

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

December 14, 2015

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

Supervisor Grattidge led the pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Councilman Gay, Councilman Grasso, Councilman Hodgkins, Councilman Lippiello, Supervisor Grattidge, Town Clerk Brenda Mills, Attorney Van Vranken.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION #189

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Councilman Lippiello

Seconded by Councilman Gay

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board has approved the minutes of the Town Board Agenda Meeting on November 23, 2015.

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR FOR AGENDA ITEMS

No one chose to speak.

ABSTRACT OF CLAIMS

RESOLUTION #190

Approval of Abstract of Claims

Motion by Councilman Gay

Seconded by Councilman Lippiello

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board has approved the payment of bills as presented in Abstract No. 121, voucher numbers 643 – 704 in the amount of \$26,649.74.

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

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk's office took in \$1,117.25 for the month of November. \$604.97 was paid to the Supervisor's Office, and \$512.28 was paid to other Governmental agencies.

RESOLUTION #191

Acceptance of the Town Clerk's Report

Motion by Councilman Hodgkins

Seconded by Councilman Grasso

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

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

The Town Clerk received a request from the Charlton 4-leaf Clovers 4-H club to use the Community Center for their meetings twice a month from January 9th until July.

RESOLUTION #192

Authorizing the use of the Community Center by the Charlton 4-leaf Clovers 4-H Club.

Motion by Councilman Grasso

Seconded by Councilman Lippiello

Be it resolved that the Town Board has authorized the Charlton 4-leaf Clovers 4-H Club to use the Community Center twice a month from January 9, 2016 until July 2016 for their meetings from 5 p.m. to 8:00 p. m.

Roll Call: Councilman Gay: Aye, Councilman Grasso: Aye, Councilman Hodgkins: Aye, Councilman Lippiello: Aye, Supervisor Grattidge: Aye. **CARRIED.**

SUPERVISORS REPORT

For the month of November, I attended 3 Town meetings and 9 County meetings.
Some of the highlights of the month:

- Attended normal Town and County meetings
- Worked on the 2016 Town Budget and the NYS Tax Cap reporting
- Worked on the Saratoga County 2016 Budget
- Worked on the County takeover of the LFTC public road system
- Worked with CDTC on the Regional Traffic Study

Supervisor Grattidge said that the Board has received the monthly financial reports, and confirmed that the Town has received the Key Bank Custodial Statement. The Supervisor said that a resolution will be presented tonight to transfer the CHIPS Highway money that was received earlier this year, but credited to the wrong GL account.

(see Supervisor's Financial report on next page).

MONTHLY REPORT OF SUPERVISOR**TO THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF CHARLTON :**

Pursuant to Section 125 of the Town Law, I hereby render the following detailed statement of all moneys received and disbursed by me during the month of November, 2015:

DATED: December 1, 2015

SUPERVISOR

	Balance 10/31/2015	Increases	Decreases	Balance 11/30/2015
A GENERAL FUND - TOWNWIDE				
CASH - CHECKING	11,178.28	76,693.42	76,691.64	11,180.06
CASH - SAVING	440,771.32	204,692.53	83,049.49	562,414.36
PETTY CASH	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Park Fees Reserve	70,335.16	6.88	0.00	70,342.04
TOTAL	522,784.76	281,392.83	159,741.13	644,436.46
DA HIGHWAY FUND				
CASH - CHECKING	0.00	91,659.75	91,659.75	0.00
CASH - SAVINGS	54,522.95	126.82	91,659.75	-37,009.98
CASH, SPECIAL RESERVE	15,471.34	0.00	0.00	15,471.34
TOTAL	69,994.29	91,786.57	183,319.50	-21,538.64
F WATER #1 FUND				
CASH - CHECKING	0.00	6,374.24	6,374.24	0.00
CASH - SAVINGS	220,101.26	1,411.78	6,374.24	215,138.80
WATER SERIAL BOND	34,295.31	1.41	0.00	34,296.72
CASH, SPECIAL RESERVES	121,236.72	4.98	0.00	121,241.70
TOTAL	375,633.29	7,792.41	12,748.48	370,677.22
SW WATER #2 FUND				
CASH - CHECKING	0.00	178.85	178.85	0.00
CASH - SAVINGS	25,749.78	2.06	178.85	25,572.99
TOTAL	25,749.78	180.91	357.70	25,572.99
TA TRUST & AGENCY				
CASH - CHECKING	7,858.95	44,505.25	41,174.00	11,190.20
TOTAL	7,858.95	44,505.25	41,174.00	11,190.20
H CAPITAL PROJECTS				
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL ALL FUNDS	1,002,021.07	425,657.97	397,340.81	1,030,338.23

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNICATIONS

The Town offices will be closed December 24th and 25th for the Christmas holiday.

The Town Board scheduled the 2016 Organizational Meeting for January 4, 2016 at 7:30, preceded by swearing in ceremony of newly elected officials at 7:00 p.m.

The Ballston Lake Business and Professional Association will hold their State of the Towns breakfast at the Charlton Town Hall at 8:00 a.m. during the first week of January. Supervisor Grattidge will verify the date and post it on the Town's website. The Town Board and the public are invited.

The Saratoga County Planning and Zoning Conference is scheduled for January 27th. Planning and Zoning Board members are encouraged to attend the training.

The Board has received a letter from Dan Dixon regarding his concerns with a facility at the corner of Crane Street and Charlton Road. The Zoning Officer has been asked to look into the concerns. The Board will follow up on the issue.

Supervisor Grattidge said that he has spoken with the Highway Superintendent, the Chief Constable and the Saratoga County Public Works Commissioner about the request from a resident for a speed reduction on Stage Road. None of them had any reports of concern of excessive speed on this section of road, but the County is leaving it up to the Town if they want to request a survey by the D.O.T. or not. The Board may discuss the issue at the Agenda meeting.

DEPARTMENT & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Zoning – In November there were 13 Building Permits issued and \$3,708.92 was collected in application fees. 7 CO/CUs were issued with a total value of \$91,000.00.

Dog Control – In November, there were 11 complaints, 6 expired licenses followed up on, 2 unlicensed dog seized and returned to owner, and 4 Court appearance tickets issued. Supervisor Grattidge said that Ag & Markets send a Dog Control Officer Report and rated our Officer as satisfactory.

Constables – In November, there were 26 patrols, 25 complaints, 14 911 calls and 1 EID responded to, 2,003 miles traveled, and 28 tickets issued.

Water- John Morgan is still waiting for installation of parts from the Phoenix Group to replace the borrowed parts for the radio telemetry system.

Charlton Seniors – Marv Schorr reported that the Seniors are closing 2015 with approximately 200 members which is about the same as 2014.

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, AND AUTHORIZATIONS

RESOLUTION #193

Resolution for Cash Receipt Adjustment/Transfer of Funds

Motion by Councilman Hodgkins

Seconded by Councilman Gay

Roll Call: Councilman Gay: Aye, Councilman Grasso: Aye, Councilman Hodgkins: Aye, Councilman Lippiello: Aye, Supervisor Grattidge: Aye. **CARRIED.**

12/14/15

Resolution # 193

Resolution for a Cash Receipt Adjustment/Transfer of Funds

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

For Budget Year 2015, Highway Fund, a transfer to correct a misapplied Cash Receipt in September 2015 totaling \$32,695.00 to be transferred from DA3501 to the General Fund account A3001, representing State Aid monies received.

Moved by	Councilman Hodgkins	Voting:	Councilman Gay	Aye
			Councilman Grasso	Aye
Seconded by	Councilman Gay		Councilman Hodgkins	Aye
			Councilman Lippiello	Aye
			Supervisor Grattidge	Aye

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

Dated: December 14, 2015

Brenda Mills, Town Clerk

RESOLUTION #194

Resolution to affirm the support of Charlton Town Board of the Saratoga Plan’s application for Saratoga Draft Power Farm to apply to New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets for funding to purchase Development Rights on Saratoga Draft Power Farm

Motion by Councilman Lippiello
Seconded by Councilman Grasso

Discussion: Maria Trabka from Saratoga Plan said that the State removed the limit to the number of applicants for the grant money. Therefore, Saratoga Plan will be the applicant , and the Town will not need to be the applicant as previously presented this year. Attorney Van Vranken said that this resolution actually amends that resolution that was done earlier this year which named that the Town as the applicant.

Roll Call: Councilman Gay: Aye, Councilman Grasso: Aye, Councilman Hodgkins: Aye, Councilman Lippiello: Aye, Supervisor Grattidge: Aye. **CARRIED.**

TOWN OF CHARLTON
COUNTY OF SARATOGA
STATE OF NEW YORK

RESOLUTION NO. 194

December 14, 2015

A RESOLUTION TO AFFIRM THE SUPPORT OF THE CHARLTON TOWN BOARD OF THE SARATOGA PLAN’S APPLICATION FOR SARATOGA DRAFT POWER FARM TO APPLY TO NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND

MARKETS FOR FUNDING TO PURCHASE DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS ON
SARATOGA DRAFT POWER FARM

WHEREAS, Saratoga Draft Power Farm, operated by Timothy Biello, wishes to apply to New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets for funding to purchase development rights to permanently preserve 63+/- acres of active farmland located on Featherbed Lane in the Town of Charlton, and

WHEREAS, Saratoga PLAN, a not-for-profit land trust qualified to hold conservation easements under Article 49 of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law, wishes to assist, in partnership with the Saratoga County Planning Department and the Saratoga Draft Power Farm with accomplishing their conservation goals for the agricultural lands by applying to New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets for funding to purchase development rights on this property, and

WHEREAS, the Charlton Town Board supports the preservation of agriculture as vital to the quality of life and economy of the Town of Charlton, as evidenced by the Town of Charlton Municipal Farmland Protection Plan, the Town of Charlton Comprehensive Plan, the Saratoga County Farmland Protection Plan and the Saratoga County Green Infrastructure Plan, all of which recommend the use of conservation easements and the purchase of development rights in order to preserve agricultural lands and protect farmland and open spaces, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that the Saratoga Draft Power Farm grant application submitted by Saratoga PLAN to the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets for funding to purchase development rights deserves municipal support.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Charlton fully supports the application for purposes of retaining a conservation easement relative to the development rights of Saratoga Draft Power Farm, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized to enter into a contract agreement with Saratoga County and New York State Agriculture and Markets offices, which shall include authority to execute any documents necessary to accept and redistribute Farmland Protection funds, should the grant application subject of this resolution be awarded.

Moved by	Councilman Lippiello	Voting:	Councilman Gay	Aye
			Councilman Grasso	Aye
Seconded by	Councilman Grasso		Councilman Hodgkins	Aye
			Councilman Lippiello	Aye
			Supervisor Grattidge	Aye

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

Dated: December 14, 2015

Brenda Mills, Town Clerk

RESOLUTION #195

Resolution to affirm the Town of Charlton Town Board support of the Saratoga Plan's application for the Eildon Tweed Farm, Anderson Acres and Arnold's Farm Fresh Produce to apply to New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets for funding to purchase Development Rights on Szurek and Vanderhorst Farms

Motion by Councilman Grasso

Seconded by Councilman Gay

Discussion: Supervisor Grattidge asked Maria Trabka from Saratoga Plan to speak regarding this resolution. She stated that this will be entered as 3 different applications. Saratoga Plan will be the applicant, Anderson Acres, Arnold's Fresh Produce and Eildon Tweed Farm will be the operators. Under the Arnold's Fresh Produce application, the land would be a portion of the Szurek farm land and all of the Vanderhorst farm land. The other two applications would be a portion of the Szurek farm land. Maria gave the Board a copy of a map showing the land. She confirmed that the value of the land is subject to appraisal. Councilman Grasso asked what would happen if not all of the applications were awarded the grant. Maria stated that she hopes that that Ag & Markets will approve it so that there are two easements, one for the Szureks and one for the Vanderhorsts, but it may be awarded as three for the Szureks property, or they may only do one or two. Councilman Grasso said that nothing is binding for the landowners until after the appraisals are done and the easement documents are written. The Councilman commended all of the parties involved for their efforts in keeping agriculture alive. He thinks that agriculture and the farmers of the Town are what really defines the most important cultural aspect of Charlton. Jason Arnold of Arnold's Fresh Produce said that land is essential to farmers, and every acre conserved is important. He thanked the Board for their support of the conservation efforts. Gary Vanderhorst said that the Arnolds have farmed his land for many years, and he feels that they are excellent farmers and great to work with. He feels that it is important to have substantial farm people in Charlton. Supervisor Grattidge thanked the Szureks and Vanderhorsts for wanting to conserve their land.

Roll Call: Councilman Gay: Aye, Councilman Grasso: Aye, Councilman Hodgkins: Aye, Councilman Lippiello: Aye, Supervisor Grattidge: Aye. **CARRIED.**

TOWN OF CHARLTON
COUNTY OF SARATOGA
STATE OF NEW YORK

RESOLUTION NO. 195

December 14, 2015

A RESOLUTION TO AFFIRM THE TOWN OF CHARLTON TOWN BOARD SUPPORT OF SARATOGA PLAN'S APPLICATIONS FOR THE EILDON TWEED FARM, ANDERSON ACRES AND ARNOLD'S FARM FRESH PRODUCE TO APPLY TO NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS FOR FUNDING TO PURCHASE DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS ON SZUREK AND VANDERHORST FARMS

WHEREAS, the Charlton Town Board recognizes Eildon Tweed Farm, Anderson Acres and Arnold's Farm Fresh Produce as important agricultural operators in the town and are of important value to the local economy as well as Saratoga County and that their agricultural viability is tied directly to the quality of life in the town as well as Saratoga County, and

WHEREAS, the lands of the Gary and Anne Vanderhorst Trust are operated by Arnold's Farm Fresh Produce and lands of Dorothy Szurek and The John M. Szurek Trust are operated by Eildon Tweed Farm, Anderson Acres and Arnold's Farm Fresh Produce, all located in the Town of Charlton, and

WHEREAS, the Gary and Anne Vanderhorst Trust, as owner of certain real property in the Town of Charlton, wishes to permanently conserve approximately 90+/- acres located in tax map

#224.-1-31.1 that is currently active farmland located on Sacandaga Road, and

WHEREAS, Dorothy Szurek and The John M. Szurek Trust, as owners of certain real property in the Town of Charlton, wish to apply to New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets for funding to purchase development rights to permanently preserve approximately 317.5+/- acres located in tax map #223.-1-18, #234.-1-10, #234.-1-9, #234.-1-41 that is currently active farmland located on DeGraff Road, and

WHEREAS, Saratoga PLAN, a not-for-profit land trust qualified to hold conservation easements under Article 49 of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law, wishes to assist, in partnership with the Saratoga County Planning Department, the Vanderhorst Trust, The John M. Szurek Trust and Dorothy Szurek with accomplishing their conservation goals for their agricultural lands by applying to New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets for funding to purchase development rights on their properties, and

WHEREAS, the Charlton Town Board supports the preservation of agriculture as vital to the quality of life and economy of the Town of Charlton, and as evidenced by the Town of Charlton Municipal Farmland Protection Plan, the Town of Charlton Comprehensive Plan, the Saratoga County Farmland Protection Plan and the Saratoga County Green Infrastructure Plan, all of which recommend the use of conservation easements and the purchase of development rights as acts to preserve agricultural lands and protect farmland and open spaces for the future, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that the Eildon Tweed Farm, Anderson Acres and Arnold's Farm Fresh Produce grant applications submitted by Saratoga PLAN to New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets for funding to purchase development rights to permanently preserve the lands of the Gary and Anne Vanderhorst Trust, Dorothy Szurek and The John M. Szurek Trust deserves municipal support to permanently preserve these lands for agricultural uses.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Charlton Town Board fully supports the applications of Eildon Tweed Farm, Anderson Acres and Arnold's Farm Fresh Produce, with Saratoga PLAN as the applicant, for purposes of retaining a conservation easement relative to the development rights of the Gary and Anne Vanderhorst Trust parcel, the Dorothy Szurek parcel and The John M. Szurek Trust parcels.

Moved by	Councilman Grasso	Voting:	Councilman Gay	Aye
			Councilman Grasso	Aye
Seconded by	Councilman Gay		Councilman Hodgkins	Aye
			Councilman Lippiello	Aye
			Supervisor Grattidge	Aye

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

Dated: December 14, 2015

Brenda Mills, Town Clerk

Supervisor Grattidge said that the Zoning Administrator updated the Exceptional Use Permit (EUP) Application and would like approval to begin using the new form.

RESOLUTION #196

Resolution to authorize the use of the updated Exceptional Use Permit (EUP) Application

Motion by Councilman Hodgkins

Seconded by Councilman Gay

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes the Zoning Department to begin using the updated Exceptional Use Permit (EUP) Application immediately.

Roll Call: Councilman Gay: Aye, Councilman Grasso: Aye, Councilman Hodgkins: Aye, Councilman Lippiello: Aye, Supervisor Grattidge: Aye. **CARRIED.**

Supervisor Grattidge asked the Board for authorization to work with Attorney Van Vranken on the agreement with the Charlton Snowmobile Club for this season.

RESOLUTION #197

Resolution to authorize the Supervisor to work with the Town Attorney on the Charlton Snowmobile Agreement

Motion by Councilman Gay

Seconded by Councilman Lippiello

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to work with Attorney Van Vranken on the Charlton Snowmobile agreement for the 2015 – 2016 season.

Roll Call: Councilman Gay: Aye, Councilman Grasso: Aye, Councilman Hodgkins: Abstained, Councilman Lippiello: Aye, Supervisor Grattidge: Aye. **CARRIED.**

Supervisor Grattidge said that he would like to attend the 2016 Association of Town's Annual Conference in New York City in February 2016 and be the delegate for the Town.

RESOLUTION #198

Resolution to authorize the Supervisor to attend the Association of Town's Annual Meeting February 14th to February 17th as the Charlton delegate, and for reimbursement of expenses.

Motion by Councilman Hodgkins

Seconded by Councilman Grasso

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to attend the Association of Town's Annual Meeting February 14th to February 17th as the Charlton delegate, and for reimbursement of expenses.

Roll Call: Councilman Gay: Aye, Councilman Grasso: Aye, Councilman Hodgkins: Aye, Councilman Lippiello: Aye, Supervisor Grattidge: Aye. **CARRIED.**

Supervisor Grattidge said that the Association of Towns offers training classes for newly elected officials and asked for authorization for the newly elected Town Board members to attend, if they so chose.

RESOLUTION #199

Resolution to authorize the newly elected Town Board members to attend the Association of Town's training classes.

Motion by Councilman Gay

Seconded by Councilman Hodgkins

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes John Gay and Marshall Heritage to attend the Association of Town's training for newly elected officials at the Desmond Hotel from January 13th to 15th.

Roll Call: Councilman Gay: Aye, Councilman Grasso: Aye, Councilman Hodgkins: Aye, Councilman Lippiello: Aye, Supervisor Grattidge: Aye. **CARRIED.**

Councilman Grasso said that he had previously suggested a Manure Management Plan Advisory Committee be established. He has spoken with, and would like to recommend Jay Wilkinson as Chairman, Bradley Howe, Laurie Kruppenbacher, Chris Mitchell and possibly Richard Potts to be on the committee. The Board had no objection.

RESOLUTION #200

Resolution to establish a Manure Management Advisory Committee

Motion by Councilman Grasso

Seconded by Councilman Hodgkins

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes the establishment of a Manure Management Advisory Committee with Jay Wilkinson as Chairman, Bradley Howe, Laurie Kruppenbacher, Chris Mitchell as members and possibly Richard Potts as member.

Roll Call: Councilman Gay: Aye, Councilman Grasso: Aye, Councilman Hodgkins: Aye, Councilman Lippiello: Aye, Supervisor Grattidge: Aye. **CARRIED.**

COUNCILMAN REPORTS

Councilman Lippiello thanked the many volunteers and people that have worked with the Town and gotten so many things done over the years.

Councilman Grasso said that he feels that the Board should solicit bids from other website hosting companies for the Town's website. The Town is currently paying about \$2,400 per year, and he feels that we could maybe get a more favorable rate if we had bids from other companies. Councilman Hodgkins said he has a list of companies to contact, and suggested a scope so that they are looking at the same thing.

Councilman Lippiello said that he feels that the Board should take a look at what the Town is paying for electric supply, as the company that we are currently using is charging over 8 cents per kw and National Grid is charging 4 cents per kw. He also feels that the Board should look at computer support providers for the Town as well.

Councilman Grasso said that Airosmith Development, who is putting together an application for the Verizon antenna for the water tower, is expected to submit a draft lease and application materials within the next month. Once received, he will get copies to the Board and feels that it would be prudent to have a public information meeting to review the documents.

Councilman Grasso said that he would like to see reimbursement reports along with the fuel vouchers when fuel is being sold to the fire departments. Councilman Hodgkins will work with the Highway Superintendent to improve the billing/reporting process.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Ron Serapilio, resident, said that he moved to Charlton in 1976 to the property located next to Gideon Hawley Park. He said that he understands that there are plans for the Ethel Maloney property next door to him to be changed to commercial from residential which it has always been. He has concerns about his quality of life and the quality of life for the residents of Charlton if the banquet house is approved. He stated that he will be sending letters to the Town Board shortly regarding this matter.

Carol Schweitzer thanked Bob Lippiello for his years of service on the Town Board and for the calm manner in which he handled himself, even in turbulent times.

Supervisor Grattidge said that the Board needs to go into Executive Session to discuss possible litigation.

RESOLUTION #201

Resolution to enter into Executive Session

Motion by Councilman Lippiello

Seconded by Councilman Hodgkins

BET IT RESOLVED that the Board Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m. and the Board entered into Executive Session.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. CARRIED

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:00 p.m. and the meeting was adjourned. No action was taken.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Mills
Town Clerk