

Minutes of the Thurston Regular Town Board Meeting
Held: Wednesday: January 20, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.
Location: 7578 County Route 333 Thurston, NY

Present: Town Supervisor: Wendy Lozo
Town Council: Steven Frederick, Gary Lewis, Paul Peck, Sam Gauss
Town Highway Superintendent: Richard Gauss, Jr.
Town Attorney: Shawn Sauro
Town Dog Control Officer: Randy Akins

Visitors: Ken Isaman, Sheryl Isaman, Tom Lozo, Valerie Peck, Helen Stephens, Myral Gauss, Marge Taft

Wendy Lozo called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The board opened with the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance.

Ken Isaman presented the annual Trident Insurance Policy coverage to the Board.

Public Comment: Marge Taft stated that all of the corrections she needed to make to the affidavits for posting the Fire District election and the Budget on the sign board and the webpage were made according to the Town Attorney requirements. Such affidavits were signed and notarized on Dec 16, 2015.

Minutes: Motion was made by Steven Frederick seconded by Sam Gauss to accept and approve the Public Hearing, the Town Board Meeting minutes dated Dec. 16, 2015, and the Jan. 01, 2016 Organizational Meeting Minutes. Put to vote: Gary Lewis, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Steven Frederick, aye; Sam Gauss, aye. Carried.

Bills Payable: Motion was made by Gary Lewis seconded by Steven Frederick for Wendy Lozo to pay all claims listed in the year end General abstracts A225-A228 totaling \$3,173.35 and the Jan. 20, 2016 General abstracts A001 – A023 totaling \$28,343.15 and the Highway abstract year end #204 totaling \$5,636.45 and the Highway abstracts dated Jan. 20, 2016 totaling \$85,779.69. Put to vote: Gary Lewis, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Steven Frederick, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Sam Gauss, aye. Carried.

Clerk's Report: December 2015 monthly report was presented to the Board. Total deposits for the month were \$675.00. The yearend Clerk's report total was \$8,054.00. Dolores Crooker stated that she had received a letter from the Election Board stating that the Presidential Primary will be held on Tuesday April 19, 2016. Dolores stated that the Saturday office hours will not be happening for lack of demand and personal reasons.

Justice Report: December 2015 monthly report was presented to the Board. One thousand four hundred seven dollars was collected in fines and fees. Eleven hundred forty two dollars went to NYS and two hundred sixty five dollars went to the Town. Wendy stated that the Justice Court Assistance Program Award letter has been received for the surveillance cameras. Wendy stated that she received a Town Court Docket Summary dated 01/01/15-12/31/15 from Jeff Sweeney.

Tax Collector's Report: Wendy stated that she has collected some money from the tax collector.

Assessor Report: Nothing

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: Nothing

Historian Report: Dolores Crooker stated that Sallyann had been in to sign the oath of office form but she hasn't received the keys to date.

Dog Control Officer's Report: December 2015 monthly report was presented to the Board. Randy Akins reported two missing dogs and one dog running at large. Randy collected \$14.00 in dog license money.

Supervisor's Report: December 2015 monthly report was presented to the Board. Such report is on file in the Clerk's office. Wendy Lozo stated that the unexpended reserve fund and the highway reserve fund both have increased balances.

Highway Superintendent's Report: December 2015 monthly report was presented to the Board. Items of interest and work performed 12-17-15 – 01-19-16 is as follows: Roads have been plowed and or sanded a total of 11 times. The Fire Dept. and Town Hall parking lots have been plowed and salted twice. Road conditions have been checked a total of 22 times. One hundred ton of salt was purchased from Cargill. The oil and stone signs were removed from South Hill and Knowles roads. Two days were spent cleaning ditches on Green Hill road. The loader and one truck was used to remove 7 loads of dirt. The grader was used on Forty Dollar road to grade where some large trees were removed. The new grader tires have been mounted on the grader. Several days were spent grooming trees on Nelson, Shauger, Hanrahan, and South Hill roads. The excavator has been returned to the shop and seems to be fixed. Six letters lobbying for increased CHIPS funding were sent out to the following people. Gov. Andrew Cuomo, Assemblyman Philip Palmesano, Senators Charles Schumer, Kristen Gillibrand, and Thomas O'Mara, and Congressman Tom Reed. The first payroll of the year has been turned into Steuben County for certification. Excede satellite internet service was installed at the highway shop at a price of \$99.00. It costs \$59.99 a month with an equipment lease cost of \$9.99 a month. The following equipment was repaired or serviced. The alternator was rebuilt, the belt tensioner was replaced, and a transmission hydraulic hose was replaced on the JD loader. T418 had the 2-way radio serviced, the ignition switch was replaced, and the fuel tank was patched. T424 had the fuel tank patched. T426 had the coolant reservoir hose replaced and the front shocks replaced. T414 had the front shocks, the drive sprockets, shaft, bearing and drive unit on the dump body replaced. The JD grader was serviced. Richard stated that he has applied to the DSS work force program. NYS belongs to NJPA which is a national bid program for purchasing equipment available to nonprofit organizations, municipalities, and government bodies. The Town Board will review this program along with the 5 year equipment purchase plan provided by Richard and a model of future budgets provided by Wendy. Future discussions will ensue after all avenues have been reviewed. Motion was made by Sam Gauss seconded by Steven Frederick to accept and approve the Clerk's report through the Highway Superintendent's report. Put to vote: Gary Lewis, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Steven Frederick, aye, Sam Gauss, aye. Carried.

Old Business: Wendy Lozo stated that next month she will address the Steuben County Hazard Mitigation plan. The tax cap freeze forms have been filed. Suburban Propane has not picked up the propane tank. Motion was made by Sam Gauss seconded by Gary Lewis to close old business. Put to vote: Gary Lewis, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Steven Frederick, aye; Sam Gauss, aye. Carried.

New Business: Wendy Lozo stated that Jeff Sweeney and Dolores Crooker were both ready for their annual internal audits. Sam Gauss and Steven Fredericks will organize the audits to be finished before February 17, 2016. Motion was made by Steven Frederick seconded by Sam Gauss for Wendy Lozo to

sign and pay for the Trident Insurance Policy. Put to vote: Gary Lewis, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo aye; Steven Frederick, aye; Sam Gauss, aye. Carried. Wendy asked if the thermostat could be set higher than 60 degrees at the Town Hall during down time so it wouldn't take so long to heat the building up to 70 degrees while she is there during the day. Gary Lewis will set the thermostat at 67 degrees. Wendy Lozo stated that the Town Board needed to do something about the assessor that is not participating in normal business practices and not attending regular office hours. A brief discussion took place and Attorney Shawn Sauro and Wendy will put together a letter to the assessor that is missing in action. Motion was made by Gary Lewis seconded by Steven Frederick for Wendy and Shawn to write a letter to the assessor in question with a response deadline of no later than February 17, 2016. Put to vote: Gary Lewis, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Steven Frederick, aye; Sam Gauss, aye. Carried. Motion was made by Sam Gauss seconded by Gary Lewis to close New Business. Put to vote: Gary Lewis, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Steven Frederick, aye, Sam Gauss, aye. Carried.

Motion was made by Gary Lewis seconded by Paul Peck to adjourn the regular Town Board meeting at 8:32 pm. Put to vote: Gary Lewis, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Steven Frederick, aye; Sam Gauss, aye. Carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Dolores Crooker, Town Clerk