

November 12, 2013

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

Present were:	Supervisor:	Steve Breneman
	Councilmen:	Sharon Eltz
		Jeff Smith
		Nancy Elwood
		Riley Closson
	Town Clerk:	April Law
	Code Officer:	Mike Andersen
	Accountant:	Debbie Fisher

Absent were:	Dog Warden:	Chip Elwood
	Planning Board Chair:	Kathryn Elwood
	Highway Super:	Jim Smith

Also present were: T.J. Law, Legislator David Fuller, Marie Peri, John Troy, Michael Park, Joey Pudney, and Roy Eltz.

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

Steve then turned the meeting over to Michael Park and John Troy for an explanation on the Ash to Trash project. They introduced themselves and presented a sample of the ash for the Board to touch and look at it. He explained they are going around to the different Towns doing such for Cortland County. Michael began by saying the landfill is costing the County between \$400,000 & \$500,000 a year right now and with many new regulations coming down the pike to meet strict guidelines to avoid pollution. He added that it looks like in about 2 years they will have to begin composting which could cost up to 2 million dollars. He said about 2 years ago they did a study to come up with some solutions or alternatives to make things better or break even. None of the suggestions from that study were found suitable from the County Legislators. He said he began talking with Donna Chambers and she said that Onondaga County had an ash project in place and he began to talk with them. He explained that it makes sense to work with them and he set up the meeting to sit down with them and discuss it. This was kept quiet but there has been discussion and everything looked good

so they brought it to the Legislator's after about a year. He said what it basically boils down to is we will take their ash and they will take our trash. John Troy said if this was to go through it would start June of 2015 so we would have about a 1 ½ years to prepare. The people will not see a difference. They will still take their garbage to the landfill, get weighed and then pay for the dumping. Then only difference is it will not be compacted and bulldozed. The trucks will take it away after dropping off the ash and it will become an ash landfill. He added that he was immediately worried about the environment but after some research he felt the ash had been through scrupulous testing by the State, DEC and Health Department. He said that some people still say it has not been tested enough so he added that Cortland would still be doing some testing to the ash over the next 8 months. They do not want anything in the landfill that is dangerous and right now they are trucking it to Rochester. It has been approved as a cover and explained that the landfill every day is covering it with shale and this gets expensive and is time consuming. This would do away with that by covering the landfill with ash. They said as it stands right now just taking in trash the landfill has a 24 year life expectancy. If we switch to an ash landfill we take in 86,000 tons of trash and 10 ton of ash equals the volume of 1 ton of trash, right now we are reducing the landfill life to about 18 years. He again said if we keep things the way they are now and meet the new requirements coming we will reduce the life expectancy to 18 years at the cost of 31 million dollars the Cortland County. This would be including costs of new mandates as well as any equipment associated with this change. He explained that right now they are venting the gas into the air and the new requirements will make them get a machine that takes the gases in and takes any hazardous materials before putting it into the atmosphere. He said Cortland County is a small landfill and it will cost about 10 million dollars for all the mandates and that is how they came to the 31 million dollar figure. He said by switching over our landfill to an ash, they will wipe out the debt bill of 31 million over 18 years and should accumulate 7-8 million dollars. He said this would also help stabilize Cortland County tax base saying that \$400,000-500,000 every year is offset on tax bills. He stated that if they choose against this then there are not many options on the horizon. He mentioned one being flow control which means all the trash would have to stay in our county and with all the required mandates people could be looking at \$150.00-\$200.00 tipping fees. He said he did not want to see the County take that route and is on board with the Ash for trash movement. He said that they explained it to the Legislators and they have kept it secret for about the last year and have hired engineers and a lawyer to help with

this process. They talked briefly about a seeker agreement that the County has entered into and how they will have to discuss a transfer station, which he thinks will be ruled out. He said that he really did not know where they would put a transfer station and now the County would have to man the landfill as well as the transfer station. The public will be able to weigh in next year and they will have more information as they go through the seeker process. They asked for any questions and Jeff said if this should make a cleaner dump because you don't see all the bags and stuff blowing around up where they are burning the trash and responded yes, it will look much nicer. Jeff said it looks terrible up there and he is assuming with the transfer station it should be more confined. They explained that they met with DEC and they have rated trash landfills on a system of 1-10 and trash landfills rate 1 & 2, the lowest you can get. The DEC wants to shut them all down because it is a disaster area. Jeff said he understands that it is impossible to keep all the bags and stuff but will the new building keep it cleaner and they said yes. Jeff added that it sounds like a good idea but why us, it sounds like a good deal but why are the other Counties not participating. They explained that they had approached Onondaga County about this first and the second reason was our tonnage of trash would bring them up to about 95% efficiency. Before the recession they would not take anything in because they were running 95% then but since losing so many businesses and such in the recession their trash is way down. They need more trash and Cortland County lines up perfectly. Jeff then asked if they would be taking Construction debris and they replied yes but they will be doing a lot of recycling that will essentially compost a lot of the material. They explained how the trash would be dealt with and they take the trash and send back ash. He said that once a year they set aside a date for people to bring in the debris and Onondaga County has agreed that people from Cortland County can bring it right to their facility that day. He went on to say that we send a ton of trash they send a ton of ash and when we reach our quota of 86,000 ton they start paying us. This is also a big energy source for them and will save them \$500,000 a year. They will still have local haulers but they will run 12-20 trucks back and forth to accommodate the trash and have done tests on the roads being traveled already to find they are safe and there is no impact. Recycling will be pushed because a lot of stuff has to come out: ex batteries, light bulbs. They even have a machine that the trash runs through that has giant magnets that will pull in metal out because that should not be included in the burning process. Onondaga County will also help educate Cortland County to help make this system most beneficial. They went on to explain leech fields and how the ash will replace the

trash and slowly become an all ash landfill. The rain will help it settle and harden making a surface that can be driven on. Jeff asked if it will still be producing gases and they said right now they have it just flared off and they do plan on changing that which will make it friendly on the environment. Jeff said well with the changes will they still have to put in a building to deal with the gas and they said the way the Law reads right now they are it makes no sense for the County to do it so they are hoping they will leave them alone. David Fuller added that just to do the collection and burn system it would cost about \$800,000. Jeff said to them if we do this it doesn't mean that we won't still have to put that in place and they replied no, but it is not likely. They did agree that nothing is guaranteed and Jeff said that was all he had. Steve thanked them and asked them to keep the Board posted.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

NONE

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

MOTION: "Accept minutes of meeting (October 8, 2013) as written"

Made by Riley Closson, 2nd by Jeff Smith

Votes Cast: Sharon Eltz

Jeff Smith

Riley Closson

Nancy Elwood

carried

MOTION: "Accept minutes of meeting (October 29, 2013) as written"

Made by Sharon Eltz, 2nd by Riley Closson

Votes Cast: Sharon Eltz

Jeff Smith

Riley Closson

Nancy Elwood

carried

Steve then realized that some Board members were missing the minutes from meeting held October 22, 2013. All Board members did not have the chance to review those minutes so they will get copies to review before next meeting.

MOTION: “Accept Accountant’s report as written”

Made by Sharon Eltz, 2nd by Jeff Smith

Votes Cast: Sharon Eltz
Riley Closson
Jeff Smith
Nancy Elwood

carried

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

MOTION: Pay Highway Vouchers for a total of: \$18,064.28

Made by Sharon Eltz, 2nd by Riley Closson

Votes Cast: Sharon Eltz
Riley Closson
Jeff Smith
Nancy Elwood

carried

MOTION: Pay General Fund Vouchers for a total of: \$5,724.27

Made by Sharon Eltz, 2nd by Riley Closson

Votes Cast: Sharon Eltz
Riley Closson
Jeff Smith
Nancy Elwood

carried

Total Funds disbursed: \$23,788.55

INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE:

Steve presented that Sales Tax Resolution and said the tentative number is \$119,479.38. Debbie said those numbers were fine because they had \$80,000.00 in the Budget anything more is a plus. Steve read aloud the agreement for the Sales tax for 2014. The remaining amount will be used as a credit for Taylor’s Tax Levy.

MOTION: Accept Sales tax resolution as presented

Made by Sharon Eltz, 2nd by Jeff Smith

Votes cast: Sharon Eltz
Jeff Smith
Nancy Elwood

Riley Closson

carried

Steve read aloud the Justice Court Report that Debbie had put together. She has reviewed the Justice's books for 2013 and court records. She noted one deposit not put in bank within 72 hours and a cash book was not kept up to date and summarized at the end of each month. She also noted that it is not being reconciled with bank statements at the end of the month. Bank reconciliations are being made within a timely matter but there was \$150.10 difference in the account. She recommended it be turned over to the State Comptroller as unclaimed funds. The Board must present and pass a Resolution that this has been done.

MOTION: Accept the Justice Court Resolution Report

Made by Sharon Eltz, 2nd by Jeff Smith

Votes Cast: Sharon Eltz

Riley Closson

Jeff Smith

Nancy Elwood

carried

Steve let Riley present the 2 quotes received on a new 1 ton truck, F-350. One quote was \$47,000.00 from Kurtz and the second was \$46,323.78 from Onieda. Jeff added that it really didn't matter because they found out that with a State bid they do not need 3 quotes. Steve said it really is not a State bid because they do not have a regular cab just crew cab. Debbie said it was legal because they still have 3 quotes. Sharon asked if they both had the plows and Riley said yes. There was a small discussion as to where the trucks would be coming from and who would be better to take it to when it needs repair. Riley pointed out that the quotes are broken right down to see what everything costs. There is only about \$800.00 difference and Sharon asked Roy if the item he requested was on there. Riley said it was not on the Kurtz quote and so it is probably not on the other truck either. Steve asked what plow was on there and Riley said a 9 foot straight blade Fisher (sp?). Steve asked if there was really any difference in the plows anymore and there was a short discussion as to straight versus a wing. Riley said he tried to drop off the paperwork to Jeff but could not catch him home and Jeff said he was working. Jeff said Jim always liked the one brand but Jeff felt Fisher has always made a good plow and Roy asked if they were still put on with chains. Jeff replied no most everyone has changed over to the new hookup, chains are

gone. Jeff asked Riley if he had any information on the blade and Riley said no, it just says 9 foot straight blade. Jeff and Roy spoke briefly about a safety trip on the Fisher plow. Steve asked if there was any preference for work and Jeff said he would go with the Kurtz. Although it is a little higher it is close and easy and Steve said that is their call. Riley said Kurtz would get the truck out of Syracuse and Oneida will be from there. Sharon said it would be easier to go to Kurtz and everyone was in agreement. Riley added that he was pretty sure Kurtz uses Connor's Automotive here in Taylor for the plows which will be an added benefit keeping money locally.

MOTION: Buy a new 1 ton pickup truck from Kurtz for the Highway Garage

Made by Riley Closson, 2nd by Jeff Smith

Votes Cast: Sharon Eltz

Riley Closson

Jeff Smith

Nancy Elwood

carried

Steve presented the proposal for the generator at \$3930.00 and said it is pretty cut and dry. He gave it to Jeff to look over and said the only concern he had was the clause that states if they have to come back and fix it, it will cost \$80.00 an hour. Steve said the generator should run right and if it doesn't and they have to come back the Town should not have to pay. They did discuss and find this part in the proposal and all was in agreement that they should not have to pay. Steve asked if Auction International had come to take pictures of the other generator yet and Roy said he did not believe so. Riley added that if there guy screws something up when installing it the Town should not have to pay for it. Jeff said he did not see that the first time and wanted the issue addressed before accepting the proposal. Roy said the way he understood it Jim Aiken was hooking it up and Riley said then they are paying him not Town of Taylor. Jeff said the 3 hours rate includes travel time and most drive 1 ½ hours each way. Jeff said he wondered if the fee only applies to more than 3 hour work order.

MOTION: Accept generator proposal for \$3,930.00 with explanation of fees for repair

Made by Riley Closson, 2nd by Jeff Smith

Votes Cast: Sharon Eltz

Riley Closson

Jeff Smith
Nancy Elwood

carried

Steve presented the Fire contract for approval \$36,143.00 and said there is no change this year. Jeff was surprised but pleased there was no change.

MOTION: Accept the Fire Contract as presented

Made by Sharon Eltz, 2nd by Riley Closson

Votes Cast: Sharon Eltz

Riley Closson

Jeff Smith

Nancy Elwood

carried

Sharon asked Roy if he wanted to run an ad for Highway Employee and Roy said he had 2 people in so far but they haven't filled the paperwork out yet. Sharon asked if he wanted to advertise and Steve said it wouldn't hurt. April asked if were mandated to advertise it and Marie said no. Everyone was in agreement and suggested to get with April to draw up a Help Wanted ad to be run in the Cortland Standard. Roy said Jim should be doing it because he is the one who does the hiring and Jeff said Roy would be in the first of the year so he should have input. Jeff said he didn't want to see Roy stuck with someone he didn't like and Roy added that is why Jim doesn't want to do it. Jim is afraid he will hire someone Roy does not like.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Mike began saying awhile back he noticed a building going up at 3735 Chenigo Solon Pond Road and always has been chained off. He mentioned it to someone and they had pictures on Facebook of the house being built. Mike reviewed the pictures and at that point contacted the County Health Department to see if they had a plied for a Septic permit and they did not. Mike said the following week he drove by and there was a couple trucks pulling in, one being the homeowner and the other being the Health Department. They claim it is just a seasonal home with no electric or septic and the Health Department explained to him that he cannot be going into the woods for bathroom purposes. He explained they can have a porta john or a compostable toilet but must have something and the State does not recognize seasonal homes. It is a home and must be built to New York State Code but does have different insulation codes and will be using wood heat. He

does need a Building Permit and he did stop into the office that morning and got one. Mike has closed out Mitchell Smith's Permit on his roof over the garage, it all checks out. He will be issuing Suzanne Reed her Certificate of Occupancy for the connected garage that was recently put up. He received a call from 4262 Cheningo Solon Pond Road about a mobile home, Leann Highfield's property. The people living there are moving out and wanted Mike to stop and look at it to see what they were living in. Mike reported there are holes in the floor, windows missing and busted doors. Some of this they have created and said they were going to fix but they did not feel that someone else should be moving in there in the current condition. Mike said he did take pictures and has sent a letter to Leann Highfield about getting it inspected before someone else moves into the property. Mike has closed out Mike Root's shed permit on his property. It has been installed and is good to go. He has checked out a couple places on Hubbard Hill that have Permits out and they are coming along. He said that there is a building going up on Allen Hill and April and Mike sat down trying to figure out the tax map number. He said they did get a number and believe it to be the building that is up there and April said okay. He reported Steve Fox is putting a building up there, Matthew's property, next to a log home that exists. It is going to be a pretty large building and he had 6 or 7 snowmobiles sitting out in front of it the other day when Mike went by. Jeff asked why the camps would have to do different insulation than other homes and Mike said the State asks if it is a single family home or not. Jeff said I understand but I thought you were saying his insulation didn't have to be the same as a standard home. Mike explained that he can't give out CO's for log homes anymore because they don't feel it is energy efficient. He said you have to have R21 in your walls and R38 in the ceiling and the State will say you show me a log that has that capacity. He said you use to be able to put an R60 in the ceiling and get away with an R15 in the walls but there is no more right offs. You can put a high efficiency furnace in and it will not save you any energy because it is all going through the walls, it all washes out. The State says a house is a house R21 in the walls, no deals. If you heat the building with a renewable heat source; wood stoves, pellet stoves, etc. The State says they are still working on that because you can say you are heating with a wood stove but then turn around and put in a furnace. Mike said he tried to stress to them they are using an R6, R10 wall they are going to be spending a ton of money on fuel because you are just going to keep losing heat. The State does not go by the old theory that the logs absorb the heat and hold it. Again he said they are addressing it but right now if you are heating with wood, pellets and such you do not have to

meet the energy Codes. Steve asked why they do not include coal in that and Mike replied that is a fixed life of 30,000 years and Mike said but that is not renewable. Steve chuckled and said coal is compressed wood and Mike said yeah but I don't write the rules. Jeff joked that coal was compressed wood chip mixed with weeds and everyone laughed.

PLANNING BOARD:

Sharon said the only thing Kathryn had to report was that she had not heard anything back from the people in Union Valley. Until she does they probably will not have a meeting.

DOG WARDEN:

Steve handed the dog report to Sharon and she read it aloud to the Board. Chip reported that the Town Clerk gave him the overdue dog list and as soon as he received the information he sent out a letter to all the people on the list on October 17, 2013. The letter stated that they were to have their dog licensed by the 1st of November or he would have no other choice but to issue appearance tickets to appear in front of the Taylor Town Justice. On November 2 he asked the Clerk for an updated list and she sent me one on November 9 and out of 51 dogs there were only 9 dogs left to be licensed. 2 people do not live in the Town of Taylor and the other person had sent in a renewal but did not realize the rabies certificate had expired. April had sent their information back to them and Chip called them and they explained their veterinarian could not do it until Saturday and Chip told them to give the paperwork to Sharon and she would give it to Chip or April. On November 11 Chip made out 9 tickets which was 6 different owners. He went to their homes on November 12 and no one was home so after consulting with Country Acres, who always mails their tickets, he mailed the tickets to the 6 dog owners. It would cost \$6.00 a piece to send the registered mail so he just sent them regular mail. If they do not appear in court Chip will try to find them again and if he can't they can order a criminal summons for them to appear in court. If they are not found then the Judge can issue a warrant for their arrest. Chip ended saying in October he had 10 complaints but none of them dealt with the Town of Taylor. Sharon then read the letter aloud that Chip had sent out. Dear dog owner, as we all know dog licenses are due August 31 of every year and the Clerk has given me a list of all the overdue licenses and your name appears on the list. You may have forgotten to get your license and they are way overdue at this time so you will have until the 1st of November to license your dog. After this

date I will have no choice but to give you an appearance ticket to appear in the Town court. Sharon added that he put down the Town Clerk's hours. Steve asked April if anyone had come in there paid for their license and April answered yes. April said she would like to ask if Chip was supposed to issue tickets as of the 1st of September. Jeff said as long as the dogs are licensed he does not care when the tickets go out. He said those 9 have to be ticketed and he is good with writing a letter. He added that you get a 10 day grace period with anything else that you do. April said this is way past 10 days though and Jeff said yeah but there licensed. April said well that is not fair to everyone else that abides by the rules in the Town of Taylor. These 51 people had no fees or penalties and Jeff said for 2 months. April said yes at least 2 months and we still have almost 10 dogs out and it is the 12th of November. Jeff said well yeah they will have to appear in court and it will cost them a lot of money. April said yes but it was stated at a Board meeting and put in Board minutes that as of September 1st any dog overdue was to be ticketed and that is what I am stating. Jeff said alright I am happy they are licensed. Riley added that he should have sent the letters certified mail and Jeff asked him what he repeated it. Jeff agreed and Nancy added that Rollan always send a certified letter as well as a regular letter because a lot of time they won't sign for a letter but they will get the other in the mailbox. If it doesn't come back to him then he knows they got it. Jeff said he agreed that he should have and is assuming he is trying to save the Town some money but legally he should have sent it certified. Steve said that was what he did when dealing with Upton's and she never picked up a certified one but she got the other one, she had to have.

CLERK'S REPORT:

April reported that she licensed 11 spayed/neutered dogs last month \$66.00, 2 unspayed/unneutered dogs \$22.00 and issued 1 kennel license \$45.00. We issued 2 Building Permits one for \$75.00 and one for \$25.00 and names are listed on her report. Dog license fees and Building permit totaled \$233.00 and the check was written to Steve for that amount, copy on the back of the report. April wrote a check to Department of Ag & markets for the dog fees of \$12.00 and has attached a copy of this check on that report.

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

Respectfully submitted, April Law Town Clerk

