participation in a cooperative investment program with another authorized governmental entity pursuant to Article 5G of the General Municipal Law where such program meets all the requirements set forth in the Office of the State Comptroller Opinion No. 88-46, and the specific program has been authorized by the governing board.

By utilizing an ongoing investment program with an authorized trading partner pursuant to a contract authorized by the governing board.

All purchased obligations, unless registered or inscribed in the name of the local government, shall be purchased through, delivered to and held in the custody of a bank or trust company. Such obligations shall be purchased, sold or presented for redemption or payment by such bank or trust company only in accordance with prior written authorization from the officer authorized to make the investment. All such transactions shall be confirmed in writing to the Town of Austerlitz by the bank or trust company. Any obligation held in the custody of a bank or trust company shall be held pursuant to a written custodial agreement as described in General Municipal Law, §10.

The custodial agreement shall provide that securities held by the bank or trust company, as agent of and custodian for, the local government, will be kept separate and apart from the general assets of the custodial bank or trust company and will not, in any circumstances, be commingled with or become part of the backing for any other deposit or other liabilities. The agreement shall describe how the custodian shall confirm the receipt and release of the securities. Such agreement shall include all provisions necessary to provide the local government a perfected interest in the securities.

XIII. Repurchase Agreements

Repurchase agreements are authorized subject to the following restrictions:

- All repurchase agreements must be entered into subject to a Master Repurchase Agreement.
- Trading partners are limited to banks or trust companies authorized to do business in New York State and primary reporting dealers.
- Obligations shall be limited to obligations of the United States of America and obligations of agencies of the United States of America where principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States of America.
- No substitution of securities will be allowed.
- The custodian shall be a party other than the trading partner.

Appendix A

Schedule of Eligible Securities

- ___ (i) Obligations issued, or fully insured or guaranteed as to the payment of principal and interest, by the United State of America, an agency thereof or a United States government sponsored corporation.
- ___ (ii) Obligations issued or full guaranteed by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Asian Development, and the African Development Bank.
- ___ (iii) Obligations partially insured or guaranteed by any agency of the United States of America, at a proportion of the Market Value of the obligation that represents the amount of the insurance or guaranty.
- ___ (iv) Obligations issued or fully insured or guaranteed by the State of New York, obligations issued by a municipal corporation, school district or district corporation of such State or obligations of any public benefit corporation which under a specific State statute may be accepted as security for deposit of public moneys.
- ___ (v) Obligations issued by states (other than the State of New York) of the United States rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organizations.
- ___ (vi) Obligations of Puerto Rico rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization.
- ___ (vii) Obligations of counties, cities and other governmental entities of a state other than the State of New York having the power to levy taxes that are backed by the full faith and credit of such governmental entity and rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization.
- ___ (viii) Obligations of domestic corporations rated in one of the two highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization.
- ___ (ix) Any mortgage related securities, as defined in the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, which may be purchased by banks under the limitations established by bank regulatory agencies.
- ___ (x) Commercial paper and bankers' acceptances issued by a bank, other than the Bank, rated in the highest short term category by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization and having maturities of not longer than 60 days from the date they are pledged.

____ (xi) Zero coupon obligations of the United States government marketed as "Treasury Strips."

Procurement Policy

Guideline 1: Every prospective purchase of goods or services shall be evaluated to determine the applicability of GML, s103. Every town officer, board, department head or other personnel with the requisite purchasing authority (hereinafter Purchases) shall estimate the cumulative amount of the items of supply or equipment needed in a given fiscal year. That estimate shall include the canvass of other town departments and past history to determine the likely yearly value of the commodity to be acquired. The information gathered and conclusions reached shall be documented and kept with the file or other documentation supporting the purchase activity.

Guideline 2: All purchases of a) supplies or equipment which will exceed \$10,000 in the fiscal year or b) public works contracts over \$20,000 shall be formally bid pursuant to GML, s103.

Guideline 3: All estimated purchases of:

Less than \$10,000 but greater than \$3,000 require a written request for a proposal (RFP) and written/fax quotes from three vendors.

Less than \$3,000 but greater than \$1,000 require an oral request for the goods and oral/fax quotes from two vendors.

Less than \$1,000 but greater than \$500 are left to discretion of the Purchaser.

All estimated public works contracts of:

Less than \$20,000 but great than \$10,000 require a written RFP and fax/proposals from three contractors.

Less than \$10,000 but greater than \$3,000 require a written RFP and fax/proposals from two contractors.

Less than \$3,000 but greater than \$500 are left to the discretion of the Purchaser.

Any written RFP shall describe the desired goods, quantity and the particulars of delivery. The Purchaser shall compile a list of all vendors from whom written/fax/oral quotes have been requested and the written/fax/oral quotes offered.

All information gathered in complying with the procedures of this Guideline shall be preserved and filed with the documentation supporting the subsequent purchase or public works contract.

Guideline 4: The lowest responsible proposal or quote shall be awarded the purchase or public works contract unless the Purchaser prepares a written justification providing reasons why it is in the best interest of the town and its taxpayers to make an award to other than the low bidder. (For example, the second low bidder is a business in town, paying town property taxes, and their quote was within 5% of the low bidder which is an out-of-state business or supplier.) If a bidder is not deemed responsible, facts supporting that judgment shall also be documented and filed with the record supporting the procurement.

Guideline 5: A good faith effort shall be made to obtain the required number of proposals or quotations. If the Purchaser is unable to obtain the required number of proposals or quotations, the Purchaser shall document the attempt made at obtaining the proposals. In no event shall the inability to obtain the proposals or quotes be a bar to the procurement.

Guideline 6: Except when directed by the town board, no solicitation of written proposals or quotations shall be required under the following circumstances:

Acquisition of professional services;

Emergencies;

Sole source situations;

Goods purchased from agencies for the blind or severely handicapped;

Goods purchased from correctional facilities;

Goods purchased from another governmental agency;

Good purchased under County or State contracts;

Goods purchased at auction;

Goods purchased for less than \$500.00.

Public works contracts for less than \$500.00

However, a good faith effort should be made to insist that the best price be paid.

Guideline 7: This policy shall be reviewed annually by the town board at its organizational meeting or as soon thereafter as is reasonably practicable.

POLICY ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT

All town officials and employees are responsible for assuring that the workplace is free from sexual harassment. Because of the town's strong disapproval of offensive or inappropriate sexual behavior at work or in representing the Town, all individuals must avoid any action or conduct that could be viewed as sexual harassment including but not limited to the following:

Unwelcome sexual advances
Requests for sexual acts or favors
Sexually explicit language or gestures
Other verbal or physical conduct of a harassing nature

An individual who has a complaint of sexual harassment at work concerning anyone, including town officials, supervisors, co-workers, or visitors, shall file their complaint with the Town Supervisor. If the complaint is against the Town Supervisor, then the individual shall file the complaint with the Deputy Supervisor or Town Clerk.

All complaints will be promptly investigated. The privacy of both the aggrieved and the accused will be strictly maintained.

The person or persons conducting the investigation may enlist the aid of other town officials, employees, Town Attorney, local law enforcement officers or others as it is deemed appropriate.

The findings of any investigation shall be reported to the Town Board and appropriate action shall be taken if the Town Board determines that it is necessary.

The Town Board will retain confidential information of all allegations and investigations.

Policy for Waiver of 30 Day Liquor License Notification

After notification by an applicant that they are applying for a liquor license in the Town of Austerlitz, the Town will entertain a request to waive the 30 day waiting period before the applicant can submit an application to the New York State Liquor Authority. Procedure for approval of said request will be as follows:

1. Applicant must notify Town Clerk in writing as required by NYS Liquor Law that they are applying for a liquor license.
2. Applicant must request in writing to waive 30 day notification including reasons for request.
3. If Town Board meeting is within 10 days of receipt of request, approval will be made by the Town Board.
4. If Town Board meeting is not within 10 days of receipt of request, approval will be made by the Town Supervisor.
5. Notification of decision will be made in writing to applicant.

**It is understood that any new establishments requiring a liquor license have gone through site plan review thus satisfying public notification and review.

FOR RULES OF ORDER FOR AUSTERLITZ TOWN BOARD MEETINGS

It is the intent of the Town Board of Austerlitz to conduct the business of the Town in an open, fair and professional manner.

In order to do so, the Board wishes to follow the recommendation of the Association of Towns of the State of New York and adopt a written policy regarding the procedures that will govern the conduct of Town Board meeting.

We therefore adopt the following set of policies and procedures which are based on widely accepted rules of parliamentary procedure as the rules of order for the Town Board,

The Supervisor shall preside at all meetings of the Board and shall preserve order and decorum in debate. In the absence of the Supervisor, this responsibility will fall to the Deputy Supervisor.

The Supervisor will conduct each regular meeting of the Board according to the following order of business:

call to order;

moment of silence and pledge of allegiance;

acceptance of minutes of previous meeting;

auditing of account and claims;

a public hearing of any member of the general public in attendance at the meeting on any subject in which the Town or its government is concerned according to the policies adopted by the Board for public comment;

reception of petitions and other communications addressed to the Town board including written and electronic communications (e-mail);

report of Town Supervisor which will include the report of monthly cash disbursements;

reports of the Town Clerk/Tax Collector and the Highway Superintendent;

report of other town officers and officials (building inspector, town historian, etc) as may be required

reports from the Planning Board, the Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee, and the Zoning Commission by committee chair or board liaison;

reports from Town Board sub-committees;

consideration of outstanding old business;

consideration of new business;

adjournment.

This order of business may be revised at any meeting by a majority vote of the Board.

Any member may present a resolution or motion for consideration by the Board.

Every resolution or motion must be seconded before being debated and brought to a vote by the Supervisor. All resolutions and motions, including those that fail to get a second, shall be recorded in their entirety in the official minutes of the Town Board.

The Supervisor may offer or second a resolution or motion and need not relinquish the chair for such purpose.

No motion or resolution may be brought to a vote except by the consent of the majority of those board members present unless printed copies thereof are available to each member of the Board 48 hours prior to the opening of the meeting at which such motion or resolution is offered. For this purpose, a printed copy delivered to the Town Hall or electronic transmission to the e-mail address on file with the Town Clerk shall suffice.

In debate of motions and resolutions no members will speak more than once on any question until every member choosing to speak shall have spoken and no more than twice in any case without leave of the Board.

When a question is under debate, no motion shall be entertained unless (a) for an adjournment or recess (b) for the previous question to be tabled, (c) to postpone to refer to a committee or (d) to amend the main motion. These latter motions are neither amendable nor debatable.

No motion shall be made to offer any amendment to an amendment already before the Board on any proposition.

A majority vote of all the members of the Board shall be required to suspend these rules of order.

A majority of the board shall constitute a quorum.

If the above stated rules are or become at any time in conflict with the statutory law, the statutory law shall take precedent.

PUBLIC HEARING AT REGULAR AND SPECIAL SESSIONS OF THE TOWN BOARD

The Town Board of the Town of Austerlitz is committed to uphold the spirit and the letter of the Open Meeting Law.

It is the intention of the Town Board that the business of the Town be conducted in a spirit of cooperation and with appropriate professionalism and decorum. It is also the intention of the Board that members of the general public have ample opportunity to comment and offer opinions on matters of concern to the Town and its government at meetings of the Town Board.

With these goals in mind, the following policies and procedures are adopted for public hearings at regular and special sessions of the Town Board.

Every regularly scheduled meeting of the Town Board will include a public hearing period during which any member of the general public may address the meeting on any topic of relevance to the Town or its government.

A sign-in sheet will be available at the entrance to the meeting room 30 minutes prior to the official start time of the meeting. Anyone wishing to address the meeting during the public hearing will be requested to sign-in. Speakers will be recognized by the chair in the order in which their names appear on the sign-in sheet.

Anyone wishing to address the meeting who has not signed-in before the meeting is called to order may do so, upon being recognized by the chair, after all those on the sign-in sheet have spoken. Speakers who have not signed-in are requested to state their full name before addressing the meeting so that the clerk may properly record the comment for the minutes.

Comments will be directed to members of the Board and not to any individual or group in attendance at the meeting.

Each speaker will limit their initial remarks to three minutes.

After all who so request have an opportunity to speak, and upon being recognized by the chair, each speaker who wishes may offer one follow-up comment. Follow-up comments are limited to two minutes.

Speakers may address the meeting further only with the consent of the majority of the Board.

Members of the Board may ask for clarification, but otherwise will not engage in debate or discussion with a speaker during the public hearing session.

Speakers and Board Members will, at all times, maintain a courteous and respectful tone and avoid shouting, profanity and comments of a personal nature.

Should a speaker's behavior become disruptive, they will be asked to leave the meeting.

FOR APPOINTMENTS TO CITIZEN COMMITTEES

The Town Board recognizes the importance of the services of citizen volunteers for many functions relating to governance of the Town including the important work done by the Town Planning Board, the Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee and its various subcommittees, and the Zoning Board of Appeals.

In the appointment of persons to these citizen committees, as in all other areas, it is the intent of the Town Board of Austerlitz to conduct the business of the Town in a manner that is fair, open and representative of the people of the town.

Therefore, the following policy guidelines for making appointments are implemented.

The Supervisor will name an Appointments sub-committee of the Town Board. This sub-committee will be charged with making recommendations to the full Board regarding appointments to those boards and committees which are subject to appointment by the Town Board.

Members of the Appointments sub-committee and the chair of each committee will actively solicit the participation of citizens for the Town Planning Board, the Comprehensive Oversight Committee and the Zoning Board of Appeals whenever a vacancy arises or is anticipated.

This will include, but is not limited to, posting a notice of the position(s) in the newspaper of record and on the official Town Website.

Applicants will be requested to submit letter of interest to the town clerk by a date specified in the notice of vacancy. This may be delivered in-person, via post or e-mail.

The Appointments sub-committee will review the qualifications of all candidates including a personal interview if appropriate.

Upon completion of the review, the Appointments sub-committee will then make a recommendation to the full Board.

Appointments will be made by a majority vote of the Board.

In making recommendations the Appointments sub-committee will be guided by the following policies.

An individual should serve on only one committee each term.

Members of the same household cannot be appointed to serve on the same committee.

It will be the responsibility of each Board or Committee chair to solicit, review and appoint members of such subcommittees and task forces as deemed necessary for the committee to discharge its responsibilities. Board and Committee chairs are encouraged to employ the principles of openness and inclusiveness in making such appointments.

COMPUTER POLICY

All Town owned computers shall be used for municipal purposes only. Any Town computer may be subject at any time upon order of the Supervisor or Town Board to an audit.

WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM POLICY

Purpose: It is the intent of the Town of Austerlitz that threats, threatening behavior, and acts of violence against employees, by employees or by other individuals on Town property, will not be tolerated. The Town of Austerlitz will take all threats seriously. It is the Town's goal to eliminate violent behavior and the threat of such behavior from all work sites.

Policy: Violence or threat of violence, by or, against any employee of the Town of Austerlitz, or any other person while on Town property, is strictly prohibited. The Prohibited action will subject the perpetrator, if an employee, to serious disciplinary action, up to and including termination of the employee, and, in all cases, possible criminal prosecution.

The possession of firearms or dangerous weapons (as defined below) while on Town property, or in a Town facility or vehicle, is strictly prohibited. Employees violating this policy may be terminated. The weapons portion of this policy does not apply to law enforcement personnel or other employees that are operating within the normal scope of their duties, and using weapons as tools of their profession. Any other employee of The Town of Austerlitz must Provide proof of a valid weapons permit and must have written approval of the Town of Austerlitz Board in order to carry a weapon on the worksite. Town Departments may receive training on methods on defusing hostile situations.

Definitions:

Dangerous Weapons: includes, but not limited to, any offensive weapon, pistol, revolver, or other firearm, dagger, razor, stiletto, switchblade knife, or knife having a blade exceeding five (5) inches in length.

Work Site: Includes all property owned or occupied by the Town of Austerlitz, as well as Town vehicles.

Possession: Includes, but not limited to, the presence of a weapon on the employee, lunch box, tool kit, bag, purse, cabinets, office, etc. Weapons transported in vehicles must be legally stored in compliance with the laws of the State of New York.

Violence in the workplace may include:

The use of physical force with the intent to cause harm.

Acts or threats in any form or manner, which are intended to intimidate, cause fear, or cause harm.

The act of creating a hostile or intimidating work environment by means of words, actions, or physical contact, which would have the purpose or effect of alarming, insulting, or provoking another person .

The intentional damage of Town owned or personal property or acts intended to cause such property to fail to operate, or to operate improperly.

Guidelines for Managing Workplace Altercations:

The guidelines are intended to aid Department Heads and supervisors in dealing with a violent or potentially violent situations at work where the Department Head or supervisor is in a position to intervene and control the situation.

In circumstances deemed by the Department Head or supervisor to be an emergency, call 911, and then contact the Department Head and /or the Town Hall at 392-3260 X300. It is understood that the actions of a supervisor or other employee will depend on the seriousness and nature of the incident. However, consistent with personal safety, supervisors are to make a good faith effort to diffuse violent or potentially violent behavior as quickly as possible in order to prevent escalation. The term "altercation," used in these guidelines, includes actual or threatened violence including verbal or physical confrontation, or assault, or attempts at such assault.

General Comments: Separate the individuals involved. Do not allow a minor altercation to escalate into a more serious situation. If the individuals cannot be separated, dial 911 and contact the Department Head or supervisor.

All Town employees are responsible for notifying management of any threats that they have witnessed or received. If it is not practical to notify management, the employee should contact the town Hall at 392-3260 X300. Town employees who obtain a restraining order against individuals are strongly encouraged to report the presence of a restraining order to their Department Head and/or supervisor.

Once the situation is under control, the Board of Supervisors and/or appropriate governing body or committee, along with the Department Head, shall interview all persons involved, including any witnesses, in order to obtain an accurate account of the incident. The incident will be documented in writing and reviewed by management.

The Department Head and/or supervisor consulting with the Town Board will decide on the appropriate disciplinary action, if necessary.

Discipline: Workplace altercations, including those involving only verbal exchanges, justify appropriate corrective action. The Town Board should be contacted for guidance.

Program Review and Update: The Workplace Violence Prevention Program will be reviewed and updated as needed, and whenever such updating as indicated by changes, modifications will be made and communicated to all employees.

A motion to adopt the above policies as the 2012 Town of Austerlitz Policies was made by B. Geel and seconded by C. Pinto

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Supervisor Braley asks the Town Board if any are interested in attending the Association of Towns Annual School in February 2012. No Town Board member will be attending this year. The Town Board has been given the A.O.T Resolutions for reference. This will be voted on at the A.O.T. Annual Meeting.

Supervisor Braley advised the Town Board that Captain Brown from the NYS Troopers will come and speak to the Town Board concerning the State Police procedures for patrolling local municipalities. Discussion surrounding the patrolling efforts of the State Police and the Columbia County Sheriff's Department. Town Board Member Geel would like to have the Sheriff's Department patrol the back roads. The general consensus of the Town Board was to have the State Police patrol the Taconic Parkway. Highway Superintendent Meehan noted that the turnaround used by the police on the Taconic Parkway in the Town of Austerlitz' section needs to be repaired.

Public Comments

Chuck Weinlein questioned the status of the Town Hall roof replacement project and the bid specs. Supervisor Braley advised that new bid specs have been advertised because there was a problem with the first ones leaving out a notation concerning prevailing rates. Supervisor Braley believes this project will probably be put off and re-bid in the Spring.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by M. Verenazi and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan A. Haag, Town Clerk

Town of Austerlitz
Regular Town Board Meeting
February 9, 2012

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Moment of Silence in memory of Helen Simon and Thelma Gleason, followed by the pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call. Present: Jeffrey Braley, Supervisor, Jon Mesick, Carol Pinto, Town Board Members, Susan Haag, Town Clerk, Robert Meehan, Highway Superintendent.

Absent: Bryan Geel and Matthew Verenazi due to vacation.

Minutes

A motion to accept the January 12, 2012 Organizational/Regular Town Board Meeting minutes was made by J. Mesick and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes

C. Pinto: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Auditing of Accounts and Claims

A motion to approve General Fund #42-85 in the amount of \$20342.60, and Highway Fund #26-42 in the amount of \$16016.84, was made by C. Pinto and seconded by J. Mesick.

J. Braley: yes

C. Pinto: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Reports

No Monthly cash disbursements for the month of January 2012 were presented. Supervisor Braley noted that the accountant did not provide us with a cash disbursement journal. On the Town level Supervisor Braley is still dealing with F.E.M.A. trying to get the paperwork in line. A few years ago Towns in Columbia County sent in Hazard Mitigation Forms. New York State alleges they did not receive any. Supervisor Braley resent the Town of Austerlitz' resolutions to the State. The State now says these resolution are not correct and new ones need to be done. At this point, Supervisor Braley is trying to ascertain exactly what the State wants.

On a County Level, Supervisor Braley advised that the politics have shifted; Chairman of the Board of Supervisor Pat Grattan is looking for transparency. More information is being put online including cash flow figures and the 2012 budget. Columbia County has surplus money on hand of about 9 million.

Town Board Member Matthew Verenazi is the Town of Austerlitz' representative on the County Traffic Safety Board. Unfortunately, the Town of Austerlitz has yet to find a representative to sit on the County's Environmental Council. Supervisor Braley asks the audience if anyone is interested or if they know of anyone who may be.

Town Clerk Report for the month of January 2012 submitted.

Tax Collector Report for the month of January 2012 submitted. The warrant checks have been given to the Town and to the Columbia County Treasurer. 82% of the taxes have been collected which is up from last year at this time.

Highway Superintendent Meehan reported that he continues to work on F.E.M.A. paperwork. It appears that F.E.M.A. will accept the big culvert put in on Stonewall Road. The Highway Crew has been filling potholes and cutting brush. There have been a couple minor storms, and all the roads in Town are open.

Planning Board Report for the month of January 2012 submitted.

Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee Report for the month of January 2012 submitted.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Report for the month of January 2012 submitted.

Justice Roberts Justice Court Report for the month of December 2011 submitted.

A motion to accept the above reports was made by C. Pinto and seconded by J. Mesick.

J. Braley: yes

C. Pinto: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Correspondence

Morris Associates: Thank you note to the Town Board for appointing Morris Associates as a consulting engineer for the Town. Supervisor Braley advised that Engineer Paul McCreary from Morris Associates stopped in personally to thank the Town and Engineer Patrick Prendergast called to thank the Town as well.

NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation: Notification that the Daniel and Clarissa Baldwin house on Dugway Road, Spencertown, NY is being considered for nomination to the National and State Registers of Historic Places. Supervisor Braley will write a letter and encourage this accordingly.

Letter from Mark Feldman, on behalf of the Fern Hill Land Management Community requests approval for the purchase and placement of 'Neighborhood Watch' signs. Highway Superintendent Meehan does not care if the Fern Hill Community puts up these signs, but advises that he will need to approve where they are placed. R. Meehan will put the signs up if wanted. Columbia County Sheriff Deputy Leggett, who was in the audience, was asked to patrol Fern Hill Road from time to time. Supervisor Braley noted that the Enhanced Patrol program paperwork has been noting where they have been patrolling lately other than the Taconic Parkway. Patrols have sat on NYS Route 22 and 203.

Unfinished Business

Town Hall Roof Bid: Supervisor Braley advised the Town Board that he has consulted with Attorney for the Town, Tal Rappleyea concerning the legality of this bidding process since a bidder mentioned that the bid specs lacked any mention of 'prevailing rate'. Attorney Rappleyea has advised that General Municipal Law, section 103, deals with the question of whether or not the words 'prevailing wage' need to be included in bid specs. Section 103 states that for contracts \$35000.00 and over, a provision for 'prevailing wage' must be present in the bid specs. For those contracts under this amount, no specific reference need be made. The Town of Austerlitz' procurement policy states that for contracts under \$20000.00, the Town must only ask for quotes. Therefore, the Town Board is within its legal rights to open the bids and award the contract to the lowest bidder. Supervisor Braley notes that it is up to the contractor to pay prevailing wage.

Bids opened were as follows:

Phelps Brothers, LLC
49 Mountain View Road
Nassau, NY 12123
Bid: \$6690.00

Harpis Roofing, Inc.
1233 Route 9
Hudson, NY 12534
Bid: \$12800.00

Bader-Lueki Industries, LLC
BLI Construction Services
850 Oregon Ave.

Niskayuna, NY 12309
Bid: \$10902.00

Charles Vander Weit noted that Phelps Brothers put a new roof on his house and they did excellent work. C. Vander Weit recommends them. Supervisor Braley noted he has never heard a bad word about the Phelps Brothers and stated that they run a very efficient operation.

Celia Cassuto asks if the Town Board should first ask the Phelps Brothers if they pay prevailing wage.

Judith Choate questioned whether or not repair around the chimney was covered in the Phelps Brother's bid. Supervisor Braley noted yes.

A motion to accept the Phelps Brothers, LLC bid was made by C. Pinto and seconded by J. Mesick.

J. Braley: yes

C. Pinto: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Park Renovations: Town Board Member Carol Pinto advised that she has called Morris Associates and spoke with Paul McCreary concerning what the Town Board is looking for up at the playground area behind the Spencertown Academy. February 27, 2012 was set for Board Member Pinto, Highway Superintendent Meehan and Paul McCreary to meet and discuss plans for this area. Town Board Member Pinto will remain the liaison between the Town Board and Morris Associates.

New Business

Town Justice Appointment: Supervisor Braley noted the resignation of Town Justice Cheryl Roberts due to a conflict in her status as the Corporate Council for the City of Hudson. J. Braley explained that a legal notice has been placed asking for interested parties to fill this position. Of note is the fact that the replacement can only be appointed until the end of the year, not to fill the remaining term of the judge. This position will be up for election in the fall. Supervisor Braley continued that the Town Board can appoint an applicant to this position, or let the State appoint, in which case the State will pick up the salary. If the Town Board appoints, there are also some options. The Town Board can appoint a lawyer, if one has applied, who would be able to sit on the bench immediately. The Town Board can appoint a non-lawyer if one has applied, but a non-lawyer cannot sit on the bench until he has been certified through classes taken on the State level. These classes are only offered at certain times of the year; the next offering is at the end of March 2012. Current Judge, Robert Lagonia, has offered to pick up the slack for an increase in salary. There are four parties interested in filling this vacancy. The Town Board can appoint someone now to the position of Town Justice, wait until March to appoint, or let the State appoint. The Town Board preferred to make an appointment immediately.

Town Board Member Pinto advised that she has read through the resumes provided and knows the people who have applied. C. Pinto makes note that William Hogencamp has an extensive law background and ran for this position in the fall election. Town Board Member Jon Mesick advised that a number of good applications came in, but William Hogencamp has put the time in to run and wants the job. It was noted that Town Board Members Geel and Verenazi has expressed the fact that they would prefer William Hogencamp as well.

A motion to appoint William Hogencamp to the position of Town Justice for a term that ends December 31, 2012 was made by J. Mesick and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes

C. Pinto: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee: Supervisor Braley noted that Constance Mondel has requested to be appointed to the Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee. This committee does not have a set number of members and Supervisor Braley noted that additional members have been added from time to time. Town Board Member Pinto noted that this Committee also has sub-committees where members are added.

A motion to appoint Constance Mondel to the Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee with a term ending December 31, 2012 was made by C. Pinto and seconded by J. Mesick.

J. Braley: yes

C. Pinto: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

New Town Hall: Supervisor Braley advised that Jack Shear, representing the Ellsworth Kelly Foundation, came in and discussed the possibility of a new Town Hall. Supervisor Braley notes that the Ellsworth Kelly Foundation has donated before and in fact, the Town still has some of this money that will be used for the playground area. The Foundation has given to the Friends of Historic St. Peter's, and the Spencertown Firehouse. The Foundation grants money every fall and is interested in donating to the Town again this year. The Foundation sees this donated money used to speak with an architect concerning plans for a new Town Hall, or to add on to the existing Town Hall. Supervisor Braley asks the Town Board to take a month to decide which direction it would like to go. J. Braley continues stating that there is 7 years left to pay for the highway garage. Supervisor Braley thinks doing something with the Town Hall is a good idea. Town Board Member Pinto questions when the deadline is for grant applications. Supervisor Braley is unsure, but the grants are given in the fall. The Town Board should decide by the March Town Board Meeting.

Spencertown Academy Arts Center: Supervisor Braley noted that the Spencertown Academy is asking permission to use the Town Greene for a garden market as part of the Academy's Annual Hidden Gardens Tour on Saturday, June 16, 2012.

A motion to allow the Spencertown Academy to use the Town Greene for a garden market as part of the Academy's Annual Hidden Gardens Tour on Saturday, June 16, 2012 was made by J. Braley and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes

C. Pinto: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Supervisor Braley advised that he received an email from the NYSDOT concerning a '15 minute parking' sign on State Route 203 in the Hamlet of Spencertown. The State is asking to understand the need for this sign and is asking if it can be removed. Highway Superintendent Meehan notes that there should not be any parking in the area of this sign because it is dangerous. No one really quite knows why this sign is there. Supervisor Braley will research and get back to the NYSDOT.

Public Comments

Charles Vander Weit states that when the Ellsworth Kelly Foundation offers money, they mean business. He asks the Town Board to take them up on their offer because there is a need for a new Town Hall. When C. Vander Weit was a Town Board Member, much research was done because the Town's Court is out of compliance with the State Regulations. There is also the issue of the amount of people allowed in the Town Hall at once and the amount of times the capacity limit has been exceeded.

Steve Somlo addresses the Town Board stating his belief that the Town Board did not take adequate time in appointing a new Town Justice. The Town Board did not discuss or set up interviews for any of the candidates. S. Somlo feels like the Town Board had made up their minds in advance without consideration of the experience of the other applicants, and would have like to have all the Town Board Members present when the appointment was made. Town Board Member Pinto noted that she stated that William Hogencamp had extensive experience in the criminal field, to which C. Pinto gave examples from W. Hogencamp's resume. The examples cited prove his level of appropriate experience.

Supervisor Braley answered S. Somlo's concerns and Celia Cassuto's who noted that at this point, neither Justice is a lawyer. J. Braley states that the Town Board had letters of interest and resumes ahead of time to review. In addition to the 4 candidates who applied, there was an additional person considered, but he withdrew his interest. There could have been a long drawn out procedure, but the Town Board felt comfortable in appointing a replacement immediately. J. Braley notes that W. Hogencamp is not an attorney, but sites his qualifications. Supervisor Braley explained that he was a Town Judge for 25 years, and is not an attorney. One does not need to be to do a good job. J. Braley feels there are some lawyers who are very good judges, and some who are not. Vice versa, there are some non-lawyers who are very good judges and some who are not. S. Somlo agrees with J. Braley's assessment and notes that J. Braley was a very good Town Justice.

Town Board Member Mesick stated that he felt S. Somlo was overqualified for the position and it is out of his realm.

Ellen Melnick questioned what the Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee works on. Supervisor Braley explained the makeup of the committee, how they started, and what they are working on currently; ie., ridgelines, updating certain Town laws. In addition, an explanation of what a Comprehensive Plan is was given.

Columbia County Sheriff Deputy Leggett stated he is glad to be back and is ready to help! The Enhanced Patrol is trying to do more back road patrolling.

Supervisor Braley updated the Town Board on the progress of the Town Road Map stating that this project will soon be put up for adoption. There are only a couple of areas that still need updating.

C. Vander Weit announced that every fourth Tuesday is the senior lunch at St. Peter's. Since the attendance is down C. Vander Weit asked if the Town could help with notification. Town Clerk Haag noted that this event is put on the Town website calendar every month.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by C. Pinto and seconded by J. Mesick.

J. Braley: yes

C. Pinto: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan A. Haag, Town Clerk

Town of Austerlitz
Executive Session/Regular Town Board Meeting
March 8, 2012

Town Board convened at 6:15 p.m. to enter into Executive Session to discuss the Benjamin Strouse Law Suit with Attorney for the Town, Tal Rapplelea.

Board Members present: Jeffrey Braley, Supervisor, Jon Mesick, Carol Pinto, Bryan Geel, Matthew Verenazi, Town Board Members, Susan Haag, Town Clerk

A motion to enter Executive Session was made by C. Pinto and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried. Executive Session entered at 6:15 p.m.

A motion to close Executive Session was made by C. Pinto and seconded by J. Mesick.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried. Executive Session closed at 6:51 p.m.

Regular Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Moment of Silence, followed by the pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call. Present: Jeffrey Braley, Supervisor, Jon Mesick, Carol Pinto, Bryan Geel, Matthew Verenazi, Town Board Members, Susan Haag, Town Clerk, Robert Meehan, Highway Superintendent.

Minutes

A motion to accept the February 9, 2012 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes was made by C. Pinto and seconded by J. Mesick.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: abstain due to absence

C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: abstain due to absence
J. Mesick: yes
Motion carried 3:1.

Auditing of Accounts and Claims

A motion to approve General Fund #86-120 in the amount of \$20927.59, and Highway Fund #43-62 in the amount of \$25493.92, was made by B. Geel and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

Reports

Monthly cash disbursements for the month of February 2012 were presented. Supervisor Braley noted on a Town level things have been hectic. NYS has alerted Towns that money is available to clean out streams due to flood damage. Paperwork for this project is due Monday. The new roof is on the Town Hall. The chimney could not be flashed the way the specs read because it is stone and irregular. It was tarred and should be checked every 5 years or so to see if it needs to be redone.

On a County Level, Supervisor Braley advised that the Board of Supervisors is back to square one on the purchase of a new building for the Department of Social Services. An air quality report came back negative on the proposed building in Hudson. J. Braley will vote to buy this building to keep Social Services in Hudson. Supervisor Braley is on two new committees this year; Public Works and Public Safety. It is a learning curve.

Town Clerk Report for the month of February 2012 submitted.

Tax Collector Report for the month of February 2012 submitted.

Highway Superintendent Meehan reported that roads are somewhat muddy, but not too bad. The Highway Crew has been working on potholes and brush. Superintendent Meehan met with F.E.M.A. today, noting that the Town will be getting about \$54000.00 and still may get some additional money for Stonewall Road. The culvert on Fog Hill Road is not working out so well. This needs to be replaced. A plastic replacement culvert should not be that much. The culvert on Dugway Road is fixed, but the one on Macedonia Road needs to be replaced. R. Meehan discusses the monetary figures F.E.M.A. will give the Town for each culvert. The culvert on Beaver Dam Road also needs to be replaced. There is a pipe on the dam that is rotten and needs to be replaced, but this pipe is located on private property. There is about \$20000.00 worth of culverts left to be replaced that the Town will have to pay for. Highway Superintendent Meehan advised that salt and sand for next year has been purchased already because it is less money now than if purchased in the fall. About a 1/3 of what normally is used has been used this year.

Discussion on the entrance to the playground area behind the Spencertown Academy from State Route 203. There is a distance site issue. Town Board Member Pinto will coordinate an effort between the Town and the NYSDOT to place a bigger 'Playground' road sign on State Route 203.

Planning Board Report for the month of February 2012 submitted. Highway Superintendent Meehan will speak with the surveyor handling the Doyle subdivision concerning the placement of survey pins marking a turnaround area. R. Meehan has been very busy with F.E.M.A. and will get to this next week.

Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee Report for the month of February 2012 submitted.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Report for the month of February 2012 submitted.

Justice Roberts Justice Court Report for the month of January 2012 submitted.

Justice Lagonia Justice Court Report for the month of January 2012 submitted.

A motion to accept the above reports was made by J. Mesick and seconded by M. Verenazi.
J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

Correspondence

Richard Madonia: Requests that the Town Board authorize the resurfacing of the parking lot area in front of the Town Hall.

David Seth Michaels: Alerts Town Board of an abandoned vehicle on his property and asks guidance for its removal. Supervisor Braley has addressed this issue granting permission to remove this truck.

Unfinished Business

Supervisor Braley discussed the 2-15 minute parking signs on State Route 203. The Town Board does not know when these were placed or why. They can be removed.

Resolution #26-2012 NYSDOT Limited Parking Signs

WHEREAS the State of New York Department of Transportation wishes to remove two *Limited Parking Signs* on NYS Route 203 at milepost numbers 1041 and 1042, and

WHEREAS the NYS DOT wishes to rid the state roadside of unnecessary signs, and

WHEREAS the NYS DOT and the Town can find no resolution or regulation concerning the placement of the signs, and

WHEREAS the Town Board sees no reason that the signs be maintained and kept in place,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Town of Austerlitz Town Board asks that the New York State Department of Transportation remove the two signs from along New York State 203.

A motion to adopt Resolution #26-2012 NYSDOT Limited Parking Signs was made by B. Geel and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

Supervisor Braley advised that Resolution #24, 2012 is being presented in an effort to appease NYS. Resolutions passed in the past have not had the exact criteria the State is looking for.

Resolution #25-2012 Adoption of Columbia County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

WHEREAS, the Town of Austerlitz, with the assistance from Counsel Tal Rappleyea, has gathered information and prepared the Columbia County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Columbia County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan; has been prepared in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Austerlitz is a local unit of government that has afforded the citizens an opportunity to comment and provide input in the Plan and the actions in the Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Austerlitz has reviewed the Plan and affirms that the Plan will be updated no less than every five years;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Town Board that the Town of Austerlitz adopts the Columbia County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan as this jurisdiction's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, and resolves to execute the actions in the Plan.

A motion to adopt Resolution #25-2012 Adoption of Columbia County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan was made by M. Verenazi and seconded by J. Mesick.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Benjamin Strouse Lawsuit: Supervisor Braley advised that the Town Board met with Attorney for the Town, Tal Rappleyea, to discuss the Strouse lawsuit. Attorney Rappleyea wanted the Town Board to understand the costs involved and to discuss strategy. The general consensus of the Town Board was to continue the lawsuit, but Supervisor Braley requests that the Town Board wait for a month before any formal decisions were made. This will give Supervisor Braley time to present cost and loan figures to the Town Board.

New Business

Resignation of Gerald DeBona as B.A.R. Member. Gerald DeBona thanks all the members of the Board of Assessment Review that he has served with. Town Clerk Susan Haag has advertised for a replacement. The Board of Assessment Review is a five member board which meets on Grievance Day and possibly other times based on number of applications.

Public Comments

Judith Choate questions the status of the Benjamin Strouse lawsuit and asks when the Town Board will make a decision if they will settle or not. Supervisor Braley advises that this will be on next month's agenda. J. Braley advises that Attorney Rappleyea feels there is a good chance that the Town will win this case. During Executive Session, there was some discussion on what the Town would be getting into should this lawsuit continue.

Constance Mondel noted that the Phelps Brothers, who replaced the Town Hall roof, are a good bunch of guys. Supervisor Braley advised that only one piece of plywood needed to be replaced. Now the inside and out of the Town Hall needs to be repainted and some plaster work around the inside windows where there is water damage needs to be done.

Supervisor Braley noted that the Highway Crew came into the Town Hall and helped with moving file cabinets around and cleaning out the back vault making additional room for court. While cleaning, a banner from the Bi-Centennial parade was found. This will be hung on the wall of the Town Hall.

Town Board Member Pinto advised that she met with Highway Superintendent Meehan and Engineer for the Town, Paul McCreary concerning the park behind the Spencertown Academy. A preliminary report will be coming outlining the project at large and the costs involved. The report will include items such as the tennis court repair and retaining wall, as well as driveway entrance issues.

Supervisor Braley advised the Town Board that NYMIR is coming for their annual inspection. Also of interest is the WCTU well on State Route 203. This well needs to be skim coated due to salt from the winter. In addition, contacts for each of the Town's Fire Companies will be updated on the website.

R. Meehan noted that he needed to put up a couple piece of playground equipment.

Town Board Member Pinto questions an article she read in the Register Star concerning the Town of Austerlitz' Code Enforcement Officer expanding the Code Enforcement Contract with the Towns of Canaan and Hillsdale to also include the Towns of Copake and Ancram. C. Pinto asks why the Town Board was not made aware of this venture. Supervisor Braley states that he was unaware of this at first, but through discussion has come to understand that the State of New York offered the Town two grants for shared services; one that gives a reward for past initiatives and one for going forward with a shared service contract. Our Code Enforcement Officer, Glenn Smith, is trying to secure these grants for the Town. G. Smith and Property Clerk Mary Davis met with the State to get an understanding of requirements and goals. J. Braley continued noting that other Towns in Columbia County would like to become involved with the Town of Austerlitz in this shared service initiative.

Town Board Member Pinto questions additional costs involved with adding more Towns, namely hiring personnel, buying a vehicle, etc. Further, C. Pinto feels this initiative should have come from the Town Board, or the Town Board should have been consulted ahead of time. Supervisor Braley does not believe anything will come of this, but money will come from added Towns to cover the additional costs associated with the increased work load. Possible scenarios were discussed. Town Board Member Pinto would like to see the current contract and any future preliminary contracts.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by M. Verenazi and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan A. Haag, Town Clerk

Town of Austerlitz
Bid Opening/Regular Town Board Meeting
April 12, 2012

Town Board convened at 6:30 p.m. to open the 2012 Lawn Care and Ground Maintenance bids.

Board Members present: Jeffrey Braley, Supervisor, Jon Mesick, Carol Pinto, Bryan Geel, Matthew Verenazi, Town Board Members, Susan Haag, Town Clerk

Bid Submitted: Howes Horticultural

1.) Lawn Care and Trimming from Spring through Fall to include:

- a.) the Town Park and ball-field
- b.) the Town Green across from St. Peter's Church
- c.) the area around the Town Hall

Price per mowing: \$130.00

2.) Ground Maintenance from Spring through Fall to include:

- a.) Spring and Fall clean-up to include removal of ground debris, damage caused by storms and bee extermination

Price per hour: \$40.00

- b.) maintenance of perennial bed on green including mulching, edging, fertilizing, tree trimming, trimming of hedges, weeding as needed

Price per hour: \$40.00

- c.) cost of materials (mulch, etc.) by volume

Estimated cost: \$45.00/yard

3.) Trash and broken glass removal and disposal thereof, twice a week, from the Town park, recreation area and ball field. Trash is to be disposed of in the Town dumpster.

Price per week: \$15.00

Regular Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Moment of Silence, followed by the pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call. Present: Jeffrey Braley, Supervisor, Jon Mesick, Carol Pinto, Bryan Geel, Matthew Verenazi, Town Board Members, Susan Haag, Town Clerk, Robert Meehan, Highway Superintendent.

Minutes

A motion to accept the March 8, 2012 Executive Session/Regular Town Board Meeting minutes was made by B. Geel and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Auditing of Accounts and Claims

A motion to approve General Fund #121-159 in the amount of \$13070.91, and Highway Fund #63-92 in the amount of \$29760.76, was made by J. Mesick and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

Reports

Monthly cash disbursements for the month of March 2012 were presented. Supervisor Braley noted that spring is here. The Town Road map is finally done and now Supervisor Braley just needs to decide how to best utilize this and get it out to departments.

On a County Level, Supervisor Braley noted that the State redistricting is now done and the Town of Austerlitz has a new Assemblyman and a new Senator. The new Senator, Senator McDonald, came and spoke to the Columbia County Board of Supervisors. Sales tax is up 5.7% and the Town of Austerlitz will receive a share. Social Services still needs a home. The Upper Hollow Rd Bridge is still being worked on. Paperwork has been signed and bids specs should go out this week to start work in June and have completed by September. Block Bridge should be completed in the next couple of weeks.

Town Clerk Report for the month of March 2012 submitted. Town Clerk Haag advised the Town Board that she will appoint Janet Paul as her Deputy for the April election cycle. The Presidential primary will be during the week that S. Haag is at Conference.

Tax Collector Report for the month of March 2012 submitted.

Highway Superintendent Robert Meehan reported that the Fern Hill neighborhood watch signs are up and a new Kern Drive sign has been placed as well. The Upper Hollow Road bridge and Block Bridge are being worked on. R. Meehan noted it is too dry to sweep and grade the roads, but once it rains, this will be done. The Highway crew has been picking up a lot of garbage on the Town roads, mainly tires. The bucket truck is back together. Highway Superintendent Meehan asks the Town Board to send a letter to NYSDOT concerning the road conditions on State Route 203 between the rock cut and the Taconic Parkway garage. R. Meehan has finished his part in the Doyle subdivision.

Supervisor Braley advised that the NYSDOT called to notify the Town that they will alert the Town and residents when the NYSDOT will be doing work on roads in Town. J. Braley noted that generally, Towns Countywide are upset with how the NYSDOT is maintaining roads. This was one area that was brought up and discussed with Senator McDonald.

Planning Board Report for the month of March 2012 submitted.

Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee Report for the month of March 2012 submitted.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Report for the month of March 2012 submitted.

Justice Lagonia Justice Court Report for the months of February and March 2012 submitted. New Justice, William Hogencamp, has been to school and is now sitting the bench.

A motion to accept the above reports was made by C. Pinto and seconded by B. Geel.
J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

Correspondence

NYS Dept of Ag and Markets Dog Control Officer inspection report for Wes Powell completed on March 16, 2012 reported as Unsatisfactory. This is a letter of warning. Failure to come into compliance will result in further regulatory action. Another inspection will occur in approximately 30 days and it is anticipated that all deficiencies will be corrected by this time. Supervisor Braley has not spoken with W. Powell concerning this. The violation was in connection with required paperwork not being completed and filed.

District Attorney Czajka advised that Attorney for the Town, Tal Rappleyea, has been granted authority to prosecute violations of local laws and municipal building and zoning codes for the Town of Austerlitz.

Mary Anne Davis asked for a \$500.00 donation for the "Welcome to Summer in Spencertown", May 26, 2012 from 10:-3:00 p.m.

Supervisor Braley introduced the new pastor for St. Peter's Presbyterian Church, Drew Patton. Mary Anne Davis explained the committee's request and noted that this donation will help to pay for music, advertising and printing costs. The money raised during this community day will be used to help restore the St. Peter's historic church.

Supervisor Braley stated that he was bothered last year concerning this same request because it did not appear that the Welcome to Summer in Spencertown committee had asked anyone else for donations. M. Davis advised that the Clara Gott Fund was contacted this year for a donation as well. In addition, businesses that participate pay a fee and this and all donated money does go towards the fundraiser. J. Braley noted that the money will go to the Friends of Historic St. Peter's for the restoration of the church building, not to the church itself.

Town Board Member Geel wants to see this historic building preserved, but feels funny donating taxpayer money. This is a good cause even though it is not Town owned property. Restoration of a historic building is profitable for the Town as a whole. M. Davis noted that this event is a day for the entire community. Member Geel notes that the church does let the Town use the building from time to time and this makes him feel better about donating money. Reverend Patton advises that the church does open its doors for the Senior Lunch Program, the Silent Pantry, Meals on Wheels, and is always open to explore the relationship between the Town and the church because everyone is a part of the community. M. Davis notes that new this year will be a dinner after the event.

Town Board Member Verenazi agrees with Member Geel that this is taxpayer money, but understands that the Town uses this building and previous Town Boards have donated to this event. There is a great need to keep up the maintenance of this building.

Town Board Member Pinto is in agreement and questions Supervisor Braley if there is money in the budget to donate to this event. Supervisor Braley advised that he budgeted \$100.00 for this event, but the Town can find the money to donate the entire \$500.00. J. Braley appreciates the fact that the amount requested is less this year.

A motion to donate \$500.00 to the Welcome to Summer in Spencertown event was made by B. Geel and seconded by M. Verenazi with recognition that the church building can be used for Town functions as needed.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

It was noted that the windows in the church have recently been replaced and painting will begin next week. Internal work will be done by the church.

Reverend Patton and Mary Anne Davis thanked the Town Board.

Unfinished Business

Austerlitz Town Park Proposal: Town Board Member Pinto received a report from Engineer for the Town, Paul McCreary of Morris Associates, concerning the proposed work to be performed at the Town Park. Town Board Member Pinto questioned whether or not this work was going to be contracted out. C. Pinto noted that the report suggests that the entrance be moved and she agreed with this proposal. The Town Board discussed drainage issues. The general consensus of the Town Board was to proceed with phase one of the project which includes getting estimates for the contracted work to be done for the entire project. It was noted that the Town could apply for grant funding as well.

Board of Assessment Review Appointment: Supervisor Braley noted that Board of Assessment Review Member Gerald DeBona resigned and a replacement needs to be appointed. A letter of interest was received from Bridget Arnold who has sat on the review board in the past.

A motion to appoint Bridget Arnold to the Board of Assessment Review to fill a term beginning April 12, 2012 and ending September 30, 2012 was made by C. Pinto and seconded by J. Mesick.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

NYMIR Annual Meeting Proxy: The 2012 Annual Meeting of subscribers of NYMIR will be held on May 4, 2012 at which time subscribers will be asked to consider and to act upon the election of 5 Governors. If a representative from the Town of Austerlitz is not going to attend this meeting, a proxy can be executed. The Town is asked through proxy to vote yes to accept the proposed slate of Governors or to reject the slate.

A motion to accept the slate of Governors as proposed by NYMIR and authorize Don Barber to represent the Town of Austerlitz and vote in the Town of Austerlitz' name on May 4, 2012 was made by B. Geel and seconded by J. Braley.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Bryarcliffe Lawsuit: Supervisor Braley explained that the Town Board held a discussion concerning the current litigation with Bryarcliffe resident Benjamin Strouse in executive session last month. Attorney for the Town Tal Rappleyea explained that he can handle the case should the Town Board authorize it, noting it will cost the Town between \$ 15000-20000.00. Attorney Rappleyea believes that this is a winnable case. Supervisor Braley feels that the Town Board is obligated to fight this lawsuit.

A motion not to settle the Benjamin Strouse lawsuit, but go to court was made by C. Pinto and seconded by B. Geel.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Bryarcliffe resident Judith Choate questioned whether or not the Town can claim court expenses from B. Strouse. Supervisor Braley is unsure, but will make an inquiry. Town Board Member Pinto feels that eventually B. Strouse will use the roads in Bryarcliffe. The consensus of the Town Board is that the decision to not settle is based on principal.

New Business

Lawn Care and Ground Maintenance Bid:

A motion to award the 2012 Lawn Care and Ground Maintenance Bid to Howes Horticultural was made by J. Mesick and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: abstain due to a business relationship

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion carried 4:1

Supervisor Braley noted that the Park fountain is up and running thanks to Highway Superintendent Meehan. J. Braley also stated that he receives many compliments on Dan Howes' lawn maintenance work.

Public Comments

June Simons questioned Supervisor Braley on the status of the Walmart property in Greenport. Supervisor Braley advised that the options have expired. At this point there is no interest in the Walmart building. This venture was a waste of taxpayer money. The Ockawamick building is up for sale.

Currently it is being used by county facilities and others, including the Board of Elections with climate accommodations made for the voting machines. The voting machines are not being kept there at this time, but rather in the basement of 401 State Street.

Supervisor Braley noted that Board of Supervisors Chairman Pat Gratton has changed many of the internal workings of the County, one of the biggest was creating a more financially open County.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by C. Pinto and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan A. Haag, Town Clerk

Town of Austerlitz
Bid Opening/Regular Town Board Meeting
May 10, 2012

Town Board convened at 6:30 p.m. to open the 2012 Highway bids.

Board Members present: Jeffrey Braley, Supervisor, Jon Mesick, Carol Pinto, Bryan Geel, Matthew Verenazi, Town Board Members, Robert Meehan, Highway Superintendent, Susan Haag, Town Clerk

Bid Submitted:

Aggregate

Bob Boll Excavating

PO Box 408

Niverville, NY 12130

Item #4 \$9.40 per ton FOB

Progressed Gravel \$9.40 per ton FOB

Snow Sand \$9.40 per ton FOB

Bank Run \$6.10 per ton FOB

Shale \$7.00 per ton FOB

Screen Shale 6" minus \$8.00 per ton FOB

3" Stone \$11.00 per ton FOB

3"-6" Stone \$11.00 per ton FOB

Boulder rip rap 6"-2 ft \$15.00 per ton FOB

A.Colarusso & Son, Inc.,

PO Box 302

Hudson, NY 12534

All quotes are for Quantity requested and a ton as the unit.

Item	Description	FOB	Delivered	Location
Crush Stone	Item 4 Crusher Run	\$9.00	\$14.00	91 Newman Rd, Huds
"	Screen Fill	\$8.05	\$13.05	"
Gravel	Bank Run Gravel	\$5.25	\$11.00	Cty Rte 31, Hudson
"	Sand (snow)	\$9.25	\$15.00	"
Crush Stone	Crusher Run 2" Minus	\$9.00	\$14.00	91 Newman Rd. Huds
"	Gabion	\$10.90	\$15.90	"
"	Medium Stone Fill	\$12.25	\$19.00	"
"	Heavy Stone Fill	\$12.25	\$19.00	"
Gravel	Processed 1" minus	\$8.50	\$14.25	Cty Rte 31, Hudson
"	Item #4	\$8.50	\$14.25	"
"	Cobbles	\$8.00	\$13.75	"

Asphalt Base	\$60.50	---	91 Newman Rd. Huds
Asphalt Binder	\$61.00	---	"
Asphalt Type 6	\$67.25	---	"
Asphalt Type 7	\$71.60	---	"
Asphalt 12.55mm top	\$65.40	---	"

Calcium Chloride

Peckham Materials Corp
 Union Street
 Athens, New York 12015

32% liquid calcium chloride: \$.877 price per gallon
 35% liquid calcium chloride: \$.877 price per gallon

Guardrail

Town Clerk Susan Haag advised the Town Board that Highway Clerk Sally VanWagner opened this bid inadvertently and then resealed it.

Chemung Supply Corp

PO Box 527
 Elmira, New York 14902

Guard Rail Material

New 6" x 6" x 3/16" galvanized box beam with hardware	\$28.68/ft
New 3" I posts with spade x 63"	\$57.00/each
Used 3" I posts with spade x 63"	\$25.00/each
New Type 1 End Sections	\$316.25/each
New Type 2 End Sections	\$857.50/each

Trucking

Bemiss Trucking Service, Inc.

PO Box 136

Canaan, New York 12029

Trailer rates average load 35 ton or 23 yards: trailer: \$110.00 per hour; stell trailer: \$125.00 per hour (6" stone or larger)

The horsepower rating for the tractors is 600 and 550. All rates are for delivery to town yard. Colarusso Quarry: \$4.35 per ton; Colarusso Sand: \$5.70 per ton; Boll: \$2.50 per ton.

Tommy Faxon Excavation

45 Church Street

Chatham, New York 12037

Tractor Trailer: Truck 171 – 04 Kenworth, 550 Horsepower, average load size 36 ton, permitted for 107,000 lbs.

Truck 223 – 02 Kenworth, 550 horsepower, average load size 36 ton, permitted for 107,000 lbs.

Truck 222 – 08 Kenworth, 500 horsepower, average load size 36 ton, permitted for 107,000 lbs.

Hourly rate for tractor trailer will be \$115.00. Hourly rate for steel rock trailer will be \$125.00.

Triaxle Dump: Truck 224 – 06 Sterling, 455 horsepower, average load size of 21 ton, permitted for 70,640 lbs.

Tricl 225 – 05 Westernstar, 455 horsepower, average load size of 22 ton, permitted for 71250 lbs.

Hourly rate for triaxle dumps will be \$85.00.

Howes Trucking, LLC

39 Percy Hill Road

Old Chatham, New York 12136

Triaxle Dump price per hours \$95.00

Average 22.5 ton average

550 HP Motor

Regular Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Moment of Silence, followed by the pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call. Present: Jeffrey Braley, Supervisor, Jon Mesick, Carol Pinto, Bryan Geel, Matthew Verenazi, Town Board Members, Susan Haag, Town Clerk, Robert Meehan, Highway Superintendent.

Minutes

A motion to accept the April 12, 2012 Bid Opening/Regular Town Board Meeting minutes was made by C. Pinto and seconded by J. Mesick.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Auditing of Accounts and Claims

A motion to approve General Fund #160-202 in the amount of \$17577.09, and Highway Fund #93-116 in the amount of \$18632.09, was made by B. Geel and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Reports

Monthly cash disbursements for the month of April 2012 were presented. Supervisor Braley noted that he did not go to the Columbia County Board of Supervisors Monthly meeting due to illness. In addition, NYS Fish and Wildlife Department looked throughout the town for places to establish fisheries. Also discussed with this Department was F.E.M.A. work and grant money available for Hurricane cleanup that is still outstanding. The repair work on the Upper Hollow Road bridge is set to begin. The Town road map was finalized and sent in for printing. The Town fire companies will get copies. An electronic copy is also being given to us.

On a County Level, Supervisor Braley noted that the County Board of Supervisors voted last night to buy 25 Railroad Ave., Hudson, New York to house DSS and there is already talk about putting on an addition. Other work done on the County level was the awarding of bids, mostly concerning bridge work.

Town Clerk Report for the month of April 2012 submitted.

Tax Collector Report for the month of April 2012 submitted. Town Clerk Haag advised that the tax books will be turned over to the County June 4, 2012. The Town has collected slightly less than in years past.

Highway Superintendent Robert Meehan reported that road grading is starting, as well as, some brush and tree work is getting done and some sweeping. Town Board Member Mesick asks how much money is going to be put into the used truck that was just bought. Member Mesick had wished that he had of heard of the purchase of this truck from his own Town and not the Town of Canaan's Highway Department. Highway Superintendent Meehan advised that he is not going to throw money away. The truck looks clean, but may have a fuel issue. Discussed highway trucks and current equipment issues.

Planning Board Report for the month of April 2012 submitted.

Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee Report for the month of April 2012 submitted.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Report for the month of April 2012 submitted.

Justice Lagonia Justice Court Report for the month of April 2012 submitted.

A motion to accept the above reports was made by C. Pinto and seconded by B. Geel.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Correspondence

Tannery Pond Concerts asking permission to use the Spencertown Green on June 16, 2012 from 6:30-9:45 p.m. and closing County Rte 9 in front of St. Peter's. Supervisor Braley explained that in the past the Town Clerk has sent a letter out to several organizations notifying them of a road closure. This past week, after a similar letter was sent, Bernard Kelleher from the Columbia County Highway Department responded for the first time noting that the County has granted permission for the road closure. Because of this, it was understood that the Town Board should not be authorizing these types of road closures and will direct people in the future to the Columbia County Highway Department.

A motion to allow use of the Greene by Tannery Pond Concerts on June 16, 2012, from 6:30-9:45 p.m. was made by B. Geel and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

NYMIR recommendations for providing a safe environment for officials, employees and others who use or visit property owned by the Town of Austerlitz. The Town Board discussed the recommendations noting that playground rules needed to be posted and additional lighting was needed along the playground path leading to the Spencertown Academy. Both of these issues are being worked on.

Columbia County Sheriff's Office notification of a 2003 Ford Expedition being turned over to the Town of Austerlitz. This will be used for code enforcement and will be delivered once the County finds the title. Supervisor Braley advised that the Town Board will need to discuss where to house this vehicle when not in use.

Unfinished Business

Town Board Member Pinto discussed a report from Engineer Paul McCreary of Morris Associates concerning the Park behind the Spencertown Academy. Discussion centered on a possible change of position of the current entrance and sight distance issues.

New Business

Highway Bids:

Highway Superintendent Meehan recommended the acceptance of all bids.

A motion to accept all bids received including the trucking bids noting the choice of company used will be determined by location and type of material needed, was made by B. Geel and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Supervisor Braley questioned Superintended Meehan as to when the F.E.M.A. money would be coming in. R. Meehan would like this money to be used for culvert work on Mallory Road and West Hill Road. Superintendent Meehan noted that he is still waiting on the State for money to clean out the creeks in Austerlitz.

Public Comments

None

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by B. Geel and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan A. Haag, Town Clerk

Town of Austerlitz
Special Meeting
May 24, 2012

The Austerlitz Town Board held a special meeting to discuss the Town's needs and wants for a new Town Hall at the Town Hall on May 24th, 2012 at 7 PM.

Present were Carol Pinto, Bryan Geel, Matt Verenazi, Jon Mesick and Jeff Braley.

Susan Haag Town Clerk absent due to IIMC Annual Conference attendance.

The following notes as prepared by the Supervisor were presented and discussed.

TOWN HALL PROPOSALS

The Town of Austerlitz has been offered a grant to fund or help fund a feasibility study for a new town hall. Approximate cost of a study would be around \$25,000-- give or take upon our needs and other variables.

Our present town hall is about 20 feet wide by about 50 feet long. There is a partial cellar underneath with a furnace and water storage tank. In back there is a vault/storage area of approximately 400 square feet, which has minimal heat and ventilation. There are 2 restrooms, neither of which is ADA approved. There is also a stone fireplace hidden behind the restroom walls.

Various queries give the present Town Hall a date back to 1920 when it was constructed as a firehouse.

Needs:

- Parking
- Meeting space
- Office space
 - CEO & Clerk
 - Town Clerk
 - Assessor
 - Court: Offices & Bench
- ADA Toilets
- Storage Vault Increase

Money:

- Highway garage/cleanup bond paid in 2017/8? \$90,000/year
- Grant

Where:

- Spencertown Antiques
 - Cons
 - Initial cost (today's asking price \$300,000)
 - Renovation cost
 - Upkeep
 - Pros
 - Historically Significant
 - Parking
 - In Spencertown
 - Lots of room

- Fire Hill Inn
 - Cons
 - Only an acre
 - Initial cost
 - Renovation cost
 - Upkeep
 - Pros: Centrally located in Town

- Old Highway Garage Site
 - Cons:
 - Possible pollution
 - Limited Parking
 - Utilize space now used by Highway Department
 - Pros:
 - Town owns land
 - Has well & septic
 - Near Spencertown
 - Building would be designed to suit Town needs

- Expand current Town Hall
 - Cons:
 - Limited land
 - Limited parking
 - Renovation cost
 - Limited design variations
 - Pros:
 - Historically significant
 - In Spencertown

Chase Road (MaryAnn Lee)

Cons:

Home not suitable
Need to build

Pros:

- Has water & septic
- Near Spencertown
- Land available for Recreation
- Building would be designed to suit Town needs

- Dyslin Property

Cons:

Home not suitable for town hall
Cost

Pros:

- Center of town
- Acreage
- Building would be designed to suit Town needs
- Parking
- Recreation area

Other?

Location options discussed were the Fire Hill Inn building which was ruled out, Martin Parker's property next to the current Town Hall, the land with the old highway garage, and the Spencertown Academy. Mary Ann Lee's property and Joel Dyslin's property, all of which are still options. Adding on to the current Town Hall is also an option. Supervisor Braley would like the Town Board to put all its ducks in a row before getting back to Jack Shear concerning grant opportunities which are given in October of each year. Choices of architects were discussed for a feasibility study.

Member Geel would like to see the Town Hall stay in the Hamlet of Spencertown and does not want to build a new structure, but rather use a current building, maybe even the Spencertown Academy. Cost will be a factor in the overall decision. The general consensus of the Town Board is this is not a project that will be rushed, but rather thought out and considered understanding the current debt of the Town and the budget constraints placed by New York State. The Town Board will move forward with a feasibility study.

The Board adjourned at approximately 8 PM.

Submitted by Jeff Braley, Supervisor

Town of Austerlitz
Regular Town Board Meeting
June 14, 2012

Roll call. Present: Jeffrey Braley, Supervisor, Jon Mesick, Carol Pinto, Bryan Geel, Matthew Verenazi, Town Board Members, and Susan Haag, Town Clerk

Absent: Robert Meehan, Highway Superintendent

Regular Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Moment of Silence, followed by the pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

A motion to accept the May 10, 2012 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes was made by C. Pinto and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Auditing of Accounts and Claims

A motion to approve General Fund #203-246 in the amount of \$10861.81, and Highway Fund #117-137 in the amount of \$31331.76, was made by J. Mesick and seconded by B. Geel.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Reports

Monthly cash disbursements for the month of May 2012 were presented. Supervisor Braley noted that the amount budgeted in the police line is dwindling due to the Enhanced Patrol cost. A budget amendment will have to be done next month, as well as, one in celebrations.

Town Board Member Geel questioned when the NYS Troopers are going to come and speak to the Town Board. Supervisor Braley advised that he keeps asking. Member Geel would like to see less money being spent on the Enhanced Patrol program. Supervisor Braley advised that there is enough money in reserves to cover the overages caused by the Enhanced Patrol program. Discussion was heard concerning the difference between patrols by the Columbia County Sheriff's Enhanced Patrol Program and the NYS Troopers.

Supervisor Braley continued noting that things are quiet in Town besides the speeding issue on County Rte 7.

On a County Level, Supervisor Braley noted that he voted to dissolve the Columbia County Home Health Nurse Program. This was a controversial vote. The County Board of Supervisors also accepted Long Oil

as the provider for the year and the County will purchase the current Social Services Building on Railroad Ave. in Hudson.

Town Clerk Report for the month of May 2012 submitted.

Tax Collector Report for the month of May 2012 submitted.

Highway Superintendent Robert Meehan absent and Supervisor Braley reported that there has been some tree removal due to the latest storm.

Planning Board Report for the month of May 2012 submitted.

Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee Report for the month of May 2012 submitted.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Report for the month of May 2012 submitted.

Justice Lagonia Justice Court Report for the month of May 2012 submitted.

Justice Hogencamp Court Report for the months of April and May 2012 submitted.

Dog Control Report for the month of May 2012 submitted. Of note is that there are two court cases for dog related issues.

A motion to accept the above reports was made by J. Mesick and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Correspondence

Welcome to Summer in Spencertown, Mary Anne Davis thank you note for use of the Spencertown Greene.

NYSORPS notification that the Town of Austerlitz has a tentative equalization rate of 100% for 2012.

Residents of County Rte 7 letter to Town Board concerning the speed limit on County Rte 7. Supervisor Braley advised that this is a procedural letter starting the process of speed reduction. The Town will refer this matter to the County Highway Department, to the Columbia County Traffic Advisory Board and ask our Resident Deputy to sit and ticket speeders.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

New Dog Law: Supervisor Braley advised that he had a discussion with Dog Control Officer, Wes Powell, who pointed out that as our current dog law is written, it is difficult to write tickets for dangerous dogs when there is no leash law. Supervisor Braley asked W. Powell to provide him with dog laws from other municipalities for comparison. The Town Board looked over the current dog law and discussed changing it to include a leash requirement, but felt they did not want to proceed in that fashion. Supervisor Braley will discuss this with the Attorney for the Town, Tal Rappleyea.

Purchase of new Highway Equipment: Supervisor Braley presented two resolutions to the Town Board concerning purchasing of highway equipment: Resolution 27-2012, Grader Purchase and Resolution 28-2012, Authorization to Purchase Highway Equipment Without Pre-approval. The general consensus of the Town Board was to table these two resolutions as they were not in favor of purchasing old highway equipment, but would rather consider the purchase of slightly used or new equipment. Town Board Member Mesick will provide paperwork on different options the Highway Superintendent can use to locate used highway equipment that is in good shape at a good price. Town Board Member Geel appreciates that Highway Superintendent Meehan is trying to save the Town money.

Supervisor Braley announced that Jimapco is finished with the road map and has supplied the Town with a number of copies. Each of the Fire Companies in the Town will receive a copy. The electronic version will be forthcoming.

Supervisor Braley noted the Special Town Board Meeting convened to discuss a new town hall. Location options discussed were the Fire Hill Inn building which was ruled out, Martin Parker's property next to the current Town Hall, the land with the old highway garage, Mary Ann Lee's property and Joel Dyslin's property, all of which are still options. Adding on to the current Town Hall is also an option. Supervisor Braley would like the Town Board to put all its ducks in a row before getting back to Jack Shear concerning grant opportunities which are given in October of each year. Choices of architects were discussed for a feasibility study. Town Board Member Geel would like to see the Town Hall stay in the Hamlet of Spencertown and does not want to build a new structure, but rather use a current building, maybe even the Spencertown Academy. Cost will be a factor in the overall decision. The general consensus of the Town Board is this is not a project that will be rushed, but rather thought out and considered understanding the current debt of the Town and the budget constraints placed by New York State. The Town Board will move forward with a feasibility study.

Town Board Member Pinto has spoken with Paul McCreary of Morris Associates noting that a complete report on the playground area renovation will be done and forwarded by June 21, 2012. P. McCreary would like to discuss this with the entire Town Board.

A special meeting for the Town Board to discuss this project with Engineer P. McCreary, has been set for June 28, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Public Comments

None

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by B. Geel and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan A. Haag, Town Clerk

Town of Austerlitz
Board meeting on Austerlitz town Park
June 28, 2012

Town Board convened at 7 pm.

Board members present: Jeffrey Braley, Supervisor, Carol Pinto, Jon Mesick, Town Board members, C. Mondel (minutes taker)

Paul McCreary, PE of Morris Associates, supplied Bd. members with a map of Austerlitz Town Park site, suppliers of stone and an outline of the proposed changes and improvements based on the provided survey, aerial views of the park and site visit. At site visit Mr. McCreary was accompanied by Mr. Visconti for his DOT insight since DOT approval is beneficial.

Driveway, Site distance good, some brush on either side may need some pruning.

Driveway to be reconfigured, flared out. Entire driveway, asphalt, at least 1/3 to be paved.

Gravel for parking area with 11 ft. parking width rather than the typical 9 1/2 of asphalt.

Parking area no greater than 5% slope with neg. grade to roadway. Allocated 22 parking spots.

Retaining wall 10% or little more grade needed in both directions.

Drainage as done by R. Meehan seems adequate. Water will be drained to grass.

Tennis Courts. Slope cannot be fixed with soil. Failure evident toward basketball courts.

Retaining wall needed. The standard is reinforced concrete. Stone used can be faced.

Concrete blocks require excavation for footing 2/3 height of 9 ft. wall. Rebar, place blocks, then wait. Time needed.

Alternate is use of segmented building blocks where advantage is speed in placement,

footing not needed, 9 ½ inches at base, quickly done, gravel surface.

Some skill needed. Townsmen to do work a possibility, no reinforced steel needed.

Blocks are hollow , filled in place. (Question: Professional wage job ? Yes, if out on bid).

Considerations: Where foundation is needed, more cost. Facing needed on concrete walls; durability with pre-cast. In place blocks not as strong.

Of the sample stone suppliers in packet, Redi Rock is located in Plattsburgh, Strong Stone in Kingston.

Pre-casters go with self composting concrete, no vibrations, 8000 PSI concrete. Durable, gives with frost, less intrusive on back, larger block, better gravity. GO grid can cause problem in tennis courts.

Existing steps to match can be put up to tennis courts and do not impede retaining wall; may take away one parking spot.

Questions addressed. How get people to park properly?

Short wooden posts can be placed. Park between wood. Railing between wall and parking space. Mark Nos. on rail. License plate to number makes it right. Raises plowing issue.

Railing can be on top of wall.

Any thought to extending parking lot? Ans. Some mature trees in the way.

Will there be edging around green areas? There could be pressure treated lumber. Snow plow will catch it.

Any concrete bumpers? No. Wood rail near handicap area or green areas a possibility.

Assurance given that construction of retaining wall in the tennis court will not harm the area.

Cost estimates: Could be ½ million. Block 48 " hole, concrete 8" hole.

Paul McCreary will call Red Rock and Strong Stone for price per square foot and delivery charge, the colors available and differences between textures. Representative will come when ready to build.

There will be no further lighting, will be a timber rail and post for court.

Further decisions required: season for doing work, hiring out, use of highway men and best timetable.

The desire is for renovation to be done this year. Weather a factor. With Board

approval plans will be made accordingly

Specifications will follow after real costs are obtained and the more specific decisions made.

Motion to move forward: Jon Mesick, Second: Carol Pinto. Motion carried.

Re: New Town Hall

Paul McCreary agreed to answer questions about a feasibility study on location and description of a new town hall. Supervisor Braley spoke of the donation for the study, described the possibilities, enlarging the present building, using a nearby building ,which is for sale, or building anew on Co.Rte 7 property.

Paul McCreary's company could handle much of the planning and stated that essential is knowing space needs and plans for use. He mentioned that his office has a questionnaire useful for that purpose.

Supervisor Braley indicated there have been discussions along lines of size and use. A decision already made was to stay in Spencertown. One observation stated was need for office space to be handicap accessible. Court size is an important factor.

Cost of feasibility study could be \$20,000. New building cost \$200. a square foot.

Mr. McCreary was thanked for his input.

The absence of town attorney required postponement of a discussion of a lawsuit.

Motion to adjourn: Jon Mesick, Seconded: Carol Pinto. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Constance Mondel

Town of Austerlitz
Regular Town Board Meeting
July 12, 2012

Roll call. Present: Jeffrey Braley, Supervisor, Jon Mesick, Carol Pinto, Bryan Geel, Town Board Members, Robert Meehan, Highway Superintendent, and Susan Haag, Town Clerk. Tal Rappleyea, Attorney for the Town, left at 7:00 p.m.

Matthew Verenazi absent.

Regular Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Moment of Silence, followed by the pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

A motion to accept the June 14, 2012 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes was made by C. Pinto and seconded by B. Geel.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Budget Amendment #1-2012

General Fund

To: Police A3120.4 15000.00

FROM: Appropriated Fund Balance 15000.00

A motion to approve Budget #1-2012 was made by B. Geel and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Auditing of Accounts and Claims

A motion to approve General Fund #247-293 in the amount of \$39301.26, and Highway Fund #138-144, 146-157 in the amount of \$26488.45, was made by J. Mesick and seconded C. Pinto. Highway Fund #145 was pulled and not paid because it was a duplicate bill.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Reports

Monthly cash disbursements for the month of June 2012 were presented. Supervisor Braley noted that on a town level, the Summer Recreation Program has just started and it has been busy getting this up and running. There is a new bus driver this year and a new route which includes the Town of Austerlitz busing Ghent Program participants. Through this venture, the Town of Austerlitz will save a minimal amount of money; around \$150.00. The Town of Ghent will save quite a bit. Michael Johnson has again provided the bus being used. Roughly 120 children have registered and the Town has taken in \$11000.00 in registration fees so far this year. Highway Superintendent Meehan has done some work up at the park getting ready for the summer season. The Highway Crew has painted the back board of the basketball hoop and replaced the chains, repaired a shed and put up the tether ball game. Columbia County made new signs which R. Meehan has put up.

On a County Level, Supervisor Braley noted that the bids for the State mandated ADA compliant court house are in and came in under budget. There have been a number of personnel issues which the County Board of Supervisors have dealt with. Concerning the car that the Columbia County Sheriff's Department promised a number of months ago, it still has not been received and some of the County Supervisors questioned the procedure of giving away County vehicles. This has been ironed out.

Town Clerk Report for the month of June 2012 submitted.

Highway Superintendent Robert Meehan advised that the Highway Crew has been filling potholes, grading roads, mowing, and working on the playground as noted above. The Upper Hollow Road bridge work is scheduled to being around the end of July. In preparation for this, the Highway Crew has pulled all the shoulders, and done tree trimming. Work has also been done on Harvey Mountain Road. The Town needs rain. R. Meehan has been putting calcium down for dust control. Highway Superintendent Meehan built a new cover for WTCU well in front of Rich Nesbitt's Insurance office.

Planning Board Report for the month of June 2012 submitted. They have not met for 2 months.

Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee Report for the month of June 2012 submitted.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Report for the month of June 2012 submitted.

Justice Lagonia Justice Court Report for the month of June 2012 submitted.

Justice Hogencamp Court Report for the month of June 2012 submitted.

Dog Control Report for the month of June 2012 submitted.

A motion to accept the above reports was made by B. Geel and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Correspondence

NYSAOT 2012 Planning and Zoning Summer Schools Announcement.

NYS Dept of Ag and Markets updated Dog Control Officer Inspection Report: Completed on 6/6/12, advises the Town of Austerlitz that DCO services were rated satisfactory.

Columbia County Department of Public Works: Advising the Town of Austerlitz that the repair work on Pratt Bridge, located on Upper Hollow Road over the Green River, will begin mid-late July. The bridge will be closed and traffic detoured.

Richard Nesbitt: Thanks the Highway Department for the excellent job of mowing Bryarcliffe and other Town roads, and for helping to fix the historic WTCU well in front of his office.

Unfinished Business

Resolution #29-2012 Speed Limit Reduction County Route 7

WHEREAS, the Town of Austerlitz has always been concerned about the safety of its citizens, and

WHEREAS, Columbia County has resurfaced County Route 7, also known as South Street, and

WHEREAS County Route 7 has become a "truck route" to the Taconic State Parkway and Philmont, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Austerlitz has received numerous complaints of vehicles speeding in excess of the posted limits on Columbia County Route 7, and

WHEREAS, the Town citizens now feel they can no longer safely drive, walk or jog along South Street, and

WHEREAS, numerous school bus stops are along South Street, and

WHEREAS, despite local law enforcement's stepped up patrols, speeding still exists, and

WHEREAS, the Town has been presented with a letter signed by concerned neighbors asking that the Town takes action,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Town of Austerlitz asks that the speed limit be lowered between the Punsit Creek Bridge and *mid-way between Cross Road and Punsit Road* to 35 miles per hour.

After discussion, the Town Board modified the original resolution by adding the italicized portion.

A motion to adopt Resolution #29-2012 Speed Limit Reduction County Route 7 was made by B. Geel and seconded by C. Pinto as modified.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

New Business

Ethics Law: Supervisor Braley advised that the Town has an ethics law that has been working well and no issues have arisen in the Town for years. The ethics law does require an ethics board which the Town does not have in place. The County has alerted Towns that they have the option of using the County Board of Ethics since the State Attorney General's Office has advised that Towns are mandated to have an Ethics Law on the books. Towns in the County are using the County Board and the County's Ethic Law, using the County Board with their Town Law, or using their own Town Ethic's Law and Board. Supervisor Braley would like to keep in place the Town Law. Attorney for the Town, Tal Rappleyea, advised that it was fine either way a Town chose to handle this. The consensus of the Town Board was to keep the status quo.

Code Enforcement Officer: Supervisor Braley spoke with the Town Board concerning the resignation of Code Enforcement Officer Glenn Smith. G. Smith is retiring and gave the Town a 30 day notice. Since this position is in a shared service contract, Supervisor Braley has spoken with the Supervisors of the Towns of Hillsdale and Canaan. All three Towns want to keep the shared services agreement in place, and Canaan and Hillsdale want to be included in the hiring process. Supervisor Braley has placed ads in the paper, put a notice on the Town of Austerlitz' website, and G. Smith has put the word out in his circle. Supervisor Braley noted that the deadline for resumes is July 15, 2012. After this time, Supervisor Braley will set up a meeting with the Town Board to go over the resumes. This may involve a member from each of the other towns.

Supervisor Braley noted that he personally received notification that the Spencertown Academy is looking for a community forum to discuss the future of the Academy.

Supervisor Braley alert the Town Board that there is a BAN for \$47000.00 used for Highway Trucks that will mature at the end of 2013. The Amount in the Ellsworth Kelly Fund as of January 2012 is roughly 80000.00. J. Braley does not have current figures.

After a previous discussion with Attorney for the Town, Tal Rappleyea, a motion to continue and not settle the Benjamin Strouse lawsuit was made by J. Mesick and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

Public Comments

None

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by C. Pinto and seconded by B. Geel.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan A. Haag, Town Clerk

Town of Austerlitz
Special Town Board Meeting
July 31, 2012

Present: Jeffrey Braley, Supervisor, Matthew Verenazi, Carol Pinto, Bryan Geel, Town Board Members, Susan Haag, Town Clerk

Absent due to illness: Town Board Member Jon Mesick

Special Meeting called to order at 6:32 p.m.

Supervisor Braley advised that July 31, 2012 was Code Enforcement Officer, Glenn Smith's, last day. Until the Town hires a replacement, an interim appointment needs to be done. The options available for the Town include appointing a neighboring Town's Code Enforcement Officer, or appointing G. Smith. G. Smith has agreed to help the Town in the interim, but requests that he does not receive any compensation for the time he puts in because he has started to collect retirement.

The Town Board reviewed the day-to-day responsibilities that need to be taken care of which include reviewing applications, completing inspections and completing CO and CC searches. Town Board Member Pinto is concerned about the legalities if the Town does not pay G. Smith a salary. Supervisor Braley will discuss this with Attorney for the Town, Tal Rappleyea, and have a written opinion sent.

A motion was made by M. Verenazi and seconded by B. Geel to retain the services of Glenn Smith on an interim basis as Code Enforcement Officer for the Town of Austerlitz until a suitable replacement has been found pending the legal opinion from Attorney for the Town, Tal Rappleyea, concerning non-payment for services rendered by Glenn Smith.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

Motion carried 4:0.

The Town Board discussed the shared service agreement and the benefits of it. This contract needs to be updated to include a section detailing who the lead agency is, who is responsible for hiring and firing, etc. As of now, the Town of Austerlitz manages this contract as the lead agency and the Town Board feels the Town of Austerlitz hires.

Supervisor Braley advised that there were three applications that were received past the posted deadline: Susan Jornov, Peter Fitzpatrick, and Bill Sullivan. The Town Board consensus was to not consider these applications.

The following applicant's resumes were discussed: Frank Oringer, Paul Martin, Gary Stephenson, Steven Mapes, Edward Ferratto, and Lee Allan Heim. Town of Canaan Supervisor, Rick Keavney, and Town of Hillsdale Supervisor Art Baer have emailed Supervisor Braley who they would like to see interviewed.

The Town Board decided to interview all 6 applicants. Interviews will take place at the Town Hall in the Town of Austerlitz by the Town of Austerlitz Town Board, Town of Canaan Supervisor, Rick Keavney, Town of Hillsdale Supervisor, Art Baer, and whoever else R. Keavney and A. Baer feel is necessary to invite.

A motion to adjourn the Special Meeting was made by B. Geel and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

Motion carried 4:0. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Haag, Town Clerk

Town of Austerlitz
Special Town Board Meeting
August 6, 2012

Present: Jeffrey Braley, Supervisor, Jon Mesick, Carol Pinto, Matthew Verenazi, Bryan Geel, Town Board Members, Susan Haag, Town Clerk. Rick Keavney, Supervisor Town of Canaan, David Patzwahl, Canaan Town Board Member, Art Baer, Supervisor Town of Hillsdale, August Sena, Hillsdale Town Board Member.

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting called to interview candidates for the Shared Service Agreement Code Enforcement Officer position.

A motion to enter into Executive Session for personnel reasons was made by C. Pinto and seconded by J. Mesick.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

C. Pinto: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried. Executive Session entered at 6:00 p.m.

The Austerlitz Town Board and panel interviewed:

Paul Martin

Gary Stephenson

Lee Allan Heim

Steven Mapes

Edward Ferratto

Frank Oringer previously declined an invitation to be interviewed.

The Austerlitz Town Board and panel discussed the candidates' qualifications, and the Shared Service Agreement parameters.

A motion to exit the Executive Session was made by C. Pinto and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

C. Pinto: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried. Executive Session exited at 8:30 p.m.

The consensus of the Austerlitz Town Board and the panel was to ask for references from Steven Mapes and Gary Stephenson.

A motion to adjourn was made by J. Mesick and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

C. Pinto: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried. Special Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan A. Haag, Town Clerk

Town of Austerlitz
Regular Town Board Meeting
August 9, 2012

Roll call. Present: Jeffrey Braley, Supervisor, Jon Mesick, Carol Pinto, Bryan Geel, Matthew Verenazi
Town Board Members, Robert Meehan, Highway Superintendent, and Susan Haag, Town Clerk.

Regular Meeting called to order at 7:04 p.m.

Moment of Silence, followed by the pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

A motion to accept the June 28, 2012 Special Town Board Meeting, July 12, 2012 Regular Town Board Meeting, July 31, 2012 Special Town Board Meeting, and the August 6, 2012 Special Town Board Meeting minutes was made by B. Geel and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

Auditing of Accounts and Claims

A motion to approve General Fund #294-334, in the amount of \$14769.03, and Highway Fund #158-174, in the amount of \$221762.68, was made by J. Mesick and seconded M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

Reports

Monthly cash disbursements for the month of July 2012 were presented. Supervisor Braley noted that on a Town level the big item is the Code Enforcement Officer position replacement; the Town is currently waiting for references. Supervisor Braley will speak with the Supervisors from Hillsdale and Canaan and hopefully have the replacement on board next week.

On a County Level, Supervisor Braley noted that the issue is the big fire at the TCI plant. The NYSDEC reported that Austerlitz came up clean for pcbs when testing the air quality. The County will be investigating the use of emergency robo-calling. Several Counties have this in place already in New York State. Final bids for the court house have gone out. No bids have gone out for the District Attorney's requested bathroom. Money is an issue.

Supervisor Braley advised that he has received notification that Tim Stalker's position on the Columbia County Planning Board is set to expire at the end of the year. T. Stalker is currently the Chairman representing the Towns of Austerlitz, Canaan and New Lebanon. There are eight representatives from throughout the County. Supervisor Braley advised that he will vote to reappoint T. Stalker as the Town of Austerlitz' representative.

Supervisor Braley asked the NYSDOT about paving State Route 203 and noted that he was told that there was an over allocated amount of blacktop. This excess will be used on Route 203. The outside edges will be replaced at some point before the end of the year.

Town Clerk Report for the month of July 2012 submitted.

Highway Superintendent Robert Meehan advised work on the Upper Hollow Bridge has started. This section of the road is closed and detoured through Ralph Meininger's land. The Town will have to do some minor repair work on the road when this project is complete. The Highway Crew has already done some pre-project work. The Highway Crew has done work on culverts on Harvey Mountain Road, Dugway Road on the top and will put oil and stone on Dugway Road next week. Town of Ghent and Canaan will help with the blacktopping project. The Highway Crew has also been grading and putting calcium down. New speed limit signs will be put up.

Planning Board Report for the month of July 2012 submitted. They have not met for 3 months.

Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee Report for the month of July 2012 submitted.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Report for the month of July 2012 submitted.

Justice Lagonia Justice Court Report for the month of July 2012 submitted.

Justice Hogencamp Court Report for the month of July 2012 submitted.

Dog Control Report for the month of July 2012 submitted.

A motion to accept the above reports was made by C. Pinto and seconded by B. Geel.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

Supervisor Braley advised that the Justice Court books need to be audited and suggested that the Code Enforcement Officer accounts be looked over at the same time. Town Board Member Geel feels that the new appointee should start with a clean slate.

Correspondence

Columbia County Department of Public Works: New Recycling Protocol. Commerce Park recycling center closed.

NYS Department of Ag and Markets: Municipal Shelter Inspection Report; The Town of Austerlitz received a satisfactory rating.

Three letters from the NYS Division of Homeland Security and emergency Services: State Office of Emergency Management listing F.E.M.A. awards. The Town of Austerlitz received a total of \$46522.77 in Federal aid and \$15507.58 in State aid.

Sally Van Wagner: Letters resigning as Highway Clerk and Town Hall Custodian.

Unfinished Business

Code Enforcement Officer Appointment: Supervisor Braley noted that Susan Haag, Town Clerk, is securing references. Hillsdale Supervisor, Art Baer, has spoken to the Columbia County Comptroller, who used to work for the Town of Colonie concerning one of the applicants.

The Town Board discussed the pay scale. The Town Board would like the starting pay to be \$38000.00, with options to increase at the time of reappointment.

Town Board Member Pinto questioned Attorney for the Town, Tal Rappleyea's opinion concerning Glenn Smith working as an interim without pay. Supervisor Braley noted that Attorney Rappleyea advised that many positions in a Town are done without pay, ie; Planning Board Members, Zoning Board of Appeal Members, etc. The only issue is Workman's Comp. G. Smith must be covered. Supervisor Braley will follow-up with Attorney Rappleyea and get an opinion in writing. Supervisor Braley has called the Town's Insurance Company and made them aware of G. Smith's situation and he is covered while on duty for the Town.

New Business

Interim Highway Clerk Appointment: Supervisor Braley advised that Highway Superintendent Robert Meehan has chosen Mary Davis as his Highway Clerk effective August 10, 2012.

A motion to approve Mary Davis as interim Highway Clerk effective August 10, 2012 was made by J. Braley and seconded by J. Mesick.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

Town Hall Custodian Appointment: Supervisor Braley advised that the Town has only received one application for custodian. This letter of interest was received late.

A motion to appoint Tammy Page as the Town Hall Custodian keeping the same salary as approved in January of 2012 was made by M. Verenazi and seconded by J. Mesick.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

Columbia County Historical Society Loan Agreement: Supervisor Braley noted that the Columbia County Historical Society will continue to house the Town of Austerlitz' Proprietors Book for a yearly rate of \$50.00. The agreement will run from August 1, 2012 thru July 31, 2013.

A motion to authorize Supervisor Jeffrey Braley to sign the Columbia County Historical Society Loan Agreement for the Town of Austerlitz' Proprietor's Book was made by C. Pinto and seconded by Mesick.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Public Comments

Dale Hartka questioned what happened to Code Enforcement Officer Glenn Smith. Supervisor Braley advised D. Hartka that G. Smith retired and went on to explain the shared services agreement with the Towns of Hillsdale and Canaan. Town Board Member Geel explained the interview process and that the Town has narrowed down the choice to two applicants. Town Board Member Verenazi noted that G. Smith is on call should D. Hartka need him for an inspection.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by B. Geel and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan A. Haag, Town Clerk

Town of Austerlitz
Regular Town Board Meeting
September 13, 2012

Roll call. Present: Jeffrey Braley, Supervisor, Jon Mesick, Carol Pinto, Bryan Geel, Matthew Verenazi
Town Board Members, Robert Meehan, Highway Superintendent, and Susan Haag, Town Clerk.

Regular Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Moment of Silence, followed by the pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

A motion to accept the August 9, 2012 Town Board Meeting minutes was made by C. Pinto and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Auditing of Accounts and Claims

A motion to approve General Fund #335-371, in the amount of \$18427.44, and Highway Fund #175-189, in the amount of \$38300.69, was made by B. Geel and seconded J. Mesick.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Town Board Member Geel questioned the Patrick Prendergast bill since it referenced work done by a subcontractor, Clark Engineering and Surveying, P.C. Highway Superintendent Meehan explained that Clark had done a topographic survey for the Austerlitz Fire House which P. Prendergast used to save our Town money. Highway Superintendent Meehan explained the drainage and culvert issues.

Reports

Monthly cash disbursements for the month of August 2012 were presented. Supervisor Braley noted that FEMA money is increasing our deposit totals to over \$800,000. J. Braley advised that a couple bonds still need to be paid by the end of the year and this amount also includes playground money. Roughly \$400,000 will be going out. The court revenues are over what was budgeted.

Supervisor Braley advised that the Town Hall will be repainted inside and out by inmates coordinated by the Columbia County Sheriff's Department. Work will begin next week. The Highway Department will fix the plaster damage over the windows that was caused by leaking. Town Board member Geel can provide a pressure washer free of charge.

Supervisor Braley continued by advising that the new town hall custodian has started and is doing well.

On a County Level, Supervisor Braley noted that the Supervisors are working on the annual budget. Board of Supervisors Chairman P. Gratten thought it would be wise for everyone to be involved in the process. The Board of Supervisors is shooting to have a zero percent increase in the budget. A negative SEQRA was filed for the Railroad Ave. renovations. Columbia Greene College passed their budget.

Town Clerk Report for the month of August 2012 submitted. Discussion explaining lack of revenues for hunting licenses, noting that young people are not hunting anymore, Massachusetts hunters are fewer because of regulations concerning chronic wasting disease, many of the senior hunters were sold lifetime licenses a few years ago, etc..

Highway Superintendent Robert Meehan advised that the Highway Department has been replacing culverts, and cutting brush and weeds on some roads. The Upper Hollow Road Bridge is being worked on by the County, replacing some beams. Engineer Pat Prendergast has been advising concerning the West Hill Road culvert which is crushed down at least half way. Replacement of this culvert will need to be put out to bid. The Town Board discussed types of allowable culverts per NYSDEC specs. The culvert on Elm Street needs to be replaced and R. Meehan is working with NYSEG concerning this since the culvert is right by an electric pole. The roads will need to be graded for winter and one of the plow trucks is being worked on. R. Meehan is also going to try and fix the culvert on Reed Road. Pierson Road culvert also needs to be replaced.

Planning Board Report for the month of August 2012 submitted. They have not met for 4 months.

No Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee Report for the month of August 2012 submitted. Chairman T. Stalker will be asked to clarify why the reporting paperwork for the Berkshire Taconic Grant is late. Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee Member Shawn Hancock is responsible for the grant.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Report for the month of August 2012 submitted. On budget for fees.

Justice Hogencamp Court Report for the month of August 2012 submitted.

Dog Control Report for the month of August 2012 submitted.

Summer Recreation Report for the 2012 Season submitted. Town Board Member Geel noted this is a well run program.

A motion to accept the above reports was made by C. Pinto and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Correspondence

NYSORPS Columbia County C.A.P. #1 Final Equalization Rate for the Town of Austerlitz: 100%.

Unfinished Business

Playground: Report from Morris Associates noting that that a survey has been performed and a map created.

Code Enforcement Officer Appointment: Code Enforcement Officer Applicant Lee Heim has accepted the position and is ready to start September 17, 2012. The Columbia County Sheriff's Department advised that the promised car will be forthcoming once the title issue has been resolved.

A motion to appoint Lee Heim for a term to expire at the Organizational Meeting in January 2013, at an annual salary of \$35000.00 a year was made by J. Braley and seconded by B. Geel.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Highway Grader: Town Board Member Mesick has done research on available graders for purchase, both new and used. J. Mesick presented the Town Board with a couple of options he found and the Town Board discussed the particulars. One grader can be rented. Town Board Member Geel feels that the prices were high and wanted to look at something cheaper. Member Mesick advised that extensive searching was done and he presented the Town Board with the best deals available. Supervisor Braley advised that there are two highway bonds currently with payments of \$8200.00 per year until 2018 and \$46000.00 per year until 2013. Funding issues were discussed and the advantages/disadvantages between buying and leasing.

Highway Truck: The Highway Department has a truck with the body ready to fall off. Highway Superintendent Meehan will spec out the purchase of a new or used replacement.

Austerlitz Fire Company: Rich Nesbitt Sr., Jay Choon, and Dave Savage, representing the Austerlitz Fire Company, came before the Town Board asking for an update on the stream cleanup between the Austerlitz Firehouse and Town owned land. There have been many discussions over the last year between the Firehouse Representatives, Highway Superintendent Meehan, and Supervisor Braley concerning who will do what, when, and how, with R. Nesbitt understanding that the Town of Austerlitz will handle the stream cleanup. R. Nesbitt feels that the ball has been dropped by the Town and is concerned about the firehouse flooding should another heavy rain hit the area because the stream is filled with debris. There was an open window of time, following Hurricane Irene, given by the NYSDEC when work in streams could be done with little red tape and the Town has missed this opportunity.

Highway Superintendent Meehan advised that he has already begun clean-up further up the stream. In the area behind the Austerlitz Firehouse, there is a culvert that is crushed and needs to be replaced. The condition of this culvert is causing much of the flooding issues. Purchase of a new culvert will need to be bid, and permission granted by land owners for the Highway Department to enter the stream in areas that do not belong to the Town. The Town must also work with the NYSDEC. When the Town submitted paperwork to F.E.M.A., this area of the stream was included, but F.E.M.A. decline to give any money for this section.

Town Board member Mesick noted that the Austerlitz Firehouse has been flooded many times over the years and stream cleanup is not the responsibility of the Town.

Supervisor Braley advised that the Town has money to correct this problem. Highway Superintendent Meehan would like to have a plan in place that not only includes stream clean-up, but culvert replacement and elevation changes. Representatives from the Austerlitz Firehouse have asked that the gravel taken out of the stream during cleanup be used to build the grade behind the firehouse.

Superintendent Meehan is planning on starting this project this fall, but his first responsibility is to the roads in the Town of Austerlitz. R. Meehan tries to help when he can, but the replacement of 35 culverts on Town roads has consumed a great deal of time over the past year. R. Nesbitt questioned if money was available for the Town to hire an outside firm to handle this project. Supervisor Braley noted he had not considered this option. Supervisor Braley explained in more detail the grant program that was offered to towns by the State for money to be used to clean out streams congested with debris

by Hurricane Irene. Earlier in the year, Highway Superintendent Meehan and Highway Crew Member Fitzpatrick walked the streams in Town taking pictures to substantiate damage for the grant application. There is a great deal of wood in the streams throughout the Town. Roughly \$50000.00 was offered to the Town for stream cleanup, with specific sections of certain streams noted to use the grant money towards. Unfortunately, the area behind the Austerlitz Firehouse was not included for funding, only a small section on the Town owned portion. Supervisor Braley feels that the Town does have some responsibility to help in the cleanup of this stream. Again Superintendent Meehan reiterates that this cleanup project is scheduled for this fall.

R. Nesbitt requests that the Town Board consider hiring this work out to make sure that it is completed as it has been put off for a year at this point. Town Board Member Geel questioned whether or not the Austerlitz Firehouse could secure a permit themselves directly from the NYSDEC for this cleanup work as the Spencertown Firehouse did earlier this year. Member Geel offered some contact information should this be a route the Representatives from the Austerlitz Firehouse wish to take.

Easement paperwork to be signed for the Highway Crew to work in the stream was discussed. Supervisor Braley will get the necessary forms to Dave Savage to process.

New Business

Town Hall Feasibility Study: Supervisor Braley noted that the Town Board needed to decide a direction for the new town hall project because funding is available this fall. Long term plans need to be put in place that utilize specific needs. J. Braley has complied based on conversations he has had with the different town departments. The Town Board discussed space needed, what the town would look like in the future, options available, etc.

Deputy Town Clerk Appointment: Town Clerk Susan Haag explained she had been summoned to Jury Duty the same day and time that election materials were required to be delivered to the polling sites. Janet Paul delivered the materials in her place. For future conflicts, Janet Paul has been chosen by Town Clerk Haag as deputy for election purposes.

A motion to appoint Janet Paul as a deputy for election purposes was made by C. Pinto and seconded by J. Mesick.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

2013 Budget Meetings: Supervisor Braley advised that Budget season is here and the 2013 Tentative Budget is being worked on. The Town Board set a budget workshop on 9/27/12, beginning at 6:30 p.m., and a Special Meeting to present the 2013 Tentative Budget on 10/4/12, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Resolution 30-2012 Speed Limit Reduction State Route 203: The Town Board discussed the feasibility of trying to reduce the speed limit on Route 203 through the Hamlet of Spencertown once again. This has been tried several times in the past without success. Richard Madonia is spear heading this initiative and has placed speed reduction petitions in the Town Hall, the Spencertown Country Store and the Spencertown Post Office. The Town has not received these petitions to date. Town Board Member Geel feels that time would be better spent looking into mobile signs and traffic calming devices. B. Geel will look into mobile speed signs. The Town Board decided to table Resolution 30-2012 Speed Limit Reduction State Route 203 until petitions provided.

Resolution 31-2012 Columbia County Planning Board Appointment

WHEREAS Tim Stalker has served the Town of Austerlitz zealously as a Planning Board Member and Chairman of the Austerlitz Planning Board, and

WHEREAS T. Stalker has represented the Town on the Columbia County Planning Board for many years,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Austerlitz hereby asks that the Columbia County Board of Supervisors reappoint Tim Stalker to the Columbia County Planning Board representing Canaan, New Lebanon, and Austerlitz.

A motion to adopt Resolution 31-2012 Columbia County Planning Board Appointment was made by J. Braley and seconded by J. Mesick.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

Public Comments

John Burlingame noted that any speed signs that are put up will be ineffective without a patrol component. Supervisor Braley explained the Columbia County Residential Deputy program noting that the Town Board can choose where the Deputy Sheriff sits. Currently a lot of patrolling is being done on back roads.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by J. Mesick and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan A. Haag, Town Clerk

Town of Austerlitz
Budget Workshop
September 28, 2012

Meeting called to order at 6.35 p.m.

Present: Jeffrey Braley, Supervisor, Jon Mesick, Carol Pinto, Matthew Verenazi, Bryan Geel, Town Board Members, Susan Haag, Town Clerk.

Robert Meehan, Highway Superintendent arrived at 7:50 p.m.

Supervisor Braley handed out a proposed fee schedule for the Code Enforcement Officer budget. The Town Board discussed the contract and the figures and Supervisor Braley will send this schedule to the Supervisors of Hillsdale and Canaan for input and approval.

The Town Board discussed the Highway Fund proposed figures. The Town Board would like to see a schedule for replacement of Highway equipment so that annual planning can be done for budget purposes. Discussion on highway equipment currently owned, condition, and what may have to be replaced in the near future. Supervisor Braley will work on putting a schedule together.

On the General Fund side, the Town Board discussed the proposed figures.

As an overall policy for the 2013 budget, the Town Board decided that elected officials will not get a raise in salary, and all appointed personnel will receive a 2% raise.

A motion to adjourn the budget workshop was made by M. Verenazi and seconded by B. Geel.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
J. Mesick: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
C. Pinto: yes
Motion unanimously carried. Workshop adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan A. Haag, Town Clerk

Town of Austerlitz
Special Meeting
October 4, 2012

Meeting called to order at 6.30 p.m.

Present: Jeffrey Braley, Supervisor, Jon Mesick, Carol Pinto, Matthew Verenazi, Bryan Geel, Town Board Members, Susan Haag, Town Clerk.

Meeting called for presentation of the 2013 Tentative Budget to Town Board. Town Clerk gave Town Board Members the 2013 Tentative Budget.

Supervisor Braley advised that the 2013 Tentative Budget comes in a little under a 2% increase. All the elected official's salaries have been kept at the 2012 rate per instruction by the Town Board. J. Braley has tweaked the numbers since the September 28, 2012 Workshop. The retirement figure may still change; the figures currently shown are estimates for both the General and Highway Funds.

On the Highway side, the point 1 figures have been increased 2%, and the point 4 figures have increased 5%. Discussion on a grader purchase, as well as, other highway equipment whether to purchase or lease.

Supervisor Braley will Local Law #1-2012, a local law to override the tax levy limit established in General Municipal Law 3-c. J. Braley has no intention of going over the 2% cap, but this law is being adopted to cover the Town. The tax rate should decrease by \$3.00.

A motion to adjourn was made by J. Mesick and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

J. Mesick: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

C. Pinto: yes

Motion unanimously carried. Special Meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan A. Haag, Town Clerk

Town of Austerlitz
Regular Town Board Meeting
October 11, 2012

Roll call. Present: Jeffrey Braley, Supervisor, Jon Mesick, Carol Pinto, Bryan Geel, Matthew Verenazi Town Board Members, Robert Meehan, Highway Superintendent, and Susan Haag, Town Clerk.

Regular Meeting called to order at 7:04 p.m.

Moment of Silence in memory of Phyllis Palladino, followed by the pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

A motion to accept the September 13, 2012 Regular Town Board Meeting, September 28, 2012 Budget Workshop, and the October 4, 2012 Special Town Board Meeting minutes was made by C. Pinto and seconded by J. Mesick.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Auditing of Accounts and Claims

A motion to approve General Fund #372-406, in the amount of \$13681.95, and Highway Fund #190-212, in the amount of \$17486.52, was made by B. Geel and seconded M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

Reports

Monthly cash disbursements for the month of September 2012 were presented. Supervisor Braley noted that since it is the end of the year the money is starting to roll out. Payments are coming up for the Bryarcliffe bonds, and the highway truck and cleanup bond. The 2013 Annual Town Budget preparation is taking priority. Supervisor Braley is attempting to stay within the 2% cap and is hopeful that the tax rate should not go up since assessments went up. Supervisor Braley gave appointees a small raise. As in years past, retirement and medical costs are issues, but J. Braley believes he has a handle on them.

On a County Level, Supervisor Braley noted that the County Board of Supervisors denied the vehicle transfer that was to be for our Code Enforcement Officer. The reason behind the denial is that the County Board of Supervisors felt that since this is a County owned asset, it should go up for auction, and not transferred without reimbursement. J. Braley noted that the Town can still pursue a vehicle at auction for our benefit. The Columbia County 2013 budget is aiming for a 0% increase again. Payroll contracts with Unions were signed at a 2% increase. Supervisor Braley missed this month's County budget meetings due to illness. More budget meetings coming up next week that he will attend.

Town Clerk Report for the month of September 2012 submitted.

Highway Superintendent Robert Meehan advised that the repair work to the #7 truck is just about done giving it another 5 years of use. It is a 1990. Two of the three easements needed to be taken care of for the stream clean-up in Austerlitz behind the Fire House are in. The Town is still waiting on Sanchez'. Engineer for the Town, Patrick Prendergast, has been consulted on the culvert on West Hill Road that is in the creek. Within 2 weeks the Town will probably be able to go out to bid for a new culvert to replace this. Once all the easements are in, Highway Superintendent Meehan can work in the creek and clean out and fix the culvert at same time. The NYSDEC will not let the Town do too much, but the Highway Crew can do something to relieve some of the flooding issues. R. Meehan has walked the creek with the NYSDEC representative who explained what could be done and what can not.

Columbia County Highway Department has been doing some blacktop patching over by St. Peter's church this morning and they dropped some black top in front of the Town Hall. More needs to be put down, but what is there will hold it over for the Winter.

Planning Board Report for the month of September 2012 submitted.

Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee Report for the month of September 2012 submitted.
Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee will handle the grant issue.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Report for the month of September 2012 submitted. New Building Inspector Lee Heim is working out fine, learning and picking up quickly.

Justice Hogencamp Court Report for the month of September 2012 submitted.

Justice Lagonia Court Report for the months of August and September 2012 submitted.

Dog Control Report for the month of September 2012 submitted.

Zoning Board of Appeals Report for September 2012 submitted.

A motion to accept the above reports was made by C. Pinto and seconded by J. Mesick.
J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

Correspondence

No Correspondence

Unfinished Business

Richard Madonia requests that the Town Board assist him in his effort to reduce the speed limit on State Route 203 in the Hamlet of Spencertown from 40 mph to 30 mph by adopting a resolution in support of lowering the speed limit. In addition to the documentation already given to the Town Board, R. Madonia submits the following: A petition signed by 193 people, a letter of support from Assemblyman Steven McLaughlin, a letter discussing traffic calming devices from town resident Steve Somlo, an email from previous Town Board Member Charles Vander Weit explaining his past efforts in this regard, a letter written to NYSDOT Acting Regional Director William Gorton by R. Madonia requesting that the speed limit be lowered, a letter from NYSDOT Acting Regional Director William Gorton explaining why the request to lower the speed limit has been denied, and a 1983 traffic manual that the NYSDOT still refers to. R. Madonia also advises that town resident Cheryl Roberts will offer her services after the November election.

R. Madonia argued that the NYSDOT is using an outdated traffic manual, and is not taking into consideration factors that are unique to the Hamlet of Spencertown. In addition, R. Madonia makes note that surrounding towns all have a 30 mph speed limit thru their hamlets, and the Columbia County Sheriff's Department needs to patrol more in Spencertown.

Supervisor Braley and the Town Board commend R. Madonia on the amount of time and effort he has put in on this project. Town Board Member Verenazi noted that R. Madonia's letter to W. Gorton was well written and that the Town Board will help him in attempting to lower the speed limit through the Hamlet of Spencertown on State Route 203. Town Board Member Geel advised that as far back as he can remember every Town Board has tried to reduce the speed limit and in fact, previous Town Board Member C. Vander Weit put in a lot of work and got so far as to have the NYSDOT come and do reviews. At that time, the NYSDOT advised that they would in fact lower the speed limit, but at the last minute pulled this request off the table without explanation.

R. Madonia would like to wait until the November election is past and then he will come back to the Town Board for a resolution of support. R. Madonia feels that the 'Politicians' will have pull more with the NYSDOT and get this resolved so he would like them to be the lead agency in this endeavor.

Austerlitz Fire House Representatives Jay Choon and Dave Savage come before the Town Board to follow-up on the time table for work to be completed in the stream behind the Austerlitz Fire House. D. Savage questioned whether the stream clean-up and the culvert replacement are 2 separate projects or will they be completed at the same time. Highway Superintendent R. Meehan would like to complete both at the same time, but time is ticking. R. Meehan noted that the stream can still be completed this fall, and he would like to have the new culvert in as well, but this part may have to wait until Spring. Engineer for the Town Patrick Prendergast has looked at the area and a bid for the culvert replacement will go out in a couple of weeks. Then there will be an additional couple of weeks to receive bids. Once a bid is accepted, a new culvert can be purchased and installed. If the weather stays mild, R. Meehan will finish this project up this fall. Jay Choon questioned whether work can be done in the stream if there is water flowing. Highway Superintendent Meehan noted that ideally drier is better, but his crew will work in the water if they have to. The stream can only be widened a couple of feet. J. Choon asked if the Highway Department can put in a berm on the north side by West Hill Road. R. Meehan noted that the NYSDEC said the Town can bring up the ground level, but no berms.

Discussed other work the NYSDEC is doing in the Town of Austerlitz. D. Savage questioned what stream cleaning will be done in the Green River. R. Meehan notes that the NYSDEC needs to come out and walk the stream and advise. Any work done there will need easements as well and the money the Town received for this area was to move trees, not gravel.

Highway Superintendent Meehan advised that he is still waiting on an easement from Sanchez', but will follow-up with this. Dave Savage and Jay Choon thank R. Meehan for his efforts.

The County owned bridge on Upper Hollow Road is still being worked on.

2013 Town of Austerlitz Budget: Supervisor Braley continues to work on the 2013 Tentative Budget with the goal of staying within the 2% tax cap and finding money to buy a new highway truck and grader. A budget workshop will be held on October 23, 2012, at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. The Town Board discussed grader and truck options.

New Business

Board of Assessment Review Appointment: Bridget Arnold's term has ended September 30, 2012. B. Arnold was appointed to the unfinished term of Gerald DeBona. Because B. Arnold did not complete a full term, the Town Board has decided to reappoint her for a new 5 year term.

A motion to appoint Bridget Arnold as a Board of Assessment Review Member with a term running from October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2017 was made by J. Mesick and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Local Law #1-2012, a local law to override the tax levy limit established in General Municipal Law 3-c

Supervisor Braley present Local Law #1-2012 and advised that the Town has no intention of going over the 2% cap. This override law is just to cover the Town for unseen events or mistakes.

A motion to set a public hearing for Local Law #1-2012, a local law to override the tax levy limit established in General Municipal Law 3-c, for November 8, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. and to set a public hearing on the 2013 Preliminary Budget for November 8, 2012 at 6:45 p.m., was made by J. Braley and seconded by B. Geel.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Change in pay status Code Enforcement Officer Position: The new Code Enforcement Officer Lee Heim has requested to be paid every two weeks instead of once a month.

A motion to change the pay status of the Code Enforcement Officer Position as stated in Resolution #14-2012 from "per year payable monthly" to "per year payable bi-weekly", was made by C. Pinto and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Town Board Member Verenazi requested that Supervisor Braley write a letter to the NYSDOT concerning the condition of State Route 203 and urging that they resurface the unfinished section. Supervisor Braley has sent a letter to Hudson, but will send one to Albany as well.

Town Board Member Pinto would like to discuss the work to be completed in the Park at the next Town Board Meeting and have the project plans all set up to have the work done in the Spring. The Town Board discussed what needs to be done and what decisions the Town needs to make. Work will concentrate on the retaining wall and the parking lot. Highway Superintendent Meehan noted that the tennis court will need some work next summer as well.

Public Comments

None

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by C. Pinto and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan A. Haag, Town Clerk

Town of Austerlitz
Public Hearing/Regular Town Board Meeting
November 8, 2012

Roll call. Present: Jeffrey Braley, Supervisor, Jon Mesick, Carol Pinto, Bryan Geel, Matthew Verenazi
Town Board Members, Robert Meehan, Highway Superintendent, and Susan Haag, Town Clerk.

Public Hearing for Local Law 1-2012 called to order at 6:31 p.m.

No comments heard. No questions from the Town Board.

Public Hearing for Local Law 1-2012 closed at 6:32 p.m.

Public Hearing for 2013 Town of Austerlitz Preliminary Budget was opened at 6:45 p.m.

No comments heard. No questions from the Town Board.

Public Hearing for 2013 Town of Austerlitz Preliminary Budget was closed at 6: 47 p.m.

Bids opened at 6:50 p.m. with Engineer for the Town Patrick Prendergast.

Fort Miller Co., Inc.

PO Box 98

Schuylerville, New York 12871

1.)Design/Build/Delivery – three-sided precast concrete box culvert with precast concrete footings – size per plans, delivery to Austerlitz, New York.

Culvert = 30 LF @ \$741.00/LF = \$22230.00

Footings = 60 LF @ \$215.00/LF = \$12900.00

Totals \$35,130.00

2.)Precast concrete blocks for headwalls (four walls) – sizing per contract plans.

T-Wall \$24.25/SF @ \$400.00/F = \$9700.00.

Jefferson Concrete Corp.

22850 Murrock Circle

Watertown, New York 13601

1.)Design/Build/Delivery – three-sided precast concrete box culvert with precast concrete footings – size per plans, delivery to Austerlitz, New York.

12' span x 8' leg x 4' wide – 32' lay length with precast footer \$46584.00

2.)Precast concrete blocks for headwalls (four walls) – sizing per contract plans. \$22000.00

LHV Precast Inc.

540 Ulster Landing Road

Kingston, New York 12401

1.)Design/Build/Delivery – three-sided precast concrete box culvert with precast concrete footings – size per plans, delivery to Austerlitz, New York. \$34146.00

2.)Precast concrete blocks for headwalls (four walls) – sizing per contract plans. \$11808.00

No non-collusion certificates were included with any bid.

Bids reviewed by Engineer for the Town Patrick Prendergast who recommended Fort Miller Co., Inc.

Regular Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Moment of Silence in memory of Guido Lippera, followed by the pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

A motion to accept the October 11, 2012 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes was made by M. Verenazi and seconded by B. Geel.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

A motion to accept the October 23, 2012 Budget Workshop was made by M. Verenazi and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: abstain due to absence

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion carried 4:1.

Auditing of Accounts and Claims

A motion to approve General Fund #407-444, in the amount of \$52514.35, and Highway Fund #213-236, in the amount of \$72909.85, was made by J. Mesick and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Supervisor Braley noted that budget amendments will be coming next month.

Reports

Monthly cash disbursements for the month of October 2012 were presented. Supervisor Braley noted that he would like to earmark some of the excess money for specific purposes. That way he does not have to manually keep track of designated money.

On a County Level, Supervisor Braley noted that the County Board of Supervisors is once again entertaining the transfer of a vehicle for the Code Enforcement Officer. There is a resolution slated for the meeting next week. The Columbia County budget is in the process and departments are asking for a 5% raise. Economic development is slow. On a town level it has been quiet.

Town Clerk Report for the month of October 2012 submitted.

Highway Superintendent Robert Meehan reported that the Upper Hollow Road Bridge is now open. The work turned out nice, but it is a little tight with the guardrails. One of the residents in the area, Stephanie Walters, has an issue with the end of her driveway. There is a dip between the driveway and the road. Yesterday's storm was minor. The recent hurricane saw a lot of limbs down. The repairs to the #7 truck are finished. The body section was more damaged than originally thought and is currently getting repainted. The Town will get another 5 years out of this truck. The Highway Crew has been filling potholes. The new culvert on Elm Street on the edge of Fred Meyer's property is complete. Highway Superintendent Meehan, Town Board Member Mesick, and Highway Crew Member Peter Fitzpatrick are looking at a new grader in Vermont on Friday.

Planning Board Report for the month of October 2012 submitted.

Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee Report for the month of October 2012 submitted. Discussion concerning the Berkshire Taconic Foundation Grant noting that Comprehensive Plan Oversight Member Shawn Hancock needs to complete and submit the forms necessary to complete the payment process otherwise the Town of Austerlitz will have to return the money given. This must be done by the end of November.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Report for the month of October 2012 submitted.

Dog Control Report for the month of October 2012 submitted.

A motion to accept the above reports was made by C. Pinto and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Correspondence

NYSDOT Speed Limit Reduction Request for County Route 7, Spencertown, NY: Advised that the speed limit on County Route 7 between Pratt Hill Road and Punsit Creek Bridge (begin of 35 MPH zone) is now lowered to 45 MPH. The Town asked for 35 MPH, but is happy with the speed granted.

NYSDOT Speed Limit Reduction Request from Richard Madonia for State Route 203, Hamlet of Spencertown, NY: Letter explains methodology used in determining the speed limit on State Route 203 in the Hamlet of Spencertown. Speed limit not reduced.

Unfinished Business

Local Law 1-2012, A local law to override the tax levy limit established in General Municipal law 3-c

Section 1. Legislative Intent

It is the intent of this local law to override the limit on the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by the Town of Austerlitz, County of Columbia, pursuant to General Municipal Law § 3-c, and to allow the Town of Austerlitz, County of Columbia to adopt a town budget for (a) town purposes (b) fire protection districts and (c) any other special or improvement district governed by the town board for the fiscal year 2013 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the "tax levy limit" as defined by General Municipal Law § 3-c.

Section 2. Authority

This local law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law § 3-c, which expressly authorizes the town board to override the tax levy limit by the adoption of a local law approved by vote of sixty percent (60%) of the town board.

Section 3. Tax Levy Limit Override

The Town Board of the Town of Austerlitz, County of Columbia is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year 2013 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the limit specified in General Municipal Law, §3-c.

Section 4. Severability.

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance, shall be adjusted by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

Section 5. Effective date.

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Supervisor Braley advised that this law is being adopted just in case a situation arises that puts the Town over the 2% tax cap. The increase in retirement is exempt. Supervisor Braley spoke with Insurance Representative Steve Acciani concerning health benefit plans noting that the Town will see increases in this payment as well.

A motion to adopt Local Law 1-2012, A local law to override the tax levy limit established in General Municipal law 3-c was made by C. Pinto and seconded by J. Mesick.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

2013 Town of Austerlitz Annual Budget

A motion to adopt the 2013 Town of Austerlitz Preliminary Budget as the 2013 Town of Austerlitz Final Annual Budget was made by B. Geel and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

Austerlitz Park Renovation

Supervisor Braley advised that Morris Associates was waiting on a decision from the Town as to what type of stone they were to use for the retention wall. J. Braley answered and Morris Associates will follow up.

New Business

A motion to accept the Fort Miller Co., Inc. culvert bid was made by M. Verenazi and seconded by B. Geel.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

Public Comments

None

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by B. Geel and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan A. Haag, Town Clerk

Town of Austerlitz
Regular Town Board Meeting
December 13, 2012

Roll call. Present: Jeffrey Braley, Supervisor, Jon Mesick, Carol Pinto, Bryan Geel, Matthew Verenazi
Town Board Members, Robert Meehan, Highway Superintendent, and Susan Haag, Town Clerk.

Regular Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Moment of Silence followed by the pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

A motion to accept the November 8, 2012 Public Hearing/Regular Town Board Meeting minutes was made by C. Pinto and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

Auditing of Accounts and Claims

Supervisor Braley explained the reasons behind the following budget amendments:

Budget Amendment #2-2012

General Fund

A2610 Fines and Forfeitures	43317.00
A3005 State Aid – Mortgage Tax	5097.00
Ellsworth Kelly Foundation	<u>6000.00</u>
Total	\$54414.00

A1010.4 Town Board	207.00
A1110.4 Justice	211.00
A1355.4 Assessor	315.00
A1440.4 Engineer	6848.00
A1620.4 Building	6312.00
A3120.4 Police	12414.00
A3310.4 Traffic Control	2788.00
A3620.4 Building Inspector	1030.00
A5132.4 Garage	6525.00
A6772.4 Senior Programs	622.00`
A7550.4 Celebration	150.00
A9010.8 State Retirement	9606.00
A9055.8 Disability	13.00
A9060.8 Hos/Med Insurance	288.00
A9710.6 Serial Bond Princ	5000.00
A9710.7 Serial Bond Int	<u>85.00</u>
Total	52414.00

Highway Fund

DA5110.4 General Repairs	18920.00
DA5140.1 Brush and Weeds	11443.00
DA5142.1 Snow Removal	10554.00
DA5142.4 Snow Removal	<u>24555.00</u>
Total	65472.00

DA5110.1 General Repairs	33940.00
DA5130.1 Machinery	1277.00
DA5130.4 Machinery	18751.00
DA9010.8 State Retirement	<u>11504.00</u>
Total	65472.00

A motion to approve Budget Amendment #2-2012 was made by B. Geel and seconded by C. Pinto
J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

A motion to approve General Fund #445-4481, in the amount of \$15598.95, and Highway Fund #237-266, in the amount of \$15299.83, was made by J. Mesick and seconded by B. Geel.

J. Braley: yes
B. Geel: yes
C. Pinto: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
J. Mesick: yes
Motion unanimously carried.

Reports

Monthly cash disbursements for the month of November 2012 were presented. Supervisor Braley noted that a payment for the Highway Garage Bond will be paid December 14, 2012. There will be some money left over for the year, but that will be better figured out next month once all the bills for 2012 have been paid. The Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony will be Friday night and residents would like to see it stay lit until the end of January.

On a County Level, Supervisor Braley noted the 2013 Annual County budget was passed and came in at \$155 million. The tax levy decreased and has held steady for the last 3 years. Raises came in at 2.5%. The County Board of Supervisors discussed what to do with Pine Haven and the County run bus system, which includes runs made on behalf of CCDDS, and the Veterans. The City of Hudson's bus system now belongs to the County.

Town Clerk Report for the month of November 2012 submitted.

Highway Superintendent Robert Meehan reported that the Highway Crew has fixed Mr. Meininger's road after the bridge work by the County was completed. This is on Upper Hollow Road. Columbia County will reimburse the Town of Austerlitz for gravel used and appreciated the work completed. There have been a couple of snow storms. The work on the number 7 truck is almost finished. There have been some issues on the Hillsdale side of Dugway Road, but these will be fixed come Spring. Some patching and ditching has been done. Superintendent Meehan has spoken with Engineer for the Town, Patrick Prendergast, about the culvert replacement project being done up behind the Austerlitz Fire House. Currently decisions on which guardrails to use are being made. Two Highway Crew members need to be replaced. R. Meehan has replaced both; one will start on Monday and the second will start the first of the year.

Planning Board Report for the month of November 2012 submitted. Town Member Pinto noted that it is not the Planning Board who handles or takes complaints. Complaints should be turned over to the proper department.

Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee Report for the month of November 2012 submitted. Paperwork for the Berkshire Taconic Foundation Grant has still not been received. Supervisor Braley does not want to upset the Foundation noting that Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee Chairman Tim Stalker is following up with Member Shawn Hancock concerning this paperwork.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Report for the month of November 2012 submitted.

Justice Hogencamp Justice Court Report for the months of October and November 2012 submitted.

Justice Lagonia Justice Court Report for the month of October 2012 submitted.

Dog Control Report for the month of November 2012 submitted.

Correspondence

New York State Town Clerks Association President, Cindy Goliber alert the Town that Town Clerk Susan Haag has been granted renewal of her Registered Municipal Clerk designation.

Stephanie Walters: Driveway issues caused by bridge work done by Columbia County on Upper Hollow Road. Highway Superintended Meehan and Supervisor Braley have assessed the work done at Stephanie Walters' and agree that there is a problem with the end of the driveway. Both would like to do something before Winter. Dale Robinson from Columbia County has not met with S. Walters to date, but has discussed this issue with Highway Superintendent Meehan asking that the Town fix the problem since the County would not be working on this until Spring. R. Meehan doesn't have a problem fixing the end of the driveway, but would need a NYSDEC permit to reroute the drain water into the creek and would like a waiver from Stephanie Walters stating that neither he nor the Town of Austerlitz is liable for any issues that come in the future due to his work.

Town Board Member Bryan Geel is happy that R. Meehan would like to help, but it is a County project and the County should be correcting their own work. S. Walters is finding she is being stalled on a County level and there is butting of heads. Supervisor Braley advised that the Town will see what they can do to try and help. S. Walters will send R. Meehan a letter concerning liability.

Rae Gilson: Thank you from Garden Committee of Spencertown Academy for use of Spencertown Green in June.

Unfinished Business

Austerlitz Park Renovation

Morris Associates, Engineer Paul McCreary report submitted. Discussion of where building material for the retaining wall is coming from. Highway Superintendent Meehan will look to see if he can find the same type of material somewhere else cheaper.

Superintendent Meehan advised that the Town of Austerlitz should apply for a 911 number for the park behind the Spencertown Academy. Should something happen, especially during the Summer Recreation Program, emergency vehicles will know where to go. Columbia County could make us up a 911 sign.

New Business

Resolution #32-2012 Assessment Settlement Michael Colton

WHEREAS, the Town of Austerlitz has received a Petition by Michael Colton, pursuant to Article 7 of the Real Property Tax Law requesting a reduction in certain real property taxes, and

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Town Assessor and the Attorney for the Town, the Town Board deems it appropriate to settle such matter and enter into a Stipulation of Settlement and Order in connection therewith.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Attorney for the Town is hereby authorized to execute a Stipulation of Settlement and Order and any other documents necessary, setting the corrected Assessed value of the tax year 2012/2013 for parcel number 69-1-5.100 owned by Michael Colton at \$850,000.

A motion to adopt Resolution #32-2012 Assessment Settlement Michael Colton was made by M. Verenazi and seconded by C. Pinto.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Outside Audit

Supervisor Braley asked the Town Board if they would like to entertain an outside audit of the Town's books. The last full audit was done over 10 years ago by the NYS Comptroller's Office, with a mini one about 4 years ago. Supervisor Braley is also looking for a good figure of how much cash the Town has on hand, and what is left over for the year. Discussed accounting practices. The Town is in good shape although over the last couple of years the carried over amount has decreased due to Hurricanes and storms. One accounting firm quoted \$7500.00 for a regular annual audit with the first one costing slightly more and would be used as a guide to see whether or not we want to go through with this. No decision was made.

Public Comments

None

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by B. Geel and seconded by M. Verenazi.

J. Braley: yes

B. Geel: yes

C. Pinto: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

J. Mesick: yes

Motion unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan A. Haag, Town Clerk

