

March 11, 2014

The regular monthly meeting was held at 7pm at the Town Hall

Present were:	Supervisor:	Steve Breneman
	Councilmen:	Joey Pudney
		Theodore Law Jr
		Jeff Smith
		Riley Closson
	Town Clerk:	April Law
	Highway Super:	Roy Eltz
Absent:	Planning Board Chair:	Kathryn Elwood
	Accountant:	Debbie Fisher

Also present: Legislator Charlie Sudbrink, Historian Beth Hummel, Marie Peri, Bryce Wehner, Rhonda Wehner, Travis Gross and Connie MacFarland.

Steve opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Cortland County Legislator Charlie Sudbrink introduced himself to the Board and said he would be coming to meetings every couple of months or so to listen to any questions or concerns. He said he had a few questions for them as well. He wanted to let everyone know they are working hard every day on many projects, but there was nothing really he could report on. The ash for trash is project is still in the air along with the Highway Superintendent. He said he would like to discuss Amnesty day and Taylor's feelings on that and Steve said take tires. Charlie said the County does take tires and Steve said well don't charge the different Towns. Charlie said he was not on that committee and would have nothing to do with that. He said there has been a lot of discussion about dropping Amnesty Day and he feels that is the wrong move. He stated that it helps out the Community quite a bit and he would like to know there opinion. Riley asked him what they wanted to drop and Charlie said they do not want to take any tires at all and that they don't charge enough to get rid of them. Charlie said he is looking at it as a service to taxpayers to help out Communities. People will drop them off if given the chance at Amnesty if not you are going to drive down side roads and see them

dumped in the ditches. He added it is unfortunate but they will toss them on the side of the road before they pay somebody. Steve said that is where the tires are ending up and what the County is not taking is indeed showing up on back roads. He said you can go up McKee Road or any of the other roads and that is where it is going. Charlie said every year the County discusses the Amnesty in March and schedules it for May and this was the first time it didn't pass, it was tabled until the fall, people are against having Amnesty Day. He feels they will still have it but there will be a lot of changes made such as the tires and how much tonnage each Town can haul in. Steve asked him how they can do that and he replied they will base it on dump truck loads. He said before he went back to a meeting he is going around to the local Towns and getting feedback. Roy said it really doesn't bother him that much. We don't get very much here in the Town and Steve added that Willett gets hammered. Roy said last year Taylor did not take tires and Charlie said the County will take them but they will charge to dispose of them. Roy said he knows but they did not take them here, Taylor told everyone no tires. Charlie said that is a decision for each Town to make and if he cannot get the County to change its decision he would ask each Town to take the tires but pass the cost onto the person disposing the tires. That way there is no cost to the Town and it keeps them off of our streets. Roy added that since steel is running so high you do not get as much in every year. Charlie said they took in 100 tons last year and the County is saying they are losing money taking care of this problem. Jeff asked him what was going on with the ash for trash project and Charlie said there is a lot going on. He said you can see it on the news and in the paper Onondaga County has so many problems to take care of before Cortland can be involved. He said he does not understand why the Chair and Legislators are so big on it but added don't get him wrong if the environmental tests come back good it is a money making deal. It is supposed to be much cleaner than a conventional landfill but Onondaga County has so many problems to overcome. As of right now they cannot even accept trash from other Counties. Jeff said he did read something about that but had no idea it was like that. Charlie added they want to push for May of 2015 but there is just so much Onondaga County has to do before we can even be a part of the picture. Steve said he has a big problem with Cortland County and the Legislators because they just try to overthink things and they don't want to do anything. They spend a gazillion dollars on research so forth and so on. He said he had wanted to go that ash for trash meeting but was thinking it was Friday that was the cutoff date for Public Comment. He wanted to tell them he was originally from Lancaster Pennsylvania and they put in a landfill about 5

miles from his house and they put a big incinerator at the other end of Lancaster County and that landfill is making money hand over feet with the ash thing. He said if remembers right it is 3 tractor trailer loads to 1 10 wheel loader of ashes. He said it is just a win, win situation and he suggested doing a road trip with the Legislators to show them the setup and how it all works. Asking them why they are so against this and added it seems to work everywhere else. Steve asked him what is the hang up with Cortland County and Charlie replied he honestly didn't believe there was one, they are on board and Jeff added as soon as Onondaga County gets on the right track and Charlie agreed. Charlie said he is no scientist but they landfill now is required to have 2 liners and has been there for 20-25 years. If the ash for trash project passes they will only need 1 liner in the landfill so it has to be a cleaner solution, safer. Charlie said it is a great deal they are just jumping the gun on it. Jeff said it sounded as if the problem was all up there and Charlie agreed. Jeff asked how the search for Highway Superintendent was going on Charlie replied it is pretty quiet. They are still accepting applications and going over them but they don't want to jump the gun on that. He added that what the County wants to pay they are going to be hard pressed to find a qualified guy to fill the position. Jeff asked what w he would be in charge of and Charlie said the Highways, landfill and airport and Jeff chuckled. He said it is a lot of responsibility for the position and they would like to see someone with an engineering degree. He added that you are not going to find someone that has an engineering degree and settle for what construction workers make. He said maybe they will get lucky and someone will apply but right now Berkley (?) is the Deputy and it is business as usual. The schedule is all planned for this year. Steve asked if he had anything to do with the Highway Department and Charlie replied he is the Vice Chairman. Steve asked if Taylor Valley Road was still in the skillet to be redone and Charlie said yes. Steve asked if they will do a better job than the one they did on Truxton-Tully Road and everyone laughed. Charlie said they bid these bridges and box culverts and they don't have the experience. He said it is much more efficient but as far as roads, not great. He said Don Chamber s was on the right track in 1994 with the County doing 3-4 miles of road every year and now they are up to 13 miles. He said he would like to see it at 20 miles of road a year because we have 249 miles of road in Cortland County. He added only doing 3-4 miles of road a year is why the roads are in this shape, even doing 13 we will never catch up. Jeff said that Truxton, Taylor Valley road weren't done the way they should have been done and felt that was throwing good money at a bad project. Jeff said he traveled one end of Truxton-Tully Road this winter and it's terrible. Charlie said it

is the same way with Bloody Pond, Taylor Valley they are terrible. They need to have proper drainage, torn up and laid back down. Jeff said maybe we can get the drilling companies up here and they can do it for us. Charlie said that was another issue and he sure everyone is about the same, split on fracking. He said no one wants to make a Resolution and all the Legislators are split 50/50. He ended saying he works for you guys, residents, when things like Amnesty Day and other issues come up that is when you will see him. He said you will see him periodically but he does not want to come every other month and talk for 20 minutes without saying anything. He said he was on the Willett Town Board for 6 years and every time a Legislator left, they would all sigh and he doesn't want to be that guy. The Board all laughed and thanked him for his time.

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

MOTION: "Accept minutes of meeting as written"

Made by Riley Closson, 2nd by Jeff Smith

Votes cast: Riley Closson

Joey Pudney

TJ Law

Jeff Smith

carried

MOTION: "Accept Accountants report as written"

Made by Riley Closson, 2nd by Jeff Smith

Votes cast: Riley Closson

Joey Pudney

TJ Law

Jeff Smith

carried

Prior to the meeting the Board reviewed, discussed and signed vouchers

MOTION: Pay Highway vouchers for a total of: \$7,310.85

Made by Riley Closson, 2nd by Jeff Smith

Votes cast: Riley Closson

Joey Pudney

TJ Law

Jeff Smith

carried

MOTION: Pay General Fund vouchers for a total of: \$3,968.04

Made by Riley Closson, 2nd by Tj Law

Votes cast: Riley Closson
Joey Pudney
TJ Law
Jeff Smith **carried**

Total funds disbursed: \$11,278.89

INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE:

Steve said it had the transfer of money for the truck on the agenda but he spoke with them and it won't be available until May. He suggested waiting and said asked them to have a Supervisor draw something up so Steve had it to present at the next meeting. He was told the Supervisor is on vacation the whole month of May so he suggested putting it off until April's meeting so they had something in writing. Steve said he will feel best doing it that way and Jeff agreed. Jeff mentioned that they would have to make a vote to buy that truck and Steve said they could just do it in April then they can look over the paper and vote all at once. Jeff said okay and Steve said while we are on the truck issue, the new truck is somewhere between Marathon and here. It was up the road and Steve and Roy were told they forgot to do something or that something else needed to be done. Roy agreed saying I guess that is what he understood. Steve said the plow and that is all on. He said he did not have a clue what they forgot to do to it and Jeff added he did not know either but he was glad they figured it out before it got here. Steve said they made a motion at the last meeting to pay the bill and Jeff said no, they didn't. Jeff said that was all done over the phone and Steve said no the other one and Jeff said oh, yes I see what you're saying. Steve asked if everyone had a chance to look over the hospitalization packet he gave them. He said there were 3 plans and the one in the middle is equivalent to what we always carried before. He added that there is only a difference of \$.89 from the plan on the left to the middle plan, one carried before. He said the difference is the deductible and the out of pocket money. Steve said he feels we should go with middle plan and said the paperwork involved with this has been nonsense. He stated that this all has to be sign, sealed and delivered by Friday. Joey asked who this would pertain to and Steve replied Bob the new Highway Employee. Steve explained that after 90 days we have to provide hospitalization insurance on him. Joey asked if this was just for him or does it cover his spouse as well. Steve said his spouse has her own coverage and works at DeRuyter School. Steve said Bob canceled his insurance March 1st but he did not know why, he will actually go until

April 1st without hospitalization coverage. There was no communication there and there was no way they could wiggle him in. Steve said he knew nothing about it until last week and Roy agreed saying he never said anything to him about it. Steve asked if there were any questions on the plan and there were none.

MOTION: Accept Simply Blue plus Platinum 3 for new Highway Employee

Made by Jeff Smith, 2nd by Riley Closson

Votes cast: Riley Closson

Joey Pudney

TJ Law

Jeff Smith

carried

Steve mentioned the training session March 24, 2014 and he asked Charlie Sudbrink if they would be feeding them if they went. He replied yes for \$5.00 and Steve asked if he was kidding and Charlie said it says on the paper pizza and soda. Charlie said he feels they have a lot of nerve trying to tell people how to be better government officials with the way they run things out there. Steve said he tangled with her last year a lot. Joey asked Charlie if it was anything they would understand if they did attend. Charlie replied that some of it might be interesting and the Planning Board is always doing a lot of great things. He stated that is his personal opinion and the County have no Jurisdiction over the Planning Board but they sure try to. He said bottom line is they have no jurisdiction over small Towns matter of fact, no Towns. Mike Andersen asked what the date was again and he was given the handout. Mike then asked if it met the 4 hour requirement for Board members to sit on the Board and Charlie said he was on the Town Board for 6 years and he never went there. Mike said that's ok but State Law states that every Board member must have the required 4 hours or they can be put off the Board. Jeff said really and Mike said yes, you don't do it you would be automatically off. Steve said is that all it would take and Mike again said yes. Steve asked if it works for Town Supervisors and chuckled. Charlie added that if anyone does plan on attending they ask you to register by the 14th of March. Steve moved on and said last meeting they voted to accept the bid for the generator and they still have not received the check. He called them last week and was told they would issue the check that day but he didn't know why it took a month and he is expecting the check in the next day or two. Steve moved on saying something had been bothering him for about a month or so and he did not want confrontation but he wanted to complain and brought his attention to April.

Steve pointed to an audited voucher saying he called someone and said from the way he sees it, this is what I (April) am attesting to- "I certify that the vouchers listed on this Abstract were audited by the Town Board on the above date and allowed in the amounts shown. You are hereby authorized to pay to each of the claimants the amount opposite his name." He said the way this reads you are saying the Town Board looked at the vouchers and approved them, that's what this is saying. He added that difference between an audited voucher (abstract) and unaudited voucher (abstract) is that it has the check number on it. April replied saying the Audited is saying you paid out the vouchers for that month and Steve said correct. April pointed out that the motion made in December's meeting was \$3000.00 less than the audited abstract presented and she will not sign that. April said the abstract is saying you will pay out the vouchers/motion made from December and Steve interrupted saying but this does not say you have to review the vouchers. April said I do it is in the Town Law Manual and Jeff nodded agreeing saying yes she does. Jeff said it is a check and balance thing and Steve said that was fine. He pointed at the abstract and said this is what he was going on and he does not have the Town Clerk book. April said it is not in the Town Clerk book it is in the Town Law Manual and Jeff agreed saying the blue book.

HIGHWAY REPORT:

Roy said it has been quiet and they haven't had any snow in a week. Steve joked saying when you do it is going to get ugly. Jeff said to Roy he sees he got more salt and asked if he thinks he has all that he will need. Roy said he thinks so but he did not know what that number was. Jeff said they could probably tell you out there in Lansing and Roy said Jim told him no. Jeff said if they are the ones who have the contract they know what they require and Roy agreed. Roy said he would call out there to be sure and Steve said there should be something on the folder that we have over there. He said you order it online and the number you print out has all the numbers on it. Roy asked if it was over there because he was unaware of it and Steve said yes because they do it online. Roy said he had not seen anything and Jeff said we need to check to make sure we have enough and Steve agreed with him. Jeff again said they have the contract they should know what percentage we want. Roy added he believes it was 500 ton and they have to take $\frac{3}{4}$ of that and Steve said yes something like that. Jeff said he didn't remember what the percentage was and Charlie added 70% and Roy said we should be

pretty close. Roy was asked if they had enough sand to hold out and Roy said he was pretty sure they did.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Mike reported that there is not a lot going on. Mr. Wilkins has called the Clerk's office everyday trying to get ahold of Chris Beckwith regarding his property. Mike has told him that he must contact Cortland County Health Department for a septic and well permit before any building permits can be issued through the Town of Taylor. He had another call from a man who was looking for information about a cabin in some property but turns out it was in South Otselic so it did not pertain to us. He added that come spring time things will pick up and he will have more to look at.

PLANNING BOARD REPORT:

None

CLERKS REPORT:

April reported that she licensed 2 spayed/neutered dogs totaling \$12.00 for Taylor. She licensed 1 unspayed dog for \$11.00. A check was written to Steve for \$33.00 and a check for \$5.00 was sent to Department of Ag & Markets. This month she received \$38,006.94 in property taxes. Penalties, interest received was \$400.95 and a bounced check fee at \$25.00. She wrote a check to Steve for that amount, \$425.95. April has sent a check to Cortland County for \$100,000.00 for Tax season 2014.

MOTION: Adjourn meeting was made by Jeff Smith, 2nd by Riley Closson.....carried

Respectfully Submitted,

April Law
Town Clerk