

April 9, 2013

The monthly meeting was held at 7PM at the Town Hall.

Present were:	Supervisor:	Steve Breneman
	Councilmen:	Sharon Eltz
		Jeff Smith
		Riley Closson
		Nancy Elwood
	Town Clerk:	April Law
	Planning Board Chair:	Kathryn Elwood
	Code Officer:	Mike Andersen

Absent:	Highway Superintendent:	Jim Smith
	Dog Warden:	Chip Elwood
	Accountant:	Debbie Fisher

Also present were: Historian Beth Hummel & Marie Peri.

Steve began the meeting at 7Pm with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Marie commented the building was clean and looked very nice.

Prior to the meeting the Board members read copies of the minutes

**MOTION:** "Accept minutes of meeting as written"

Made by Sharon Eltz, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff Smith

Votes Cast:	Sharon Eltz	
	Riley Closson	
	Nancy Elwood	<b>carried</b>

Sharon quickly asked why the highway fund line said \$.15, and Steve said it was because Debbie was switching things around.

**MOTION:** "Accept Accountant's report as written"

Made by Sharon Eltz, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff Smith

Votes Cast:	Sharon Eltz	
	Riley Closson	
	Nancy Elwood	<b>carried</b>

Prior to the meeting the Councilmen reviewed, discussed and signed Vouchers.

<b>MOTION:</b> Pay Highway Vouchers for a Total of:	\$4,859.08
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Made by Sharon Eltz, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff Smith

Votes Cast:	Sharon Eltz	
	Riley Closson	
	Nancy Elwood	<b>carried</b>

**MOTION:** Pay General Fund Vouchers for a total of: \$5,517.76  
 Made by Sharon Eltz, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff Smith  
 Votes Cast: Sharon Eltz  
 Riley Closson  
 Nancy Elwood **carried**

**Total Funds disbursed was: \$10,376.84**

**INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE:**

Steve began by presenting a donation letter from the Special Olympics. He quotes different donations in the amount of \$8.15, \$10.86 & \$16.29. The Board discussed it briefly and felt it was something that gets mailed out to all of the Public and chose not to donate at this time. The Board said they would give out the information to anyone that was interested in donating. Steve moved onto the Time Warner Cable Agreement and said we need to hold a Public Hearing on it and would like Jeff to look it over. It is an agreement for 15 years and there were a couple of things that Steve did not like. The Board discussed setting a date for the Public Hearing and Jeff suggested doing it right before next month's Board meeting. Everyone was in agreement and April said she would take care of the Legal Notice stating that it would start at 6:30 before next month's meeting. Steve then brought up a quote from NYSEG that would take us to high density light bulbs. Steve said he has these high density bulbs and agrees they are very bright. NYSEG is saying that fluorescent bulbs were supposed to be going illegal but that has fizzled and is not going to happen. They would like to see us change all bulbs over to the high density bulbs and gave us the following breakdown-

\$1787.00	Total cost to replace bulbs
\$1240.00	NYSEG will pay this amount
\$546.00	<b>Town of Taylor's</b> contribution
+	
\$1350.00	<b>Town of Taylor's</b> contribution-Because we have to pay 2 guys prevailing wage to replace all the bulbs.

Riley agreed with Steve saying it was too much and Steve suggested we do not do it. It is not mandatory and is an added expense that's not necessary. Riley said that his dad had done something similar over in his barn and they are definitely a brighter light and they now have a bright spot in the barn. He also said that NYSEG has a program where they will come in pay for most of the expense with Farmers. He was pretty sure that NYSEG had covered  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the expense. The Board was in agreement that this was not something they were interested in pursuing. Moving on, Steve spoke about the Cortland County Legislators renegotiating the Sales Tax Agreement. They would like to use extra money to pay off the Communication Tower early which would save the County over 1.5 million dollars in interest. They would like all Town's to agree with this Resolution and Steve said he could not make the meeting a couple of weeks ago but did let them know that we were all for paying it off early. Steve brought up the fact that it would be dumb not to, it is a lot of money to be saved. Jeff looked over the resolution and agreed that if necessary we will muscle them into doing it, it is a lot of money to be saved.

**MOTION:** Pass Resolution on Tower Communication  
 Made by Sharon Eltz, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff Smith  
 Votes Cast: Sharon Eltz  
 Riley Closson  
 Nancy Elwood **carried**

Steve mentioned that they would like to rent the Flail (sp?) mower again this year and have been given quite a deal. We have been given a price of \$5000.00 which would allow Cincinnatus to use it for 2 weeks then Taylor to get it for 2 weeks. Steve said that it would save us \$1000.00 over last year and Jeff asked if Jim had more mowing that he wanted to do to which Steve answered yes. The Board discussed it briefly and felt it was a good deal, approved. Steve reported that Norm called Jim today (April 9, 2013) and needs an operation but does not want to do it because he feels it is too risky. There is a 30% chance it will work, a 30% chance it will not work and a 30% chance it will make things worse. The Surgeon said that he would give a release for Norm to go back to work but Jeff said he feels he is not able to perform the duties required. Jeff added that he likes Norm and does feel bad but bottom line is he cannot perform the job. Norm stated that he was turned down for medical SS but Steve said everyone gets turned down and urges Norm to try again. Steve suggested that Norm stay on a leave of absence until September. Steve said he spoke with the Lawyer and he said that Norm would not be allowed to return to work until he was checked out by our Doctor. Our Doctor meaning a Doctor that is approved through the County, they have two available. The Board agreed that it was for the best to give him the leave of absence until September and see where to go then.

**MOTION:** Highway employee Norm Durand remain on leave of absence until September 1, 2013 and can only return to work if able to perform the duties required.

Made by Sharon Eltz, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff Smith

Votes Cast: Sharon Eltz  
Riley Closson  
Nancy Elwood

**carried**

#### **DOG WARDEN REPORT:**

Chip was absent but had presented Steve with a Dog report but he had a hard time understanding it. Steve will have to look over it better. Nancy said while we are on the subject of dogs Rollan was wondering if we had any dogs overdue and why they were not being issued summons; that is money for the Town. There was a brief discussion as to why dogs have not been ticketed and Jeff asked April if there were any overdue dogs out and she replied yes. Jeff then asked her why they had not been issued a summons and she answered she was not sure. Nancy said that if there were overdue dogs they should have appearance tickets so Rollan can deal with them. Jeff again asked if we have overdue dogs out and April answered it was a slippery slope. Steve said that he and Chip were going out to Country Acres together Friday taking the Laws out to review and looking over fee changes and such. Steve added that there is some summons for Chip to issue yet. Steve also brought up an issue with the Dog licensing and would like to see it changed where someone purchases a dog license it is good for 1 year from that date. He feels it is unfair to make someone pay full price when they come in just a few months before the universal renewal date. Steve said that when initially setting up the program Jim said it would be easier to do it by the month. April said she would ask Jim about it and report for the next meeting.

#### **PLANNING BOARD REPORT:**

Kathryn reported that they were going to have a meeting Thursday night. They have no new business but felt it would be nice if they got everyone together to meet Mike Allen.

#### **CODE ENFORCEMENT:**

Mike reported that he had turned in his hours for the month. He had an inspection of a Pellet Stove at the Russell residence which was installed to UL standards. He met with a property owner, Taylor Valley

Road, to go over some questions and codes. Mike followed telling a funny story about the man being very afraid of everything attacking him. Mike said he was asked if raccoons live up there and what creatures lived in the crick. Mike said he told the guy to come up with a tent and camp the night to see how he liked the placement for his house and Mike said he would like to sneak up and scratch the tent to see the man's reaction. The owner is from Queens New York and wants to build a structure on said property. Mike has been speaking with a Joseph Gonzales to wants to build a house on Taylor Valley Road and he is supposed to be dropping off the paperwork to get a Building Permit. April said she had not seen anyone in her office with it as of this meeting. Mike moved onto say he was told of a fire in Pitcher on Route 12 but after searching could not find the address. There was some discussion as to the address and it was pointed out that the Chenango and Cortland County line run through the property and it kind of difficult to find. Sharon explained to Mike the driveway is hard to see but there is a house down there and Mike said he would look into it. Mike said he has also received some phone calls regarding a mobile home going in to replace a trailer that had caught fire. We had received a phone call last year about this same property but Mike was unaware that they were talking about the same one. After reviewing Town Laws Mike found that the property owners had 1 year to replace the trailer that burnt down. Our Local Law states that there is a no trailer park policy and 2 trailers on the same property constitute a trailer park. The two trailers that were located there before were grandfathered in. Mike has now said that if they wanted to move forward they would have to go in front of the Planning Board for a variance and Kathryn said they would not give one for a trailer. The Board was happy with Mike's explanation of the situation.

Before closing Sharon asked everyone to look at the paper in their Board packet that said CONFIDENTIAL across the top. She would like everyone to review it and see if there is anything on it they would like to change before it is voted into effect January 1, 2014. Jeff questioned the lesser rate policy and stated that when Roy was hired we paid less than Neil. Jeff also added that when Roy was hired he was supposed to be part time but went full time the first day; it was supposed to save the Town money when it came to overtime. Steve said look it over and chew on it and we will address it at next month's meeting.

**MOTION:** Adjourn meeting was made by Nancy Elwood, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Riley Closson.....**carried**

Respectfully Submitted,

April D. Law  
Town Clerk