

**Town of Lyme**  
**April 9, 2008**  
**Opening of Cemetery Bids**  
**6:15 P.M.**  
**Regular Town Board Meeting**  
**6:30 P.M.**

Supervisor Aubertine called the opening of the Cemetery Bids to order at 6:25 p.m., submitted bids were as follows:

- 1.) Joseph Repp - Bid for the Town of Lyme Cemetery Clean Up and Mowing 2008. Bid for the mowing, clean up, and general pick up of the following: Point Salubrious, Putnam, Point Peninsula, Fox Creek, Ashland and Robinson Road - \$2,300.00.
- 2.) Gilmore Lawn Care and Snow Plowing – furnish material and labor to complete the work for the sum of \$3,170.00 plus sales tax.
- 3.) Larry Jensen – For all six Cemeteries, he would like to be paid monthly at the beginning or by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month, with six equal payments – total bid - \$2,800.00. At the Ashland Cemetery there are two trees that are very dangerous, there is dirt to be filled in, four hours to clean and move dirt. Robinson Road needs dirt and two hours to clean up. Fox Creek fence needs to be fixed, lots of weed eating to be done, one to two hours, with fence; without twenty dollars, Town must supply the materials. Putnam, no charge. Point Salubrious, lots of raking of debris, Point Peninsula needs dirt; to haul in stone will be extra. Mileage and removing of debris would be \$290.00.

Advertisement from Newspaper read as follows:

*The Town of Lyme is seeking bids for six (6) mowings, two (2) trimmings and general picking up of branches, twigs, etc. of the following six cemeteries: Wells, Ashland, Point Salubrious, Fox Creek, Point Peninsula, Robinson Road. Bidders must review cemeteries with contact person before submitting bid. Bidder must furnish own equipment and fuel plus a certificate of liability insurance to be presented at the time of the bid opening. Any persons performing the care must be properly insured. All cemeteries must be in excellent shape for Memorial and Labor Day weekends. Other mowings are on a judgment basis between bidder and contact person. At the time of each mowing the cemeteries will be inspected. Sealed bids will be accepted until twelve noon on April 9, 2008 and the bids will be opened at the Regularly Scheduled Town Board Meeting at 6:15 p.m. that evening.*

***Councilman Schreib made a motion to close the Bid Opening Meeting at 6:35 p.m.***

The regularly scheduled Town Board Meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. The meeting was opened with a Prayer and the Pledge.

***RESOLUTION 2008 – 51: Motion by Councilman Madill and accepted by Councilman Johnson to accept the bid submitted by Joseph Repp for the***

*mowing of the six Abandoned Cemeteries from May 1, 2008 through October 31, 2008. Five ayes. Motion carried.*

**Supervisor Aubertine** thanked the Deputy Clerk, Paula Radley for sitting in for Town Clerk, Kim Wallace at tonight's meeting. Kim and her whole family are sick. This is another fine example of our Shared Services working.

### **Privilege of the Floor**

**Bob Thomas** – Would like to set up a meeting to allow people to come in and view the new Building. Their own people did most of the work and it had saved a lot of money in doing so. Lyme is the first Board being asked to come up and view the new building. Department heads will be there to answer any questions. If there are any major questions you can fax or email them to Bob.

Supervisor Aubertine asked if the Board could get together without having to call it a meeting? Attorney Gebo stated that we could call it an information gathering session. There just cannot be any business conducted.

Deputy Superintendent Jim Price stated that the County did a very good job cutting down the trees on County Route 125.

Mr. Thomas stated that they will be talking about the fishing and parking situation soon.

### **Audit of Bills**

Councilman Schreib inquired about the get-well flowers sent to Superintendent Parker from the Town Board. Rather than the Town paying for the flowers the Town Board members will all chip in. They felt they could not take it out of public funds. The cost was \$28.50 and the voucher will be removed from Abstract # 8.

Councilman Schreib continued, addressing Abstract # 8 the DA account. He felt there has been a lot of unleaded gas used at the Highway Garage being purchased from Griffith and Mohawk Fuels. He thought we were buying all the gas from the School. Councilman Countryman said we don't always buy it from the School. We have gas at the Highway Department for Tom's truck, the generator, equipment, etc. Mohawk has the State Contract.

Councilman Schreib also had questions regarding new tires for Ronnie and Andy's truck and the backhoe.

There was also a prepaid made to the Chamber of Commerce for fireworks and the help in publishing the Chamber Books. We need a letter requesting the money for each, from the Chamber.

***RESOLUTION 2008 – 52: Motion by Councilman Countryman and seconded by Councilman Johnson to accept Abstract # 7 in the amount of \$72,855.63. Five ayes. Motion carried.***

***RESOLUTION 2008 – 53: Motion by Councilman Madill and seconded by Councilman Johnson to accept Abstract # 8 in the amount of \$79,431.79. Five ayes. Motion carried.***

### **Highway Superintendent**

Deputy Superintendent Price reported that they were going to start the draining project on County Route 8. They will also start sweeping the Town roads.

Councilman Countryman said that they had taken a walk around and looked at the new side entrance door. What they had thought about doing was to come off the corner of the building and go to the guardrail with possibly a jersey barrier. They had talked about blacktopping the whole side parking area.

The Highway Department is getting 50 posts for the Fire Road signs from the County.

All the Village streets have been swept with the power sweeper and Three Mile Bay will be next.

### **Supervisor's Report**

Tom Bowie – Gave a brief summary of the March Supervisor's Report.

There was not a line item for the auditors so the Board should move funds to create the account. The 2005 audit was paid for out of the Bookkeepers account.

Citizens Bank will have on line banking available soon. Karen Fitzgerald suggested that Tom have access to the on line accounts so they can go in and figure up the interest on any of the accounts that are interest bearing. The Board must approve this authorization. There is interest earned but Tom does not have access to it. We need the interest to make the financial statements more accurate.

The Board would like to see the percentages, either what is remaining or expended. It would be a good gauge to see what is remaining in accounts.

***RESOLUTION 2008 – 54: Motion by Councilman Schreib and seconded by Councilman Countryman to accept the March 2008 Supervisor's Report. Five ayes. Motion carried.***

### **Shared Services**

Letter from Mayor Geoff Donaldson regarding the Shared Services Agreement addressed:

1. Status of the truck – Superintendent Parker has received information on the Ford and Chevy trucks they are looking at. They should be ordered by May so they could have it this fall.

2. Moving items from the Village office to the Municipal Building. We will find room for what is coming in.
3. Equipment from the warm barn will have to be moved to the Highway Department. Garbage truck is kept in cold storage but they do plug a heater into it.
4. Form a Liaison Committee for the joint buildings. Supervisor Aubertine and Councilman Schreib agreed to take on the responsibility of this position.
5. The Village Board of Trustees will meet the second Tuesday of the month, beginning in May. The May meeting will be the first to be held at the Town Municipal Building.

Councilman Countryman stated that the 2005 Minutes would be available by the next Town Board Meeting. There have been some areas that needed to be addressed within the minutes and some typographical errors. All in all it looks like they will be ready for approval.

The Board made a motion to have a five-minute break at 7:35 p.m. and the meeting was called back to order at 7:45.

**After this point in the meeting there is nothing available on the micro cassette. The minutes from this point on have been transcribed from the notes taken by the attending Clerk, Paula Radley.**

There were no questions regarding the Town Clerk's Report for March 2008.

**RESOLUTION 2008 – 55: Motion by Councilman Schreib and seconded by Councilman Madill to table the March 2008 Regular Meeting Minutes. Five ayes. Motion carried.**

### **Department Reports**

**Assessor's Report** – There were no Assessor's at tonight's meeting. The question about increasing the Veterans exemption was addressed. Attorney Gebo stated that in order to set a Local Law you would have to schedule a Public Hearing.

**RESOLUTION 2008 – 56: Motion by Councilman Schreib and seconded by Councilman Countryman scheduling a Public Hearing for May 14, 2008 at 6:15 p.m. to increase the Veteran's exemption in the Town of Lyme. Five ayes. Motion carried.**

Attorney Gebo agreed to handle the Public Hearing notice for this Hearing to be posted in the Watertown Daily Times.

Tentative Roll – work has been almost completed in preparation of the tentative roll. They have added over \$3,000,000.00 to the tax roll at this point.

Written Procedure-Zoning Permit Book – the assessor's are implementing a procedure book for the Zoning Permits book.

PDC Meetings – They are set up with a meeting with ORPS’s officials April 8<sup>th</sup>. They will be looking over their market data analysis. This information is used to establish the level of assessment and measures valuation uniformity. Sales from 7/1/04 – 6/30/07 are used, along with appraisals. CAMA models are developed from the information. CAMA stands for “Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal”.

The purpose of the PDC is to work collaboratively with local officials, to analyze the market place and condition of assessments, for the subsequent use in the equalization rate and assessment equity function. This will determine our level of assessment. The level of assessment will determine the equalization rate. We have a 5% tolerance from the figure the state computes for the equalization rate. Basically, if our level of assessment is 35%, we can increase only 2 ½% and the state would accept that figure as our equalizations rate.

Ethics Course – All three assessors are scheduled to attend the mandatory Ethics course being held in Watertown April 25, 2008.

### **Cemetery Report**

**Julia Gosier** – Hart and Bruce had a burial in April and Johnson Funeral Home had a burial in May.

Julie bought a new padlock with extra keys for the vault and gave one to Johnson Funeral Home.

Job applications were reviewed with Norm and Jim.

Julie met with one of the lot owners in the cemetery to discuss putting markers on unmarked family graves.

Harold Sanderson, a cemetery stone expert, is going to meet with Julie next week at no charge, to advise her on several stone issues in the cemetery.

The roof of the vault is in bad shape. She will provide more information about this next month.

**Water Board Report** – Councilman Schreib stated that they had received one bid for the Point Salubrious Water District from Bernier and Carr associate.

Marsha Barton submitted a written report addressing:

Old Town Springs Road-Proposed District #5 – All required paperwork is being completed by Bernier and Carr and Mark Gebo’s Office. As far as they know, everything is right on schedule.

Three Mile Point Proposed Water District – Marsha has received word from Kris Dimmick that he has found the old paperwork they have on the Three Mile Point District from a few years ago. He will be sending her copies of it. Kris has estimated the cost to update to be less than \$1,000.00. They will

still need to get an updated petition for the proposed district. Mary Humiston is spearheading the project, mailing to all the residents in the proposed district, informing them of a meeting at the Chaumont Fire Hall on the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend. Rather than going door to door, she will have the petitions available for signing on that day. She is anticipating getting the 51% needed to bring the petition to the Water Board. Mary will be inviting the Infrastructure Committee, the Water Board and a representative from Bernier and Carr to answer any questions.

12E Proposed Extension of Water District # 2 – A letter was mailed to all residents of this proposed Water District informing them that the project was too costly with so few users and that the project had been put on hold for the time being. They also assured them that they should continue to look for more grants that might make it economically feasible project.

Water Facility – The new coin meter receptor has been installed. Darwin Brown repaired and cleaned the old one, so they have it on hand for a spare. There have been no major problems with the facility. Guy Gosier reports that the facility is being kept clean and orderly.

Fern Comins – Tim Mason has been given the drawing prepared by Norm Schreib and has agreed to do the necessary repairs. He was waiting for some of the snow to be gone.

Department of Health Testing – Bill Scarppcchi has informed us that to comply with Department of Health testing of the water, he will have to complete 8 tests at a cost of \$180.00 per test. They are combining Districts 1 and 4, so each District will be charged \$360.00. District #2 will be charged \$720.00.

**Planning Board Report** – Boo Harris – went to the Local Government Tug Hill Conference. Four of them went and each took a different course.

Paul Norton – NYSERDA has put out a grant for solar lighting. He spoke with Marsha Walton and she had indicated that there would be approximately 20 thru 25 applications made for solar lighting grants but only 5 to 7 grants are awarded each year. Solar street lighting makes good sense. Carla, from the Tug Hill Commission is helping with the paperwork. This is very exciting and interesting.

Councilman Countryman reminded the Planning Board members to turn in expenses and mileage while traveling for the Town.

### **Youth Committee**

Charlie Mount – has signed up about the same number of kids for the softball / baseball program this season.

The field has suffered a lot of wind damage. The school will need to send a formal request asking permission to use the field again this year.

There are seven bikes that have not been sponsored for the Willy Putnam Tournament. Attorney Gebo stated that the Town could be a sponsor.

Letter needed for the Town Development Fund.

There was a letter received from the Secretary / Treasurer of the Chaumont – Three Mile Bay Chamber of Commerce requesting help with the cost of the 2008 Chamber Books and the Fire Works that will be held in Chaumont July 28, 2008.

***RESOLUTION 2008 – 56: Motion by Councilman Schreib and seconded by Councilman Johnson approving the \$3,000.00 toward the cost of the 2008 Chamber Booklets and \$500.00 toward the cost of the Community Days Fireworks to be held on July 28, 2008. Five ayes. Motion carried.***

**DOT – Three Mile Bay NYS Route 12E Project** - documents and maps that show area, needs to be reviewed. Attorney Gebo will be happy to review the report. The Supervisor will have to sign the documents. The Board can schedule a Special Meeting. There is a year to have an appraisal done. The land they are using does not look terribly invasive.

There is an ongoing discussion about the lighting.

Julia Gosier – the light issue is a separate entity, two different departments. They want to buy three feet; there is nothing there that is a use to us.

***Motion by Councilman Schreib and seconded by Councilman Countryman to table the discussion of the Three Mile Bay Road Project until next month. Five ayes. Motion carried.***

Attorney Gebo stated that the Moratorium expires next month and asked if the Boards will be done with the Local Law by then.

***RESOLUTION 2008 – 57: Motion by Councilman Schreib and seconded by Councilman and seconded by Councilman Johnson to hold a Public Hearing on April 17, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. to extend the existing Wind Law Moratorium. Five ayes. Motion carried.***

Supervisor Aubertine - The Transfer Site employees had a concern that there were copies of permits being made.

Councilman Johnson stated that we need to be consistent with the permits. The Village will be adding the cost of the permits to their tax roll.

Bernier and Carr's proposal was received April 8, 2008. Copies will be provided for the Board members.

The Town Board appointed Ted Schofield as the Town Historian. He presently works at Jefferson County Social Services and resides on Point Salubrious.

**Privilege of the Floor**

Julia Gosier – when the discussion about the confusion of fuel deliveries was taking place earlier, it brought to mind the problems that the Three Mile Bay Fire Department has had this year. There have been problems with deliveries and they have even run out a couple of times. The Board may want to investigate other options. They have also had problems with the furnace; running out of fuel could cause it. She also stated that with regard to the Shared Services with the Village, the Code of Ethics should be looked over in reference to nepotism and conflicts of interest.

Bonnie Parker – Thank you for the flowers for Tom when he was in the hospital. Bonnie also asked Councilman Johnson, in regard to the Nepotism Law, why her sister-in-law, Jo Morrow and her brother could both work for the Town, while Cameron Parker could not continue to be employed by the Town. Mr. Johnson answered very simply, that Mrs. Morrow and her brother have no supervisory positions over one another; Cameron Parker was directly supervised by his father.

Julie Parker – asked about alcoholic beverages and drinking prior to public meetings.

Donnie Bourquin – Addressed Councilman Schreib stating that Supervisor Aubertine wanted to read a statement and Norm was insistent that it was not the time or place to make the statement.

Councilman Schreib responded by saying that he asked Supervisor Aubertine to go into Executive Session to discuss making the statement.

Julie – The first Public Hearing in January is posted on the Town Web Site she would like to see the second one on there. Councilman Schrib stated that the Board wants everything on there.

Bill Brown – with such large setbacks the windmill companies may not want to come in. The Town will loose about a million dollars a year.

Julie Gosier – Does the moratorium mean that you cannot communicate with wind farm companies. By excluding the test tower it limits knowledge. Being able to communicate lets you obtain information. It's very frustrating, there could be lawsuits if this is not done right. Should be an experienced legal expert that has knowledge in this field.

Supervisor Aubertine has the Resolution but he know how the Board feels about communicating.

***Motion by Councilman Schreib and seconded by Councilman Madill to move into Executive Session at 9:00 to discuss appointments.***

The Board returned from Executive Session at 9:25 p.m.

***RESOLUTION 2008 – 58: Motion by Councilman Schreib and seconded by Councilman Johnson authorizing Supervisor Aubertine to sign the Teamsters Agreement paperwork. Five ayes. Motion carried.***

***RESOLUTION 2008 – 59: Motion by Councilman Countryman and seconded by Councilman Madill to appoint David Rush as the new Zoning Enforcement Officer and appointing Jim Millington as the Deputy Zoning Enforcement Officer. Five ayes. Motion carried.***

***RESOLUTION 2008 – 60: Motion by Councilman Schreib and seconded by Councilman Johnson providing a cell phone to the new Zoning Enforcement Officer with the phone number of 783-1567. Five ayes. Motion carried.***

***RESOLUTION 2008 – 61: Motion by Councilman Madill and seconded by Councilman Johnson to appoint Dave Rush to the Municipal Water Board as recommended by the Municipal Water Board Chairman, Marsha Barton. Five ayes. Motion carried.***

***RESOLUTION 2008 – 62: Motion by Councilman Schreib and seconded by Councilman countryman to obtain Joe Repp as the Three mile Bay Cemetery Caretaker for the 2008 season. Five ayes. Motion carried.***

***Motion by Councilman Countryman and seconded by Councilman Madill to adjourn at approximately 9:30 p.m.***

***These minutes were completely transcribed from written and audio material obtained from Deputy Town Clerk Paula Radley.***

***Respectfully Submitted by***

***Kim Wallace  
Town of Lyme Clerk***