**Minutes of the Town of Chesterfield Town Board Meeting held on Tuesday, October 6, 2015 at the Town Office, on the Corner of Clinton and Vine Streets, in Keeseville, County of Essex and State of New York, pursuant to due notice.**

Supervisor Gerald H. Morrow called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those present were:

Supervisor: Gerald H. Morrow

Town Clerk: Lynn A. Jarvis

Councilman: Clayton J. Barber

Councilman: Russell L. Blaise

Councilman: Richard J. Klages

Councilman: Joseph W. Kusalonis

Town Attorney: Michael D. McCormick

Supt. of Highways: Philip W. Pray

Guests present were: David Gload, Tom Golden and Shelley Davis; Clerk to Supervisor.

Upon a motion made by Councilman Richard Klages, seconded by Councilman Joseph Kusalonis and unanimously carried it was

**117. RESOLVED** that the reading of the minutes of the meeting held on September 1, 2015 be dispensed with.

Supervisor Morrow offered the courtesy of the floor to the guests, but no one asked to address the Board.

Supervisor Morrow presented the 2016 Tentative Budget to the Town Clerk. He explained that there are a few cuts – no raises for anyone – as Phil mentioned when he handed his budget back, “with the tax cap there’s not much you can do with it”.

Supervisor Morrow stated that the health insurance has a 13% increase – compensation went up – organizations are requesting an increase – we will work on this during the budget

workshop.

The health insurance for a family plan for a year will be $24,540, it is now $21,720 – 2 person is $8,604, single is $7,620 – will review these and other insurance options – reasonable plans, with higher deductibles – need to think of taxpayers that pick up the cost.

Upon a motion made by Councilman Russell Blaise, seconded by Councilman Clayton Barber and unanimously carried it was

**118. RESOLVED** that the 2016 Budget workshop be held on Thursday, October 15, 2015 at

5:00 p.m.

Supervisor Morrow stated that we can only increase the budget .73% - pack a lunch could be a long one!!!

Upon a motion made by Councilman Russell Blaise, seconded by Councilman Richard Klages and unanimously carried it was

**119. RESOLVED** that the Town Board Meeting for November be held on Thursday, November 5, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Upon a motion made by Councilman Russell Blaise, seconded by Councilman Richard Klages and unanimously carried it was

**120. RESOLVED** that the Town Board hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, November 5, 2015

at 6:30 p.m. to review the 2016 Preliminary Budget.

Supervisor Morrow reported that he received an email from the Essex County Public Health Office – regarding cancer services – the NYS Department Health wants all municipalities aware of the mandatory law to give males four hours off from work for prostate cancer screening and females four hours off for breast cancer screening now they are adding another four hours for cervical cancer screening and colon cancer screening.

Councilman Klages is okay with this, he feels it is a good plan.

Upon a motion made by Councilman Richard Klages, seconded by Councilman Joseph Kusalonis and unanimously carried it was

**121. RESOLVED** that the Town Board agrees to allow as needed by all employees up to eight hours for prostate screening, breast cancer screening, colon cancer screening and cervical cancer screening.

Supervisor Morrow stated this is through the healthy living program same department where we received the swings for the Port Douglas Beach and the spring animals for JayCee Park and Watson Square Park in Port Kent, which will be set up next year.

Supervisor Morrow informed the Board that they all have a copy of the Solid Waste Management Inspection conducted by NYS DEC of the Transfer Station – our facility was completely in compliance – the Supervisor even called Kevin woods from DEC to discuss the inspection with him.

While discussing the Transfer Station, the Supervisor stated that a couple months ago it was asked where the money goes from the metal taken in at the Transfer Station – it was going into the General Fund to offset the cost of the Transfer Station – the Town at this time will not be receiving any money for the scrap metal, because the market has dropped, so Moore’s will no longer pay to take it – just like the tv’s, we can’t get rid of them right now, we still have 25 tv’s that we can’t get rid of – these are unfortunate tasks we have to deal with.

Councilman Barber stated that he heard the same comment from Bryan Baraby.

Supervisor Morrow will call around to check with other salvage yards.

Supervisor Morrow reported that Steve LaMere completed the Study of Butternut Pond, he also put the grant application together for Lake Champlain Basin Program for the prevention of aquatic invasive species. There is all kinds of vegetation in Butternut Pond – looking for alternative options to get rid of the vegetation.

Supervisor Morrow informed the Board that last week he met with Susan Kennedy from the DOH, Anna from Essex County Community Resources, Todd from AES Northeast and Dave Winter to discuss the Town of Chesterfield Water Plant – we have submitted an application for an engineering planning grant for the amount of $24,400 through EFC – we have to do this before we can apply for $1.2 or $1.5 million to bring the plant up to the standards required by DOH, DEC and EPA which we have violations from, but that is not new the Village had them before we inherited the water plant, but they didn’t do anything to correct the issues. They are making us comply, because they know we will.

The Supervisor spoke with the Director of EFC who he knows- there is $30 million in grant funding to be applied for by March and $20 million in grant funding at a later date. The Supervisor explained to him that it would be to the benefit of EFC if we were awarded funding since we have a payment due in November of $152,000 – it is in their best interest.

Supervisor Morrow reported that since the Port Kent Cemetery Association has been resurrected they have been very busy – Ron Wilson and Garth Houde have made sure they are available when the inmates come from Moriah Shock to clean up the cemetery – thanks to Sgt. Evens he usually has them here the next day if possible – Ron Wilson would like them to come back at the end of October, 1st of November to take care of the leaves.

Essex County Clerk’s Office located the deed to the cemetery – which was given to the association.

Mr. Wilson wanted to thank Phil, his crew, Tut and his guys for clearing away the tree after it was cut down.

Supervisor Morrow thanked the Association for all their help.

Supervisor Morrow informed the Board that he had received phone calls inquiring as to why the water bills had 9/4 – 12/4 as the quarter, when it should have been 6/4 – 9/4 the amounts of the bills are correct the dates are incorrect – they were inadvertently put on incorrectly – the bill is the same.

Supervisor Morrow stated that with the Autumn Festival close by he has had two requests to trim the shrubs and cut the grass between the sidewalk and Mac’s Market – there is no law against shrubs, but there is a law against long grass – but by the time Harvey sends a letter to Mac’s Market the Festival will be over with – he contacted Scott Martin who use to take care of it, but hasn’t done so in a couple of years, will trim the shrubs and cut the grass for $100.00 – Phil and his crew and Dave and his guys don’t have the time to take care of it, not to mention it is private property – it is up to the Board to decide what to do.

Councilman Klages said for $100. 00, that is a good deal.

Upon a motion made by Councilman Richard Klages, seconded by Councilman Joseph Kusalonis and unanimously carried it was

**122. RESOLVED** that the Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to hire Scott Martin to trim the shrubs and cut the grass between the sidewalk and Mac’s Market.

Councilman Blaise asked if he would still contact Mac’s Market.

Supervisor stated he would – he then asked if they ever played poker.

Phil Pray stated that the shrubs do interfere with the sidewalk.

Supervisor Morrow stated that we take care of the sidewalks during the winter – and the Autumn Festival is a special event.

While talking about the sidewalks he did have the County DPW make and attach “push buttons” on cross walk signs – people didn’t know what the buttons were – they make the lights flash to let drivers know someone is in the cross walk.

He contacted Mark Bonfey from NYS DOT who said we could go ahead and stripe no parking spaces for cars/trucks about 8’ so people don’t park right up to the cross walk – can’t see pedestrians in the cross walk with vehicles blocking their view.

Supervisor Morrow also had complaints from the Keeseville Youth Commission about pets on JayCee Park new sign white background with red lettering “no pets on park”.

Last year when we had a State Audit – the Supervisor was written up for what they called an interfund transfer when it was actually money deposited in the wrong account then moved to the correct account. Shortly after that the Office of the State Comptroller made a direct deposit of over $20,000 which was from the State for the retainage of the Estes House grant funding into the Highway Account, because as he was told it is the only account number that they have – that money actually belonged to the General Account – well it happened again - $29,376 – part of the $50,000 – towards dissolution transition and $163,323 – AIM which is Aid to Municipalities that should have both been in the general account – sorry Phil it’s not for highways – he talked to Kevin Rowlands the State Auditor that said just go ahead and correct it to the right account.

Supervisor Morrow reported that Steve LaMere completed the Augur Lake Report – Dave Buchholz will put it on the website once the Board approves the report.

Upon a motion made by Councilman Clayton Barber, seconded by Councilman Richard Klages and unanimously carried it was

**123. RESOLVED** that the Augur Lake Report as completed by Steve LaMere be approved by the Town Board.

While discussing Augur Lake the Supervisor gave a brief dam update – AES Northeast, our engineers are in the process of preparing for the permits required – we are still on the active list for grant funding for dams.

He explained that he met with Russell Pray about sandbagging the dam – Russell then met with Phil and they both determined that the dam is undermining, but they have come up with a solution to secure the dam – he then turned it over to Phil to explain the plans.

Phil explained that they can use cement abutments to make a coffer dam – with sand bags – it is a risk of breaking down – he will build a temporary road to get the materials down to the dam – it is the only way to get the 3000 pound blocks there – Town of Jay brought down their excavator today – tomorrow the operator will be here – it may cost up to $3,000 to repair.

Upon a motion made by Clayton Barber, seconded by Councilman Russell Blaise and unanimously carried it was

**124. RESOLVED** that the Supt. of Highways be allowed to spend up to $3,000 to repair the undermining of the dam at Augur Lake.

Upon a motion made by Councilman Joseph Kusalonis, seconded by Councilman Russell Blaise and unanimously carried it was

**125. RESOLVED** that the Supervisor’s Financial Report for the month of September 2015 be accepted. The Financial Report can be found on the Town Clerk’s Office.

Upon a motion made by Councilman Richard Klages, seconded by Councilman Russell Blaise and unanimously carried it was

**126. RESOLVED** that all bills be paid. Bills in the amount of $32,352.71 were audited and paid from Highway Acct., Claims 141 to 158. Bills in the amount of $16,405.98 were audited and paid from General Acct., Claims 331 to 361. Bills in the amount of $10,974.94 were audited and paid from TCWD Acct., Claims 362 to 375. Bills in the amount of $335.25 were audited and paid from PKWD Acct., Claims 376 to 379. Essex County Treasurer was paid $274.19, Arbor-Ops was paid $800.00, Verizon was paid $86.07, Steven Johnson Electrical was paid $499.00, NYSEG was paid $2580.54, Frontier Comm. was paid $1,369.25, USDA Rural Development was paid $7,702.50, Charter Comm. was paid $99.99 and Endyne, Inc. was paid $965.00. Warrants can be found in the Town Clerk’s Office.

Upon a motion made by Councilman Joseph Kusalonis, seconded by Councilman Richard Klages and unanimously carried it was

**127. RESOLVED** that all letters brought before the Board be filed.

Councilman Barber asked about raising the income eligibility income for the Senior Citizens Exemption.

Supervisor Morrow stated that we are at $25,000, the Town of AuSable went from $23,500 after being at that for many years to $26,000 and Essex County is at $25,000 – he will ask Shelley how many seniors that receive the Enhanced STAR Exemption would be eligible.

The question was asked if any seniors lost their exemption this year – Shelley replied no unless they knew they were over income and didn’t reapply. It will be researched.

The Town Clerk had nothing for the Board.

The Town Attorney had nothing for the Board.

Supervisor Morrow stated that he has given the information to Kevin Hall to survey behind the buildings on Front Street for quit claim deeds.

Supt. of Highways; Phil Pray said that Chesterfield Street is done – just finished up the mailboxes – reseeded – should be carpeted back by next year.

Mill Hill is done – finished it yesterday – brush has been cut back – now you can see the iron bridge.

Tut, Shane and Kevin are trimming Spring Street – we will be helping them.

Supervisor Morrow said he was glad to see that they patched the holes on Mill Street.

Supervisor Morrow informed Phil that the County has guiderails we can have for Spring Street, not much of a shoulder and quite a drop off.

Councilman Klages stated it is a good job on Mill Hill.

Upon a motion made by Councilman Joseph Kusalonis, seconded by Councilman Richard Klages and unanimously carried it was

**128. RESOLVED** that since there is no further business to come before the Board this meeting be adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

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Lynn Jarvis, Town Clerk