

**Town Board Meeting**  
January 10, 2010

At the Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Cambridge, duly called and held the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January 2011, 7:30 PM at the Town Hall, the following were present:

Supervisor William Watkins  
Councilwoman Catherine Fedler  
Councilman Ted Berndt  
Councilman Alan Davis  
Councilman Frank Ziehm

Others present: Heather Greenawalt Town Clerk, Melissa Stannard Deputy Town Clerk, LaVerne Davis Code Enforcement, Rani Bass, Astrid Davis, Henry Peabody, Jimmy Stannard, Dick Battistoni, Terry Hamilton, Scott Keller, David DeCarlo

Bills were audited prior to the meeting at 7:00 PM

General	#1 – 15	\$11,856.30
Highway	#1 – 3	\$ 2,658.24

Supervisor Watkins called meeting to order at 7:30 PM with a moment of silence and immediately led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Resolution#1

Councilman Ziehm motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Fedler to approve the Supervisor's report for month of December 2010.

Vote:                   Aye – 5                   Noe – 0

Assessors Report

Supervisor Watkins reported that he had spoke with Jeffry Jackson today and wanted everyone to know that any elderly that are 65 and older and any military that own land are eligible for exemptions. The Supervisor requested that this be put in the Eagle.

Transfers

Resolution#2

Margaret Shaw Clerk to the Supervisor requested several Transfers. The first Transfer being \$167.60 from Town Hall contractual A1620.4 to A1110.4 Justice Contractual in the amount of \$8.27 and the remaining to the Highway Garage Contractual A5132.4 in the amount of \$159.33.

The second Transfer being \$760.39 from A1220.1 Supervisor, Personal Services and \$27.34 A1220.4 Supervisor, contractual to the Highway Garage contractual A5132.4 in the amount of \$787.73.

The third Transfer being \$28.00 from the Town Hall contractual A1620.4 to the Dog Control contractual A3510.4 in the amount of \$28.00.

The fourth Transfer being \$228.87 from Machinery, Equipment DA5130.2 to DA5130.4 Machinery, contractual in the amount of \$228.87.

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Councilman Berndt motioned, Seconded by Councilwoman Fedler to approve the transfers requested.

Vote:           Aye – 5                   Noe – 0

Resolution#3

Councilwoman Fedler motioned, Seconded by Councilman Ziehm to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2010 meeting and the Year end meeting of December 29, 2010 with the following corrections. On page 1 of the December 13, 2010 meeting at the bottom under the Supervisor’s Report It should be made known that it was determined that this is a per furnace charge, not a service call charge and is the policy for everyone. On page 5 of the December 13, 2010 meeting it should state that Margaret Shaw is Clerk to the Supervisor not the Budget Officer, and in this same section under resolution #128 the 5 transfers should be stated. These transfers were as follows \$900.00 was transferred from A1220.1 Supervisor’s Personal Services to A1410.13 Town Clerk per diem, Personal Services. The second transfer was \$589.61 transferred from A1220.1 which is Supervisor’s Personal Services to A1910.0 Unallocated Insurance (CNA Surety Bill). The third transfer is \$56.72 was transferred from A1990.4 Contingent to A3510.4 Dog Control, Contractual. The fourth transfer was \$55.76 from A1990.4 Contingent to A1110.4 Justice, Contractual. The fifth transfer was \$134.35 was transferred from DA5130.2 Machinery, Equipment to DA5130.4 the Machinery Contractual. The corrections for the Year End Meeting are as follows that on page 2 of the December 29, 2010 minutes Councilwoman Fedler would like it stated that there is no actual Resolution stating that two board members have to be notified on the litigations of Brownell Road Property it was only stated in the minutes of February 11, 2010.

Vote:           Aye – 5                   Noe – 0

Town Board

Councilman Davis had some Concerns that he wanted to voice and would like to add this to New Business.

Councilman Berndt had some concerns on the budget process he feels that the majority of the Town Board was not included in this process. In August Councilman Berndt and Margaret Shaw Clerk to the Supervisor worked on setting up the budget in an excel spreadsheet form which helped fulfill a campaign promise of the Town Supervisor. A checklist was also handed out that came from the Association of Towns for the dates that were to be followed regarding the Budget procedure. At the September 20<sup>th</sup> meeting Councilman Berndt stated that he asked the Supervisor if it was possible to schedule a Budget Workshop, and he stated that Lawyer Wicks said that a Budget Workshop was not necessary. Councilman Berndt wanted it known that this is not the Supervisors budget it is the People’s budget. Councilman Ziehm had also requested a Budget Workshop in the end of September, to bring forward some of the best ideas to try to save on taxes for the tax payer. Councilman Berndt voiced his concerns about the suggestion to cut funds for the EMS, and he stated that there was not as much scrutiny when it came to the Fire Departments, Library and the Senior Citizens. Councilman Berndt is very

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disappointed in the process and feels that the majority of Town Board was closed out of this Budget. Councilman Berndt requested that Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt read a letter from Penny Speizo the Rescue Squad President which was submitted for the record. This letter stated her disappointment with the way that the Budget process happened and the problems that occurred with a copy of the Rescue Squad budget getting to the Supervisor.

The Supervisor responded and asked Councilman Berndt if he had a chance to review the budget and make any changes to the Budget. Councilman Berndt stated that Yes he did. Councilman Berndt still stated that he felt that people were shut out of this process. Councilwoman Fedler states that it was not their intention to leave anyone out of budget process and she asked Councilman Ziehm if this was similar to the process in the past. He stated that usually they had a Budget Workshop and than the Public Hearing. The Budget Workshop was for the board to make changes together and than the Board voted on the finished budget. Councilwoman Fedler stated that the reasoning of having a Budget Workshop and a Public Hearing together was so that action could be taken on the same evening as the Public Hearing.

Councilman Ziehm stated for the next budget they should try to include everyone more by including both the board members and the public.

Town Clerk

Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt reported that the taxes are coming in and at the next meeting she will have a report of the amount collected. Dog Licensing updates have been downloaded and are ready to be used to issue new licenses. High Speed Internet card will be updated by the Town Justice Janet DeCarlo because the information is contained on her computer to update the card. The Town Clerk has also looked into Hughes Net and Wild Blue for possibilities however it was suggested that for now we wait to see how the updates with the Verizon Wireless Card work out. Hughes Net has a contract period for 24 month. The contract with Verizon does not expire until April. Suggested by tax payer Scott Keller to look into an antenna for the Town Hall, this will be checked out by Councilman Berndt. However, Councilman Berndt said that he spoke with Terry Dwyer and he said that there is nothing to his knowledge that is available that will boost the signal. Scott Keller suggested that he go to Radio Shack.

Councilwoman Fedler read the paper work that was sent to the Town Clerk on the 2011 Training School and the Annual Meeting of the Association of Towns. This is to be read at the first 2011 Town Board meeting and has dated material that is to be returned to the Association of Towns. This Training School and the Annual Meeting will be held at the Hilton in New York City on February 20 – 23 2011. This is a training session for Town Officials. No one from the Town of Cambridge is attending this is stated in the Organizational Resolution.

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Clerk to the Planning Board

In the absence of the Sally Beelen Eddy, Clerk to the Planning Board, Councilwoman Fedler read the report. The Planning Board met Thursday, January 6, 2011, 7:30 PM with a full board present.

- 1.) A public hearing was held and final approval granted to Jonathan Bridge for a 2.67 acre minor subdivision on King Road. The lot will be conveyed to his daughter and son-in-law to build a residence thereon.
- 2.) Members were informed about an upcoming seminar on the SEQR process to be held in Latham, NY on March 10, 2011 sponsored by Lorman Education Services. The cost per attendee is \$369.
- 3.) Eric Pearson was elected Chairman, Earl Horton was elected Vice-Chairman for 2011.
- 4.) Reviewed and approved a proposal for a boundary line adjustment presented by adjoining property owners, Dan Molloy and Dorothy Yurschak on Conley Rd. There will be approximately a .2 acre exchange between them.
- 5.) Pages 19 – 27 of the subdivision regulations were reviewed with little change.
- 6.) The Planning Board has voted upon and approved two recommendations they would like to see incorporated into subdivision regulations. They (Planning Board) would like the Town Board to approve them and seek the course of implementation:  
The recommendations are:
  1. There shall be a 70 ft. set back from the center of the road for all new construction.
  2. There shall be a 50 ft. set back from property lines for all new construction.
- 7.) The Planning Board approved a third recommendation which they believe does fall under subdivision regulations. The recommendation is: The Town of Cambridge shall not take over the care and maintenance of any newly constructed roads. The Planning Board is asking the Town Board to approve it and implement it where it's appropriate.
- 8.) The Board is planning to ask Bill McCarty, from the County Tax Mapping Department, to come to a meeting to clarify some questions they have considering boundary line adjustments.
- 9.) It was recommended that for any questions on any of the above items, contact Chairman Eric Pearson.

Resolution #4

Councilman Berndt motioned, Seconded by Councilwoman Fedler to send this information from the Planning Board to Alan Wrigley the Town Attorney so he can review it.

Vote:                      Aye – 5                      Noe – 0

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Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt was made aware by Sally Beelen Eddy that the term for Danny Thomas has expired for the Planning Board and he must be reappointed by the Town Board.

Resolution #5

Councilwoman Fedler motioned, Seconded by Councilman Berndt to reappoint Danny Thomas to the Planning Board for another 7 year Term which would expire January 2019.

Vote:                   Aye – 5                   Noe – 0

Councilman Davis asked the Supervisor if the Planning Board must have monthly meeting if there is nothing brought before them. The Councilman Stated that he was asked by a couple of the members if this was a requirement. The Board went on further to discuss this matter and whether or not there is a by law that must be followed.

Resolution #6

Councilwoman Fedler motioned, Seconded by Councilman Davis that if there is no business before the Planning Board that they refer to their by laws, then Eric Pearson can make the decision whether or not it is necessary that the Planning Board meet that month.

Vote:                   Aye – 5                   Noe – 0

Councilman Davis asked if the Town Board commented on the recommendations now from the Planning Board or if they waited until Alan Wrigley the Town Attorney looked at them. The Supervisor stated that Alan Wrigley had to look at the legality of these suggestions first and than go from there. Councilman Davis stated that he was not sure of the suggestion that the Town not take over any new roads, what if down the road they have a need to take over new roads. The Supervisor again stated that they would have to wait and see the legality of this after it is looked at by Alan Wrigley.

Superintendent of Highways

In Highway Superintendents Eric Shaw’s absence, Councilwoman Fedler read his report. In the past month they dealt with some small as well as some larger storms with only minor breakdowns. Necessary repairs and adjustments to the equipment were made. Two sander chains were replaced with their inventory. More firewood was cut for the shop. Two men, 1 truck and our loader helped the village pick snow for one day. One employee from the Town of Jackson adjusted all the clutches in our trucks. Eric Shaw the Highway Superintendent checked with area businesses for prices on oil. Farrell Oil Co. proved to be the lowest. The following list illustrates the findings:

	Farrell Oil Co.	Hudson River Tractor	Capital Tractor
15 W 40	\$599.99	\$678.73	\$670.48
Hy Tran	587.00	608.93	724.28
Gear Oil	176.05	N/A	298.81

The Highway Department was in need of all three oils, so Eric Shaw Highway Superintendent purchased them from Farrell Oil Co.

Resolution #7

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Councilman Berndt motioned, Seconded by Councilman Davis to approve the spending of Highway funds for the year of 2011 in the amount of \$85,600.00.

Vote:                   Aye – 5                   Noe – 0

Internet Committee

Met Monday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Town Hall decided to reach out to Congressman's District director Steve Stallmer, and it was even suggested that Supervisor Watkins and Councilman Berndt take a drive down and talk with Sam Caldwell, with New York governmental affairs for Verizon. One of the key things was the attendance of Mrs. Linda Burgoyne who lives on Durfee road in the Town. She sent an email to Mr. Caldwell and this went to Terry Dwyer. He suggested that we need to get a letter in the mail to Christopher Craigor who is a gentleman in charge of internal operations for Verizon. Councilman Berndt has created a draft letter so that the committee can look at it and then it will be sent. It was stated that this would probably be the last hope of them actually taking action.

Code Enforcement

LaVerne Davis was present and reported that the only thing in the town that was going on right now was the house that was being built on King Road.

Unfinished Business

Supervisor Watkins questioned whether or not any one had heard from the Lawyers in regards to the Brownell Road Property. Councilman Berndt stated that he had talked to the Lawyer today and asked him if he was aware that 2 members of the Board were supposed to be informed about the progress. Councilman Berndt stated that he has not been kept informed about the progress of Litigations of the Brownell Road property. He stated that on January 23<sup>rd</sup> there would be a conference with Judge Krogman, councilman Berndt stated that also he did not know that the Judge had issued a judgement until the last few days. Councilman Berndt referred to the Town Board Watch website. He stated that this document was obtained from this website. Councilman Berndt wanted to know if the Town Clerk had received anything. Melissa Stannard Deputy Clerk stated that Rani Bass had obtained this information from her and she also gave a copy to everyone on the Town Board for the last board meeting. On January 26<sup>th</sup> there will be a settlement hearing at 1:30 PM this will be between the lawyers. The Supervisor stated that he would be contacted and than he would contact the board members. A Suggestion was made to change the contact person. Councilman Berndt asked the Supervisor to remove himself from this and the Supervisor stated that the Councilman was the one that started this with the prior board. Councilwoman suggested that Councilman Ziehm represent with Supervisor Watkins. It was determined that Councilman Davis and Councilwoman Fedler represent the Town Board and contact the other board members of the results.

Resolution #8

Councilwoman Fedler motioned, Seconded by Councilman Berndt that Councilman Davis and Councilwoman Fedler represent the Town Board and be the contacts with the

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Lawyer's office and that they keep everyone informed of the developments in regards to the Brownell Road Property.

Roll Call Vote:       Supervisor Watkins – Aye  
                           Councilman Davis – Aye  
                           Councilman Berndt – Aye  
                           Councilman Ziehm – Aye  
                           Councilwoman Fedler – Aye

**Resolution #9**

Councilman Berndt motioned, Seconded by Councilman Ziehm to appoint Alan Wrigley to the position as the Town Attorney.

Vote:                    Aye – 5                    Noe – 0

Supervisor Watkins requested that Heather Greenawalt Town Clerk read the 2011 Organizational Resolution.

**2011 ORGANIZATIONAL RESOLUTION**

Resolution by Councilman Ziehm  
 Seconded by Councilwoman Fedler

Be It Resolved, the following salaries and expenses may be paid to the Town of Cambridge Officials for the year 2011:

<u>OFFICIAL</u>	<u>SALARY</u>	<u>PAYABLE</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>
Supervisor	\$ 0	Quarterly	\$ 800
Deputy Supervisor	200	Annually	
Clerk to the Supervisor	6800	Quarterly	
Supt. Of Highways	40,600	Bi-weekly	1500
Town Justice	3000	Quarterly	2160
Clerk to the Justice	1500	Quarterly	
Councilpersons(4) \$850 ea	3400	Quarterly	800
Town Clerk	17,000	Bi-weekly	5500
Deputy Town Clerk & Clerk per diem	2,600	\$10.00 hr. per diem	
Sole Assessor	17,590	Bi-weekly	500
Board of Review 3 @\$100ea	300	Annually	
Planning Board Clerk	1750	Quarterly	500
Registrar Of Vital Statistics	100	Semi-annually	
Dog Warden (per person)	900each	Monthly	800
Health Officer	0		
Budget Officer	0	Quarterly	400
Code Enforcement Officer	8735	Monthly	900
Historian	250	Annually	50
Town Attorney	1800		

Further Resolved, each Planning Board member shall be paid \$20.00 for each meeting attended, and the Acting Chairman at such meeting of the Planning Board shall be paid \$25.00 for each meeting chaired, and be it

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Further Resolved, that the officials of the town, using their own vehicles on official town business, may be reimbursed at the rate of \$.45 per mile, and

Be It Further Resolved, that the hourly wage rates in the Highway Department be: \$15.52 for working foreman; \$15.18 for heavy machine equipment operators (HEO); machine equipment operators (MEO) \$14.83; for year-round part-time MEO \$11.56; \$8.16 for part-time laborer; part-time mechanic \$8.50, and be it

Further Resolved, that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to use unexpended balances in all the funds for expenses in 2011, and be it

Further Resolved, that the voting premises for District I will continue to be the Town Hall,  
County Route 59; and the voting premises for District 2 will be the Town Highway Garage

Further Resolved, that the Town Board meetings will be held on the second Monday of the month at the Board Room in the Town Hall at 7:30 PM unless changed by the call of the Supervisor, and be it

Further Resolved, that the power and light bills and the telephone bills be paid without prior audit, and be it

Further Resolved, that the following Town Officials be and are hereby appointed for the year 2011:

Deputy Supervisor.....	Catherine Fedler
Clerk to the Planning Board.....	Sally B. Eddy
Sole Assessor.....	Jeffry Jackson
Historian.....	Sandra Davis
Registrar of Vital Statistics.....	Heather A. Greenawalt
Budget Officer.....	William Watkins
Clerk to the Supervisor.....	Margaret Shaw
Clerk per diem to Supervisor.....	
Deputy Town Clerk, Registrar, Tax Collector.....	Melissa Stannard
Code Enforcement Officer.....	H. LaVerne Davis
Town Attorney.....	Alan Wrigley
Health Officer.....	Dr. Paul Byron
Dog Warden/ Animal Control.....	Edward Holland & Nancy Quell
Dog Damage Adjuster.....	Frank Ziehm

Further Resolved, that the Eagle is hereby designated the official newspaper of the Town of Cambridge, and the Glens Falls National Bank and Trust, Cambridge, NY, and, TD BankNorth NY (Greenwich, NY Branch) are hereby designated as the official depositories of town funds for the year 2011, and be it

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Further Resolved, that there shall be no one designated to attend the 2011 Annual Meeting of the Association of Towns due to fiscal restraints, and be it

Further Resolved, that the Town Board does authorize the Superintendent of Highways to advertise for bid: culvert pipe, oil and stone, and be it

Further Resolved, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the Superintendent of Highways to purchase equipment, tools and implements without prior approval of this Board in the amount not to exceed \$1,000 for any one item for the year 2011, and be it

Further Resolved, that the price paid for gravel purchased in 2011 be not more than \$7.50 per yard, and the price for sand be not more than \$6.00 per yard.

Further Resolved, that the Supervisor be authorized to make application to the NY State Youth Commission for approval of a recreational project in accordance with the laws of the State of New York and the Rules and Regulations of the Youth Commission, and be it

Further Resolved, that this Town Board authorizes the acceptance of claimant's certifications on a voucher form approved by the NY State Department of Audit & Control.

**Resolution #10**

Councilman Ziehm motioned, Seconded by Councilwoman Fedler to accept the Organizational Resolution for 2011.

Roll Call Vote:       Supervisor Watkins – Aye  
                          Councilman Davis – Aye  
                          Councilman Berndt – Aye  
                          Councilman Ziehm – Aye  
                          Councilwoman Fedler – Aye

Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt read a resolution by the TD Bank which is one of the official banks of the Town of Cambridge.

**Resolution #11**

Councilman Ziehm motioned, Seconded by Councilman Davis that the Resolutions of the TD Bank were read and accepted by the Town of Cambridge Town Board at the Organizational Resolution Meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January 2011.

Vote:                Aye – 5                       Noe – 0

**Resolution #12**

Councilman Fedler motioned, Seconded by Councilman Davis to continue the curfew for the Town Board meeting as suggested by Councilwoman Fedler, the curfew will continue to be the same as 2010 which was 9:30 PM.

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Vote:                   Aye – 5                   Noe – 0

Supervisor Watkins made everyone aware that the Dog Control People Nancy Quell and Ed Holland have moved from the place at the top of Schuylerville Hill to their home in Cossayuna.

Councilman Davis took time to point out some of the concerns about things that had taken place throughout the year of 2010 with the Town Board. The following concerns that he had were as follows: Councilman Davis stated that Supervisor Watkins used to come to the meetings as a tax payer stating smoke in the mirrors that is not how it is. Now however, he stated Supervisor Watkins is doing the same thing for example he made a comment tonight that they are cutting taxes. Councilman Davis stated that he did not cut taxes the town tax rate went up but county tax rate went down, because the county budget was cut. Councilman Davis also mentioned about the all salt program which is also not true, he states that they need to be up front and let people know how it really is. He also went on to state that promises should not be made if they can't be kept, such as the promise to the highway department for raises which were not kept. The Supervisor stated that he did keep the promise of the South Union Street Bridge being replaced, taxes lowered (people got a return on there taxes), high speed internet they are still working on that. Some more concerns of Councilman Davis are about the agenda and why it takes 3 people to do this, and now why is the Town Justice on the agenda every time. Councilwoman Fedler states that only 2 Town Board members work on the agenda and Janet DeCarlo the Town Justice sometimes types it up, if she is not present than Heather Greenawalt Town Clerk will do so. Councilman Berndt has concerns that the agenda is typed by the Town Justice and that the computer of the Justice is used. The Town Justice computer is not under the Computer usage policy for the Town. The Supervisor stated that any Town Board member can add to the agenda and that he does not see a problem with the Town Justice typing the agenda. David DeCarlo stated that it should be talked about next month when Town Justice Janet DeCarlo is present. Another concern is why the Town Board did not hear about the adjournment of the hearing concerning the Brownell Road Property. Supervisor and Councilwoman Fedler stated that they did not know until the day before. Councilman Davis stated that the Town Board must be informed.

Councilman Berndt asked if there were any updates on the bridge project. Supervisor Watkins stated that he spent the whole day with engineer and that once the paper work is done than there is hope that this will resolve the flood plain issue for these residents. Councilwoman Fedler stated that the FEMA guy said that this should take care of the problem so it is on him to take care of the situation.

Councilman Ziehm had a question of what was happening with the old voting machines and that they need to be taken care of and go somewhere else.

Councilman Berndt questioned whether or not the Town Board should have a joint Town Board and Planning Board Meeting for the month of February. It was decided that it should be at Eric Pearsons discern whether or not he needs the meeting.

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Councilman Berndt made everyone aware that there was a Recycling Advisory Board meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> of January at 6:00 PM. Supervisor Watkins stated that eventually the transfer stations are going to sell dump stickers, they are going to have stations there at the recycling center.

County Report

Town of Salem is maintaining the Road from the red light to the Vermont state line they are getting \$5,000 a mile. Hartford is also doing a small piece in their town. Mr. Wilson is going to try to do a contract with all the towns and county to get less for the blacktop.

Councilman Berndt mentioned that there should be an annual review of all the policies.

There being no further business before the Board, Supervisor Watkins motioned, Seconded, by Councilwoman Fedler, carried by all to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Heather Greenawalt*

Heather Greenawalt – Town Clerk