

Town of Olive
County of Ulster
State of New York
March 31, 2008

Minutes of the monthly audit meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Olive held Monday, March 31, 2008, 7:30 pm at the Town Meeting Hall.

Members Present: Berndt Leifeld, Supervisor
 Henry Rank, Board Member
 Helen Chase, Board Member
 Bruce La Monda, Board Member
 Peter Friedel, Board Member
Recording Secretary: Sylvia B. Rozzelle, Town Clerk
Others Present: Jimmy Fugel, Highway Superintendent

The Town Board audited the bills for the month of March and set the agenda for the April 1st meeting.

On a Leifeld/La Monda motion the Town Board adjourned to executive session for the purpose of discussing the City of New York assessment litigation. Roll vote being: Rank, yes; Chase, yes; La Monda, yes; Friedel, yes; and Leifeld, yes.

The Town Board reconvened the audit meeting at 9:00 pm at which time they adjourned on a Leifeld/La Monda motion.

Sylvia Rozzelle, Town Clerk

Town of Olive
County of Ulster
State of New York
April 1, 2008

Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Olive held Tuesday, April 1, 2008, 7:30 pm at the Town Meeting Hall.

Members Present: Berndt Leifeld, Supervisor
 Henry Rank, Board Member
 Helen Chase, Board Member
 Bruce La Monda, Board Member
 Peter Friedel, Board Member
Recording Secretary: Sylvia B. Rozzelle, Town Clerk
Others Present: Jimmy Fugel, Highway Superintendent; Vince Bruck, Police Commissioner; Bill Cook, Assessor; Dr. Leslie Ford, Superintendent of Onteora School District; Drew Boggess, Planning Board Chairman & School Budget Advisory Committee; Mary Jane Bernholz, Maxanne Resnick, and Cindy O'Connor, Onteora School Board members; Rich Wolff, Onteora School Board Member and Zoning Board

of Appeals Member; Victoria McLaren, Assistant Superintendent of Onteora Schools; Sylvia Tinti, Jim Stoothoff, and Paul DeLisio, School Budget Advisory Committee Members; Tim Cox, Town Justice and CWC Attorney; and David Murphy, Attorney at Law

On a La Monda/Chase motion the Town Board approved the minutes of the March meetings as submitted by the Town Clerk.

Supervisor Leifeld introduced Dr. Leslie Ford who presented the proposed upcoming budget submitting correspondence #22-08. She noted we are a wealthier community resulting in the district receiving less state aid. Victoria McLaren continued the presentation by noting the district enrollment is decreasing further stating the Superintendent's recommended general budget is \$48,215,077, an increase of \$1,439,759 or 3.08%, with an anticipated levy increase of 2.84%. She noted there will be propositions for building improvements and additional technology upgrades. Mary Jane Bernholz pointed out the money for these improvements is already there in capital reserves; however, they now need approval from the district voters to spend that money. It was noted that there is \$1.8 million in a capital reserves and \$400,000.00 general fund unexpended balance totaling \$2.2 million.

Dr. Ford noted the Budget Advisory Committee consists of Drew Boggess, Sylvia Tinti, Paul DeLisio, Jim Stoothoff, and Pam Walkowiak. Jim Stoothoff presented correspondence #23-08 noting the average teacher salary is \$80,000.00 and entry level teacher salaries are \$50,900.00 with a Bachelors Degree and \$53,687.00 with a Masters.

Sylvia Tinti presented information regarding cost per pupil in Ulster County noting Onteora is the highest with 1,873 students at \$24,973.47 per student and Highland is the lowest with 2,169 students at \$15,334.61. The average cost per pupil in Ulster County is \$19,294.83.

Drew Boggess stated one thing that needs to be pointed out and addressed is if the budget keeps increasing and students decreasing then there is a big problem. If the goal is to cap each student at \$25,000.00 then today's budget will need to be reduced by \$1,000,000.00. He noted there needs to be some big changes in the district. He noted the committee has looked at eliminating the current lifetime benefits for retirees and also at a district plan over time to reduce the average teacher salary through retirement incentives and also reducing entry level salaries. One thing recommended for 2013-2014 is that we only will need two elementary schools—one will need to be eliminated and the unused elementary school sold. Mr. Boggess noted that most of the cost of an elementary building is salaries and if one elementary school is sold the district would save approximately \$2.3 million annually and by doing so you could pay for the bond necessary for doing building improvements. Council Member Rank asked what the starting salary was for most of the county; however, that figure was not available. Vince Bruck stated that emphasis should be put on the point that by closing a school one could pay for the approximate \$44 plus million dollar bond for upgrading the schools.

Al Studt stated that salaries and benefits are excellent at Onteora and suggested that something should be put into the plan for the employee to contribute to the benefit package noting that someone making \$80,000.00 per year could afford to do so. Jim

Stooff noted that is something that should be looked at. Paul DeLisio stated this could be a big number and needs to be looked at sooner than later.

In answer to questions from Joe Stein, Jim Stoothoff noted that two teachers will be gone by attrition this year saving the district somewhere in the vicinity of \$220,000.00 to \$250,000.00.

There being no further questions Supervisor Leifeld thanked all from the Onteora District and the Budget Advisory Committee for the informative presentation.

Supervisor Leifeld stated the City of New York litigation regarding the assessment of the reservoir is no longer there which creates a big moment for the Town of Olive. He stated that the Town has been working to develop an inter-municipal agreement for future lawsuits and he thanked the Onteora School Board for their support in this matter. He stated the proposed resolution will end the current lawsuit for the years 2001-2007. He stated there will need to be a vote from the school board and also from the City of New York and ORPS noting this is 99.9% sure.

Supervisor Leifeld read Resolution #8 of 2008 Entering into a written Stipulation of Settlement with the City of New York, subject to New York Supreme Court approval. Said settlement would: 1) discontinue with no costs against Olive and no property tax refunds being required to be paid for the years 2001-2007; 2) schedule of future assessments would be

Year(s)	Assessment
2008-2010	\$550 million
2011	\$560 million
2012	\$570 million
2013	\$580 million
2014-2015	\$590 million
2016-2017	\$600 million

and, 3) the City of New York has agreed not to sue the Town of Olive on the Ashokan Reservoir assessments during the years of implementation of this agreement, as well as to settle, compromise and withdraw past pending litigation.

On a Leifeld/La Monda motion and unanimous roll vote the Town Board unanimously approved Resolution # 8 of 2008. Roll vote being: Rank, yes; Chase, yes; La Monda, yes; Friedel, yes; and Leifeld, yes.

David Murphy, Attorney at Law, stated this was a difficult case with the outcome benefiting the Town of Olive. He stated the town will be getting rid of seven years of litigation and will have ten years of no law suits. He noted that the general case may be now that there will be a better working rapport between the Town of Olive and the City of New York. He noted the City of New York has unlimited resources but was ready to cooperate more with the Town of Olive.

Supervisor Leifeld stated there will be no pay back figures and now the town has a ten year breather which hopefully will set the stage for talks within the next few years. Council Member La Monda stated that Assessor Bill Cook and Assessor Bob Breglio are to be commended for the work they did and publicly thanked them for putting together presentations that were outstanding. He noted there is definitely a change in the relationship on the City's behalf and thinks this is a start for good things to come.

Council Member La Monda stated that we shouldn't get excited in that this does not take large parcel off the books until ORPS accepts the figures that were agreed upon. He noted there was a misleading article in the OLIVE PRESS regarding the large parcel issue. On a Leifeld/Rank motion the Town Board requested a letter be sent to Paul Smart clarifying that issue.

On a La Monda/Chase motion the Town Board approved payment of the following audited bills: Highway Vouchers #80-#130, \$53,517.54; Prepaid General Fund Vouchers #128-#129, \$307.00; General Fund Vouchers #130-#186, \$35,587.81; and Special Lighting Voucher #3, \$43.55.

Supervisor Leifeld noted the monthly income as cash received for February being \$1,273,877.29 and interest for February being \$4,111.82.

On a Leifeld/Chase motion the Town Board approved the following transfer of funds:

\$ 950.00	from Reserve "K" Computers to A1410.2 Town Clerk (equip.)
\$7,053.00	from Reserve "R" Records Management to A1460.2

Town Clerk Rozzelle read correspondence from Sybil Golden and Pam Golden thanking the Town Board for honoring their father, William Golden, with a page in the Town Minute Book.

Under New Business: Supervisor Leifeld read Resolution #6 of 2008 Accepting Credit Card Payments at the Justice Court. On a Leifeld/Rank motion and unanimous roll vote the Town Board approved Resolution #6 of 2008. Roll vote being: Rank, yes; Chase, yes; La Monda, yes; Friedel, yes; and Leifeld, yes.

Supervisor Leifeld stated an ad was placed in the newspaper for anyone interested in being a member of the Central Catskill Collaborative. He noted it was requested that a Town Board member also be appointed. On a Leifeld/La Monda motion the Town Board unanimously appointed Helen Chase to serve as member of the Central Catskill Collaborative. Supervisor Leifeld noted that two persons responded to the ad and the Town Board will make that determination next month.

On a Leifeld/Rank motion the Town Board unanimously approved giving the Highway Superintendent approval to solicit bids for dump body, plow and hitch.

On a Leifeld/Rank motion the Town Board unanimously approved obtaining the law firm of Rusk, Wadlin, Heppner and Martuscello to review the town's wireless law and offer recommendations for improvement.

Supervisor Leifeld read Resolution #7 of 2008 In the Matter of the Acquisition of Certain Minor Easements and/or Fee Acquisition for Use in Public Project. On a Leifeld/Chase motion and unanimous roll vote the Town of Olive approved Resolution #7 of 2008. Roll vote being: Rank, yes; Chase, yes; La Monda, yes; Friedel, yes; and Leifeld, yes.

Correspondence #25-08 from Senator John Bonacic was entered into the record. Senator Bonacic states the Senate stands firm in its opposition to a 2% cost shift from the state to the counties for social services.

The following committee reports were filed: Olive First Aid report #26-08, Town Clerk March report #27-08, Recreation Committee Report #28-08, and Fire Department report #29-08.

All business pertinent having been discussed the Town Board adjourned at 8:45 pm on a Leifeld/Friedel motion in memory of Anita Kellogg and Evelyn Marie Tyler-Gill.

Sylvia Rozzelle, Town Clerk