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March 26, 2009

The Town Board of the Town of Corinth held a workshop meeting on March 26, 2009 at 4:00 PM at the Town Hall.

Present: Richard Lucia, Supervisor
Charles Brown, Councilman
John Major, Councilman
Edward Byrnes, Councilman
Mitchell Saunders, Councilman
Shawn Eggleston, Deputy Highway Superintendent
Fred Mann, Code Enforcement Officer
Rose E. Farr, Town Clerk
Mike Hill, Town Attorney
Cheri Sullivan, Deputy Town Clerk
Comprehensive Planning Committee Members

Public: Sigrid Koch, William Clarke

Supervisor Lucia said that through Senator Farley's office he found where he could go online and put in for the stimulus application, this is only considered the pre-application phase. There was also a booklet from Gillibrand's office that explains every phase of the stimulus plan and all the things that are included. Supervisor Lucia said that Town Clerk, Rose Farr is requesting the Town Board support the following two resolutions.

RESOLUTION # 114 SUPPORTING SARATOGA COUNTY TOWN CLERK'S ASSOCIATION TO REMAIN ELECTED OFFICIALS MARCH 26th, 2009.

WHEREAS, Governor David Paterson's New York State Budget for 2009 proposal would include the elimination of election of Town Clerks, Tax Collectors and Highway Superintendents as elected officials and would make these positions appointed and

WHEREAS, the right of voters to elect town clerks, highway superintendents and tax collectors in local communities will be disenfranchised and,

WHEREAS, transparency in government has been established under Municipal Home Rule Law 10 and provides a means to change elected positions to appointed following a Mandatory Referendum and

WHEREAS, Governor David Paterson through the budget process proposes to change the Mandatory Referendum to a Permissive Referendum which can be adopted without any public comment and,

WHEREAS, Sections 26 through 28 of the Governor's budget will create **NO FISCAL SAVINGS** for the State and in fact, will cost local governments additional administrative expenses,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the office of Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Highway Superintendent should be independent and remain part of the checks and balances of the local government and be elected positions.

Resolution offered by John Major
Resolution seconded by Charles Brown

Supervisor Richard Lucia
Councilman Charles Brown
Councilman John Major
Councilman Edward Byrnes
Councilman Mitchell Saunders

Resolution duly adopted.

There were no questions or comments from the board members present in relation to the above mentioned resolution.

Resolution # 115 of Support for Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund (LGRMIF) and the Office of Cultural Education Account.

Whereas, the Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund (LGRMIF) was created in 1989 to provide technical assistance and grants to establish, improve or enhance records management programs in New York's 4400 local governments, and

Whereas, the LGRMIF has awarded 8,856 grants totaling over \$176 million to improve the management of records for over half of all local governments in New York State, and

Whereas, the LGRMIF saves local governments at least \$5.6 million annually in storage costs by funding grant projects to identify and destroy non-permanent records, and

Whereas, the LGRMIF saves local governments at least \$4.8 million annually in costs to search for records, and

Whereas, the LGRMIF has supported the preservation of over 3 million essential records, ensuring their continued availability for citizens, teachers, genealogists, and other researchers, and

Whereas, the LGRMIF has vastly improved public access to millions of records in thousands of local governments through projects to scan paper records, make records available online, or arrange and index voluminous older records, and

Whereas, the need for the LGRMIF grants program continues to grow with requests for more money to fund increasingly complex and costly records projects, and

Whereas, since 1989, State Archives staff have conducted 20,000 site visits to local governments to provide hands-on records management guidance at no cost to local governments, and

Whereas, the LGRMIF has trained over 10,300 local government officials to manage both paper and electronic records through 130 onsite workshops and webinars given each year, and

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Whereas, the LGRMIF has been at the forefront of technological change in local government, bringing hundreds of local governments into the Internet age in the 1990s, funding complex geographic systems projects, and supporting grants to scan and make available millions of images of local government records, and

Whereas, the LGRMIF and the program it supports continue to be flexible and responsive, operate at a high standard of excellence, and provide direct and significant benefit to local governments at no cost to the taxpayers, and

Whereas, the records needs of local governments are growing more complex and expensive, and greater support for the LGRMIF will make possible critical electronic records and disaster planning projects, and

Whereas, greater support for the LGRMIF will further make possible shared services programs that will save money for local governments by helping them develop cooperative and sustainable records management programs, and

Whereas, the LGRMIF fee has never been increased since its inception in 1989, and

Whereas, the Town of Corinth has benefited from technical assistance, training, publications and seven (7) LGRMIF grants totaling \$94,914.00 and

Whereas, the LGRMIF continues to be critically important in the fulfillment of the many records and information related responsibilities of the Town of Corinth,

Whereas, the Cultural Education Account funds most of the operations of the State Museum, Library, and Archives, and

Whereas, the Cultural Education Account balance is now fully depleted as a result of the severe decline in revenue and the annual and special transfers of funds to support other state purposes, and

Whereas, without the fee increase, the Office of Cultural Education's services to the public will be at risk, including access to the Museum's huge collection of natural history and historical artifacts, the Library's collection of genealogical books and free online access to specialized databases and electronic journals, and the Archives historical records of state and colonial government going back to the early 1600s, therefore

Be it resolved that the Town of Corinth supports Assembly Bill A-6783, which proposes modest increases in the fees supporting the Cultural Education Account from \$15.00 to \$22.50 and the LGRMIF from \$5.00 to \$7.50 per transaction to ensure the continuation of the programs of the Office of Cultural Education and improvement of records management programs in New York's local governments through LGRMIF services and grants that increase citizen access to records, build vital information infrastructures in local government, stimulate local economies across the state, and allow our local leaders to address twenty-first century realities.

Resolution offered by Mitchell Saunders

Resolution seconded by Edward Byrnes

**Supervisor Richard Lucia
Councilman Charles Brown
Councilman John Major
Councilman Edward Byrnes
Councilman Mitchell Saunders**

Resolution duly adopted.

Councilman Saunders wanted to know if it is mandated by the state to retain all these records. Rose Farr said that as part of her duties as records management officer she has a retention

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schedule supplied by the State of New York which directs he in the amount of time to keep certain records and such. Councilman Saunders wanted to know where the burden lies either at the State level or the Local level. Supervisor Lucia said this is for the grants that are available from the state and the states funding is low so they are asking for an increase in the fees.

Supervisor Lucia mentioned the following:

American legion- The board received a packet regarding the Memorial day Parade. Supervisor Lucia said that he will need to submit a participation notice if the board intends to participate.

The March sales tax- The trend is obvious from \$46,727.00 this year compared to \$52,352 last year.

Training Classes- Zoning and Planning Board members are invited to Fort Edward on March 31, 2009. This training is good for 3hrs of the Mandatory required training needed.

Invitation- An invitation to all board members from the Fireman, to the Fireman's Old timer's night on April 18, 2009. Supervisor Lucia said if any one is interested in attending to let him know or call Chuck.

March 31, 2009- Supervisor Lucia said the Town Hall will be closed this day for the Elections

Supervisor Lucia said following were present from the Town of Corinth Comprehensive Planning Committee Glen Tearno, Comprehensive Committee Chairman, Cheri Sullivan, Comprehensive Committee Vice-Chairman, Dennis Moreale, Comprehensive Committee, Jim Martin, L.A, Group, and Greg Merriam, L.A. Group to discuss the final draft of the Towns 2008 Comprehensive Plan.

Supervisor Lucia said at this time he would like to turn the meeting over to the Comprehensive Committee Chairman, Glen Tearno but before doing so he wanted to thank the four remaining members of this committee for their hard work they continued to do and that it is appreciated by himself and the Town Board. Glen Tearno chairman Of the Comprehensive Planning Committee said he would also like to thank the remaining members for all their time and effort and Jim and Greg from LA Group for their guidance during this tedious process. Mr. Tearno said the committee wanted the comprehensive plan to be more than just a visionary statement with lofty goals and ideals which is why the action plan is as specific as it is. The committee also wanted this document to be used as a reference for the board not just to state what should be done but to include guidance and direction. Mr. Tearno said that there are common threads that will be noticed throughout this plan based on the results of the survey. Mr. Tearno said the people of this town are very practical and realize that economic development, affordability as well as keeping the small town rural character was very important to the residents and these three themes run through each section of this plan. Mr. Tearno asked the Town Board if they had any questions at this time.

Councilman Saunders wanted to know what the wording meant "suited to the scale". Mr. Tearno said in regard to industry it means to use the existing infrastructure present not to create additional infrastructure at this time. There were several questions asked as how to bring in Industry. Committee member Dennis Moreale said to try and keep it in the character of the rural community. Mr. Tearno said when you talk about land use and zoning and the importance of Planning, understanding that the land that is within the town is the land that is within the town,

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we have to work with what we have so having a good plan in place and an active, aggressive planning department that establishes the guidelines upfront so that any future developers are aware of the perimeters of the box upfront. The key is having this understanding up front for good growth development. Mr. Tearno spoke about the results of the survey and how residents wanted to see residential growth but not with subdivisions over 5-lots and how this may seem to be in conflict with each other but not necessarily. Councilman Saunders said that the residential growth in Corinth over the last 6 years has been substantial. Councilman Saunders said that he liked the structure of the plan, but he wanted to know what was in this plan because residential growth is good for the Town but not necessarily for the school system and wanted to know what was in this plan regarding this. Jim Martin of the LA Group said that residential growth is not economic development per say and there was a study done years ago that revealed for every dollar paid by a resident that same resident will require a \$1.30 in services and with commercial growth it would require .30-.40 cents. This is why it is important to keep your community in balance. Councilman Saunders wanted to know how the Town was going to increase the commercial growth within the community. Jim Martin said that the existing building stock should be used to the best extent possible to further growth, option should be looked into such as mixed use zoning and the Town resides in a county which is involved with the Saratoga Economic Development is the strongest in the state if not the nation and has the capacity to bring the towns resources to fruition.

It was stated that the Town of Corinth Residents do not want to become a bedroom community they want to retain their own identity. Councilman Byrnes said that he had concerns with sizes of the lots in regards to subdivisions and wanted to know if this issue was addressed in the plan and felt that because of the APA Boundary line dividing the community that if the town did not address this issue that it would see much more development on the southeastern side of Town. Councilman Byrnes said he would like to see discussion on clustering and other options that are out there to preserve the character of the town. Councilman Saunders said he was impressed with the amount of response the survey received. Jim Martin said it was very high response and he felt it had a lot to do with the questions chose for the survey and the fact that they were not leading questions and also addressed some hot button topics within the town. Mr. Tearno said the Town needs to have a cheerleader of it own looking after the Towns best interest such as a planner part time or maybe a shared planner with other northern Saratoga County communities. Jim Martin said that this may be the time to review the Towns zoning because zoning is a tool that can be used to protect the character of the town. Zoning Chairman Bill Clarke had questions regarding the Forestry and agriculture in the town as to what it brings in compared to what goes out. Jim Martin said they are somewhat resource producing but they inherently preserve the rural character which will sustain the property values around them if not increase, it is all about supply and demand and the Town of Corinth has this and needs to preserve it.

Supervisor Lucia said in the recommendations the first one is the LDC. Supervisor Lucia said the town already has this, which will turn out to be great asset to the Town. Supervisor Lucia said in regards to the recommended shared marketing position, he has been in favor of this for years. Supervisor Lucia said at one time this had been discussed with Warren County but did not feel it would be to the best interest of the Northern Saratoga County communities. Jim Martin said that a shared Northern Towns agreement would be a benefit and would attract more attention to this area. Mr. Clarke also commented on how the community could come together to attract the needed foot traffic by sponsoring events. Councilman Major said there were a lot of good things being discussed but would like to bring attention to some of the information such as question #23 in the survey was a good response that indicated what the town residents wanted us to consider. Councilman Major said that question #24 does the same thing and it is very specific as to what the residents would like to see. Jim Martin said it would be in the best

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interest of the Town Board to make sure that the Town Board places the comprehensive plan on their agenda every month to ensure that it does not get lost by the wayside. Councilman Major said it is the responsibility is to lay the foundations for Zoning, Planning and the comprehensive plan which we are currently doing but also include the transportation systems such as the rail system that would make it easier for those who do start a business to have a means of moving people in and out of the community to get the foot traffic. Councilman Major said when you want to attract industry one of the first thing talked about is where to get the workers from and the types of skills they have. Councilman Major said that you can't just lay your finger on just one thing. Councilman Saunders wanted to know how to market the downtown to create the foot traffic. Cheri Sullivan said that the town has the facilities to create this environment at their finger tips such as the former IP site and the acres of property owned by the village on County Route 10 just above the railroad that can be developed in such a manner to create the sustainability that would be necessary to get the needed foot traffic.

There was further conversation as to specific individuals who could be an asset in obtaining these goals of this comprehensive plan and by which means to achieve them, also discussed was Wilton Mt. Road and creating a means of allowing tractor trailers into the community and possibly doing a traffic study on this area of the Town as well as the monies that could be saved with road alterations. Councilman Major wanted to see better definition of industrial and mixed use in this proposed plan. Jim Martin said he would address and change the above mentioned issues in his revision of this final draft. Jim Martin also discussed means of obtaining necessary funds for in order to get started with some of the recommendations proposed in this plan. Jim Martin said that the town needs to take control and direct the direction that they want to go.

Attorney Hill said the correct procedure to follow is for the Comprehensive planning committee to hold a public Hearing on their final version of this proposed draft, after such occurrence takes place they can make a motion to forward it to the Town Board. The Town Board must make sure that the final proposed version is forwarded to Saratoga County Planning Board for recommendation only. Attorney Hill said the law does not state that it has to go to the Towns Planning board but that this proposed comprehensive plan should be forwarded to the Town Planning Board and Adirondack Park Agency as a common courtesy. Jim Martin said his firm would complete part one of SEQR form. Attorney Hill said there has to be a resolution made by the Town Board scheduling the Public Hearing. Attorney Hill said the public hearing should be held after the Town Board receives feedback from the County Planning Board and has completed part two of the SEQR form. Supervisor Lucia said the month of April has five Thursdays and if the Comprehensive Planning Committee held their public hearing on April 9, 2009 at 6:00pm, after their hearing they could make the motion to give it to the Town Board. At this point the Town Board could forward the proposed comprehensive plan to the Saratoga County Planning, APA and the Town of Corinth Planning Board for their recommendations (both of these Planning Boards will meet on April 16th) and input. Then the Town Board could schedule a Public Hearing on the proposed Comprehensive plan for April 30th, 2009 at 7:00pm.

Public Comment: Sigrid Koch said she wanted to thank the Board for allowing her and two others from the Zoning board to attend the training in Lake Placid.

Supervisor Lucia said he wanted to let the Councilman know that there will be a new back door on the building after next Wednesday that will require new cards in order to get in and out of the back door of the building to ensure court security.

Supervisor Lucia said the Fire department was meeting tonight to discuss their budget and said they said they would reschedule the meeting with the Fire Commission so that the board

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members Brown and Byrnes would be able to attend. Town Clerk Rose Farr told Councilman Byrnes that there are grants available to obtain new fire trucks.

Councilman Comments:

Councilman Byrnes wanted to bring the board members up to date with what transpired at the Senior Housing meeting that he was at. Councilman Byrnes said they decided at this meeting to look at all housing in this community including senior housing and affordable housing and because the committee is looking at all housing they feel that the Village of Corinth should be involved and this should be a joint effort and this committee is looking for a resolution from the Town Board requesting a joint committee to be formed. Councilman Byrnes said that now is the budget time for the village and the Town has their proposed comprehensive plan to help guide and he feels the timing is right. Councilman Byrnes said that there are monies out there such as grants that can help with this feat also.

Councilman Saunders-No Comments

Councilman Brown- No Comments

Town Clerk Rose E. Farr- Town Clerk Farr said she had received a letter from the Village requesting that the Town of Corinth consider consolidating the following water districts; Tranquility Estates, Dorset drive and the Passarelli subdivision water district in order to streamline their water reporting process. Councilman Saunders asked that it be reiterated as to what the advantage is for the Town to have water districts. Supervisor Lucia said it is so Town residents can have access to Village water because it is illegal for the Village to directly charge Town residents for village water.

Attorney Hafner has been spoken to regarding this request to consolidate the water districts and there are specific items such as how it would affect the Towns budget to change in mid stream, the State comptroller would need to be involved or at the very least contacted in regards to the proper procedure that will need to be followed. Councilman Byrnes wanted to know if this would be the time to negotiate with the village on the water districts because if it is there are other issues that need to be looked at. Councilman Byrnes said the Towns Highway Superintendent Eggleston should be involved with these water district contracts. Highway Superintendent Eggleston said he would like to be involved with these negotiations. Superintendent Eggleston said that the Town does not collect any money for the water service or the maintenance. There was further discussion by all present relating to this request by the Village to consolidate the water districts.

Highway Superintendent Eggleston – Mr. Eggleston said that one of the furnaces at the garage broke and the repair man discovered that the rest of the exhaust pipes were all cracked so he had new exhaust pipes put in. Mr. Eggleston said that he had purchased the new truck for Brad. It was a 2005 GMC Sierra and all parties involved were happy and he was still able to come in \$500.00 dollars less than anticipated.

Code Enforcement Officer Mann – Mr. Mann said when he was at the Code Officials training a couple weeks ago it was brought up that when people have a complaint that it should be in writing with their signature which can be foiled. Code Enforcement Officer Mann said it would help to create a paper trail and this Town is one of few that don't require written complaints and he was asking for a resolution for such.

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RESOLUTION # 116 REQUIRING THAT ALL COMPLAINTS TO THE TOWN CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER BE IN WRITING WITH A SIGNATURE

A motion was made by Councilman Saunders, seconded by Councilman Byrnes and the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Lucia, Brown, Major, Byrnes, and Saunders
 Nays 0

RESOLVED that all complaints to the Code Enforcement Officer of the Town of Corinth be in writing with a signature.

Supervisor Lucia said a notice will have to be placed in the Pennysaver stating that this is in effect starting April 01, 2009.

RESOLUTION # 117

MOTION TO ADJOURN TO BILL PAY A motion was made by Councilman Byrnes and seconded by Councilman Brown and the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Lucia, Brown, Major, Byrnes and Saunders
 Nays 0

Resolved that the board pay the bills as audited with any exceptions as follows:

RESOLUTION # 118

MOTION TO PAY BILLS AS AUDITED WITH NO EXCEPTIONS

A motion was made by Councilman Brown and seconded by Councilman Major and the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Lucia, Brown, Major, Byrnes and Saunders
 Nays 0

Resolved that the board pay the bills as audited with any exceptions as follows:

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Abstracts For 3/26/08

<u>General Fund/Town Wide – A:</u>	\$ <u>61,165.12</u>
<u>General Fund/Outside Village – B:</u>	\$ <u>2,779.37</u>
<u>Community Development Grant – CD:</u>	\$ <u>455.05</u>
<u>Highway/Town Wide – DA:</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
<u>Highway/Part Town – DB:</u>	\$ <u>22,925.71</u>
<u>Capital Project/Landfill Upgrades – H1:</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
<u>Fire Protection – SF:</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
<u>Street Lighting – SL:</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
<u>Sewer/Water – SW:</u>	\$ <u>5,287.50</u>
<u>Trust & Agency – TA:</u>	\$ <u>66,281.60</u>
<u>Scenic Train –</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
<u>Town of Corinth Railroad –</u>	\$ <u>0</u>

With no further business, on a motion of Councilman Brown and seconded by Councilman Major the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Deputy Town Clerk

Cheri Sullivan

