

September 11, 2012

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

Present were:	Deputy Supervisor:	Sharon Eltz
	Councilmen:	Riley Closson
		Nancy Elwood
	Highway Superintendent:	Jim Smith
	Town Clerk:	April Law
	Planning Board Chair:	Kathryn Elwood
	Code Officer:	Mike Andersen
Absent was:	Superintendent:	Steve Breneman
	Councilman:	Jeff Smith
	Dog Warden:	Chip Elwood

Also present: Accountant Debbie Fisher, Historian Beth Hummel, Marie Peri, and Denise Hopkins.

Sharon began the meeting at 7PM with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Beth Hummel began by saying she didn't want to offend anyone but has noticed while parking at the Garage for Town meetings that the building is looking shabby. She was wondering if the Town could take a power washer to it or possibly paint it before winter. Sharon asked Beth if she was referring to the Highway Garage and Beth answered yes it is just really looking bad. Beth added that it would be a good example to the Community and it is a nice little building and we should do what we can to take care of it. Beth then added she has been going through Historical documents and has come across some old pictures and maps that are interesting. She knows the Town Hall has been recently painted but would like the Board to consider next time we paint, even many years from now, to pick a neutral color and display old pictures and maps of the Town of Taylor. She mentioned a large map that hangs over at the Highway Garage that she would like to bring over and hang up as well as getting some matching nice frames for the old pictures. Nancy agreed that it is a nice map and we should have that over here. Beth feels this will make the building look attractive for a little bit of money and people will enjoy looking at these things when they come to the Town Hall. Beth said she would like to get black frames and enlarge some of the pictures and maps but it wouldn't be anything expensive. Beth said she would go to Staples to enlarge them and see how they come out and suggested a wall of maps and maybe a picture of the pond. Nancy then asked Beth if the map had the old church on it and Beth said yes and Nancy said that one would be nice to have enlarged because it shows the old church down by Jim's. Nancy said she has been told that there was an old Baptist church somewhere down by Jim's house and she would like to know the whereabouts. Beth pointed out this all part of the history of our Town and thought she would make the suggestion and that was all she had. Sharon asked Denise if she had anything she would like to say tonight and Denise replied no and we continued the meeting.

Prior to the meeting the Board read copies of the minutes

MOTION: "Accept minutes of meeting as written"

Made by Riley Closson, 2nd by Nancy Elwood

Votes Cast:	Riley Closson	Aye	
	Nancy Elwood	Aye	
	Sharon Eltz	Aye	carried

MOTION: “Accept Accountant’s Report as written”Made by Riley Closson, 2nd by Nancy Elwood

Votes Cast:	Riley Closson	Aye	
	Nancy Elwood	Aye	
	Sharon Eltz	Aye	carried

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

MOTION:Pay Highway vouchers for a total of \$8,428.40Made by Riley Closson, 2nd by Nancy Elwood

Votes Cast:	Riley Closson	Aye	
	Nancy Elwood	Aye	
	Sharon Eltz	Aye	carried

MOTION:Pay General Fund vouchers for a total of: \$10,603.47Made by Riley Closson, 2nd by Nancy Elwood

Votes Cast:	Riley Closson	Aye	
	Nancy Elwood	Aye	
	Sharon Eltz	Aye	carried

Total Funds disbursed was: \$19,031.87

INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE:

Sharon brought up a donation letter for the program Access to Independence. Debbie said that Steve asked her to explain what the program does and Sharon was relieved because she didn't know much about it. Debbie explained that it is a program in Cortland that has been in existence for over 20 years that started with a small staff. They originally would go around and look for people parking illegally in handicapped parking spots and it has now grown to a sizeable office. They operate an assisted living center that is funded by the State, one of 33 or 34 in New York State. She explained that they assist people with disabilities and it is not just limited to those in wheelchairs, they help with physical and mental disabilities. They also have a program that will help people with wheelchair ramps and such that would typically not be able to afford these accommodations. They are sending out donation letters as part of their campaign “Friends of the Center”. Sharon agreed that was what the flyer said and Nancy asked if they had a suggested donation and Sharon said not on the flyer. Debbie said that she had also received one in the mail and she doesn't believe they ask for a donation, it is just whatever you can give. Sharon then asked the Board if anyone had a suggested donation and Debbie said Steve brought it up because we donated to Relay for Life. Sharon mentioned that she wasn't sure because we had never done this before. April asked Debbie what we donated to Relay for Life and she answered \$50.00, that's what sticks in her head, to which Sharon and Nancy agreed that they believed it was \$50.00. Debbie said it ultimately comes down to what everyone is comfortable with, but stated it is a good program. She also mentioned that they have a “Loan Closet” that people can go and borrow items such as walkers, wheelchairs and canes.

MOTION:Donate \$50.00 to Access to IndependenceMade by Riley Closson, 2nd by Nancy Elwood

Votes Cast:	Riley Closson	Aye	
	Nancy Elwood	Aye	
	Sharon Eltz	Aye	carried

Sharon moved onto the Association of Towns fee which is \$500.00 for 2013. She believes that is the same as what we have paid in the past. She then stated that Worker's Compensation fee will stay the same this year, but didn't have that fee in front of her. Debbie added that she believed to be around \$2000.00 and Sharon said that will stay the same. The Joint Youth Commission had a meeting and is running the program on \$5000.00 this year. They have sent a letter explaining how the percentages of contributions were split between the Town's. Steve mentioned it briefly to Sharon but she didn't know much about it. The letter says that Taylor's contribution is \$440.00 which would be on top of what we have already sent in this year. This figure is divided up between 5 Town's and Steve didn't know about the meeting, but it wouldn't make much difference if all the Town's agreed. Sharon said maybe Steve would have more to report next meeting on it but that is all she had for now. Sharon moved onto the 7 Valley's health coalition by asking Debbie if she knew anything about that. Debbie said it is an informative system and has put into place the 211, which is similar to the 911 system. Debbie stated that they said in a newsletter that it would be implemented this last summer, but she was unsure if it was put into place. She also said that in a letter they were going to work with Tompkins County as well and Riley answered that he had read something about in the paper a while ago. Debbie answered that yes they did receive their funding a while ago it is just taking some time to get things moving. Sharon then moved on asking Debbie if she had anymore figures to report regarding the Employee Retirement System and Debbie replied no, it will take 4-5 weeks to calculate the numbers.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

Mike began by showing the Board his new glasses equipped with lights on the side and making the joke that the guy who hired him said he would only be working about an hour a week and the old Code Officer must not have had these glasses. Everyone laughed and Mike stated that the Wilkin's residence has had a lot of work going on. The junk cars are gone and they are working on the garbage removal. They will be cutting down the trees as well as removing all the brush and it is happy to report it is getting done. Mike then said the pool issues were all settled with 2 of the removing the pool and putting up an approved pool and the other pool in question is being fenced in. Mike then talked about the home going in on Potter Hill and said the whole thing has been a nightmare. He said he was supposed to be there all along the way for inspections and was never called. He was not able to inspect the footers, plumbing, and concrete. Mike contacted the contractor's and they said had taken pictures and would send them to Mike to look at. They then called back to say they did not have the pictures and would have to come back to jackhammer it all out. Mike reported that they did not install Vapor barriers and with the home being built on shale and Cortland County having a high Radon level this is a major concern. The home owner is worried about this as well because his son is undergoing treatment for Leukemia. The Plumber called Mike to say he would have Mike up to inspect the plumbing work when complete. Mike has sent a letter to the property owners of the Cheese Factory asking them to clean up the property and board up the windows on the ground floor. He will wait to hear from them regarding this issue. Mike also reported that the Calhoun's have applied for a Building Permit for a carport and upon inspection it does not meet the snow load requirements for Cortland County. He has called the company about it to give them a head's up that they shouldn't be selling them in this area. The company said this was the first they had heard of it and had not received any other complaints.

DOG WARDEN REPORT:

Chip was absent from the meeting due to recent surgery but Sharon gave his report. Chip is going to look into whether it is legal to send summons in the mail to overdue dog license holders. He feels this will save the town some money as he will not be charging mileage to drive around and serve them individually. If we are not able to mail summons then we will send each summons certified mail or serve

in person. Chip has met with a representative from Department of Ag and Markets and discussed issue and questions he had regarding dog control issues. Marie added that from her experience the 1st month about ½ of the residents will license their dogs and the 2nd month another ¼ would come in. She said the remainder we always end up having to go after them. She said she would always try to help by calling people to remind them that their license was overdue.

PLANNING BOARD REPORT:

Kathryn reported that there was no meeting due to any new business and it is nice to have it quiet.

HIGHWAY REPORT:

Jim reported that they have squared things away with DEC and have the permits necessary to continue work. They worked on Elwood Road from the turnaround up to the house on Potter Hill road and Jim will have to meet with the homeowner (Miceli) to see if Jim can widen the road on his side (Miceli) for easier plowing this winter. Jim said they have been helping out other Town's and those Towns are helping us as well getting work completed. Jim then presented a quote to the Board for a new sander for the snowplow. Jim stated that they have patched it time and again and when they took it off at the end of this last season it fell apart. He assured them that he has the money in his budget to cover this sander and would not have to get the money from another area. He asked the Board if it was okay to move forward with this purchase. Sharon and Riley discussed that if it was really needed and the money was there they didn't see a problem.

MOTION: Approve new sander for the Town snowplow

Made by Riley Closson, 2nd by Nancy Elwood

Votes Cast:	Riley Closson	Aye	
	Nancy Elwood	Aye	
	Sharon Eltz	Aye	carried

Sharon asked Jim if he has found out anything about the road by Buchanan's and having it abandoned. Jim said he had spoken with John Smith about it and John is thinking about it. Sharon said that was fine but we should get it taken care of so Buchanan stops parking vehicles on it. Jim said he would have an answer by next month's meeting.

CLERK'S REPORT:

April reported that she had received a letter from the Department of Ag and Markets stating that Country Acres had passed inspection. Country Acres has met all criteria on the State's end for housing seized animals for the Town of Taylor. April then reported that we had \$1370.00 in DEC sales for the month. On or about September 14 they will automatically deduct \$1294.52 leaving \$75.48 in commission for the Town. This month we licensed 67 Spayed/Neutered dogs for a total of \$402.00, \$67.00 of it being sent to Dept. of Ag and Markets. We also licensed 11 Unspayed/Unneutered dogs for a total of \$121.00, with \$33.00 of it being sent to Dept. of Ag and Markets. Total dog licenses sold for the month of August was \$523.00, total sent to Ag and Markets was \$100.00 and a copy of the check is on the back of the Clerk's report. April then reported that we issued one Building Permit for \$75.00. Total amount disbursed to Supervisor this month was \$673.48. April closed by mentioning that there will be a free Flu Clinic here at the Town Hall next Wednesday from 12-3 and encouraged people to take a flyer and let others know about it as well.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting was made by Riley Closson, 2nd by Nancy Elwood....carried.

Respectfully submitted,
April Law