

November 5, 2012

An advertised Public Hearing was held at the Town Hall at 6:30 PM. The purpose was to hear input either for or against the Preliminary Budget. Marie Peri was the only one who attended.

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board followed at 7 PM.

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

Also present were: Accountant Debbie Fisher and Marie Peri.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

NONE

Prior to the meeting the Board read copies of the minutes

MOTION:“Accept minutes of meeting as written”

Made by Sharon Eltz, 2nd by Jeff Smith

Votes cast:	Jeff Smith	Aye	
	Nancy Elwood	Aye	
	Sharon Eltz	Aye	carried

MOTION:“Accept Accountant’s Report as written”

Made by Sharon Eltz, 2nd by Jeff Smith

Votes cast:	Jeff Smith	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: \$9,390.19

Made by Sharon Eltz, 2nd by Jeff Smith

Votes cast:	Jeff Smith	Aye	
	Nancy Elwood	Aye	
	Sharon Eltz	Aye	carried

MOTION:Pay General Fund Vouchers for a total of: \$4,658.25

Made by Sharon Eltz, 2nd by Jeff Smith

Votes cast:	Jeff Smith	Aye
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Nancy Elwood	Aye	
Sharon Eltz	Aye	carried

Total Funds disbursed was:	\$14,048.44
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INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE:

Steve began by bringing up the agreement between the Town and Cortland County with the Radio Towers. Steve said that he would get with Jim and look it over to make sure everything was in order and if they had any questions they will call someone to find them out. Jim explained that this is a maintenance agreement between us & the County for the radios in the trucks. They will install them as well as service and maintain them. Steve said he figures everything is in order because the County knows what they want, but is this something we have the Lawyer look over. Jeff didn't think that was necessary and Jim said it would be for 1 or 2 years. Jim explained that the stuff is all high tech and no one can touch them except the Technicians. Steve then moved onto the agreement with Time Warner Cable that the Town currently has and has had for several years. Steve said he didn't understand it well and will look it over and call them about it. Steve said after looking at it he thought we needed to have a Public Hearing on it and asked if this had been done before. There was some discussion regarding this and Marie thought that we never had one. Steve asked what if we wanted them out of here and Marie commented we would have a lot of angry residents in town seeing as this is the only option for Cable TV in Taylor. Steve spoke briefly about the Copenhagen Central Report and said he has turned that over to his wife Jaime to look into. He thought it looked like a program for kids to excel and Jaime had no idea why it would have been sent to a Town and would look into it if that was okay. Sharon then talked about copies of minutes that are being requested from residents. April has been mailing copies of minutes to one resident regularly and now they are requesting more for neighbors. There was a short discussion about setting up a webpage so that minutes can be posted and printed out from there and John Walsh had volunteered to help set this up. Marie pointed out that there is one website set up but it is run through the County and we have no input for it. Sharon asked if anyone knows what the Historical Society pays for their page and Nancy said she did not know but could find out. Debbie said that Time Warner use to allow a certain amount of space for free but she wasn't sure if they still did. Debbie said she would call Frontier and check out the prices of a webpage that can be used for the Town and report on it at the next meeting. Marie suggested sending the minutes via E-mail and the Board felt it was not the Clerk's job to copy and mail these out to all requested. Nancy agreed saying the postage to mail them out could add up to be costly, we can make them copies and they can pick them up here. Sharon said that was another item to be discussed. There was some discussion about copies and the cost to the Town (ink, paper) also the cost of postage for mailing these to people. Sharon suggested if they want copies we charge \$.50 and if we mail it \$1.00, but added if we setup a webpage this will eliminate having to send them. Jeff agreed adding that once the webpage is up they can print them there or stop in for a copy. All of the records are here and they are more than welcome to look at them, it is not our job to mail copies of the minutes to people. There was some discussion as how much to charge and April said a copy at the Post Office will cost you \$.15 a sheet and the last minutes were 8 pages. The Board agreed that it can add up to be a big expense if this continues so they discussed adding a charge for this service. Everyone on the Board agreed that if they want copies of minutes they will pay a flat per page charge and the postage to mail.

MOTION: Charge \$.15 per page for a copy of any correspondence

Made by Sharon Eltz, 2nd by Jeff Smith

Votes cast: Jeff Smith Aye

Nancy Elwood	Aye	
Sharon Eltz	Aye	carried

Debbie reassured everyone that she will call Frontier about the webpage before next meeting. Steve mentioned that he was fed up with Frontier and refuses to fight with them anymore over our bill. Steve asked the Board if they would have a problem with him contacting Time Warner to see what they can do to lower our bill. April added that she has Time Warner in her home and is pleased with them. Steve said we are paying about \$200.00 a month which is about \$80.00 more than it is supposed to be, supposed to be \$120-\$130.00 a month and we are \$206.00, but Jim's is right on the money. Jeff asked what the difference was and Steve explained Jim's bill and the Town Hall have different bills for the phone. Jim's bill is right where it should be and the \$206.00 is just for here, Town Hall, which is Ludacris. Nancy asked him what that covers and Steve answered Clerk's Office and Rollan's Office that is it. Jeff asked if we had different lines and Steve answered yes but the internet is wireless and Rollan bought the adaptor for his computer so that is not different internet lines. Nancy said her internet at home runs about \$50.00 and April said she has Time Warner internet high speed with a super boost, telephone and cable and only pays \$176.00 a month. Everyone agreed that we should look into other options. Debbie pointed out that Time Warner phone is digital and if the power goes out we have no phone, but April answered if the power is out we would be closed anyways. Jeff did bring up the point of, what if there is a natural disaster and power is out leaving us with no phones?, Steve answered that is where our high powered radios should come into effect. Jim asked if we thought those would work and Steve said they should they are supposed to be the best thing since sliced bread. Nancy added that most people have a cell phone on hand for emergencies these days. Sharon then wanted to mention that she had not been able to stop and talk to Chris Beckwith about the bulletin board but go to thinking that we should automatically go with one that is weatherproof. If we had Chris build us something, he would do a good job, but it would not be weatherproof. Sharon said by the next meeting she will have those prices back again to review as well as go over the sizes we need. Jeff wanted to take a minute to ask the Board to consider compensating Steve for switching out his Coal Boiler with the Town's to make our heating source pass inspection. Steve joked that was unnecessary and to just pay the coal bill. Sharon pointed out that not a lot of people would take the furnace out of there house to help out the Town. After realizing there was not a tag on the one in the Town Hall they checked Steve's and his had it so he offered to swap them out at no charge. This saved the Town a lot of money, estimated \$6-7,000.00, and aggravation so Jeff would like the Board to come up with an amount to give Steve for his effort and address this again at next month's meeting. Jim also pointed out the Steve goes and trucks all the loads of coal for the Town and should be getting mileage for that. Steve said that it was not necessary and he was glad and enjoys doing it. Nancy agreed that he should get mileage because gas is not cheap and there is a lot of wear and tear on his vehicle and Sharon said we would come up with a figure before next month's meeting. We moved onto address an issue regarding records leaving the building and what the Town policy is regarding these records. Steve said he has an issue with records leaving the building and the Board was in agreement that all Original records should be kept here and not to leave the building. They can be reviewed here and if copies are needed the Clerk can make them at the cost of \$.15 per page. Jeff and Steve both said they are Public Record but should never leave this building and Nancy agreed that they are not supposed to. Marie spoke briefly about the Planning Board Minutes that were requested earlier this month. April was told they were not to leave the building and when Beth Hummel came into review them she found a piece of paper tucked in the folder to sign them out. Marie said she had told April they were to be looked at here but was unaware of the paper to sign them out. Marie also agreed that there is no reason for them to leave the building, should someone want to look at them they can come to the Town Hall during business hours and look at them all day. Jim brought up a problem in Virgil about a year ago where Original records left the building and were never returned,

these can never be replaced. Nancy said when she was Historian only Marie could go in the records room and there were only certain things that they could look at. The Public does not have the right to look at any record they want and Marie said she was glad Nancy remembered because she really did not. Steve also added that when a request for records and such comes into the Town Clerk office that there should be a period of one week wait time, for April to find it. For example if someone requests marriage records from 1900's on a Monday then April will have them dug out by Friday. April asked for 1 week and the Board felt that was sufficient. April brought up the fact that the records room is not very organized and she can't walk in there and just locate things right now and a little time would be helpful. There is no set system to finding things and it comes down to going in and pulling out boxes and sorting through the whole box to locate requested materials.

MOTION:All Records are to remain in Town Hall, copies to be made at \$.15 per page

Made by Sharon Eltz, 2nd by Jeff Smith

Votes cast:	Jeff Smith	Aye	
	Nancy Elwood	Aye	
	Sharon Eltz	Aye	carried

MOTION: 1 week notice given to Town Clerk upon request of Records

Made by Sharon Eltz, 2nd by Jeff Smith

Votes cast:	Jeff Smith	Aye	
	Nancy Elwood	Aye	
	Sharon Eltz	Aye	carried

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

Mike was absent but had given April a couple of things to go over with the Board. First issue was a letter from Cortland County regarding the Kotowicz trailer. Last month Mike presented a letter that said they were in violation and had a certain number of days to fix it or be subject to penalty. The letter states that was in error and there is no violation. There is no proof that someone is occupying the trailer during the day or night. April read a small part of the letter that states the reason no violation exists at this time and Cortland County/Town's hands are tied at this point unless someone can prove they are staying in the house. Steve suggested a trail cam might help with that. Next was a letter sent to Leann Highfield, Solon Pond Road, for failure to install proper safety rails on the front deck which is over 30 feet in the air. Mike stated that he has spoken to her several times about this and she has not done anything, he then gave her until the 31st of October. Mike would like to know if the Board would like him to serve her with a court summons. Steve said yes and Sharon brought up that the deck is not 30 feet in the air. April said she did not know where it was but showed the paper to Steve and asked if it said 30 feet, to which Steve said yes it says 30 feet. Sharon and Jeff agreed that it may be 30 inches but nowhere near 30 feet. There was a small discussion with everyone and they all agreed that there was no way it was 30 feet, it would be a 3 story building, to which April laughed and admitted she is bad with measurements and just reads what she is given. Sharon said if Mike is making everyone else follow code then yes he needs to do it and was surprised he asked the Board. Marie then asked what was going on with the Wilkin's residence and The Board told her that it is being taken care of and needs to be wrapped up. Jeff said he would have been happy just boarding it up and found it unnecessary to remove all combustibles. Everyone was in agreement and said we have been fighting this issue all year and will be taken care of.

DOG WARDEN REPORT:

Chip was absent due to other commitments but Sharon spoke on his behalf saying that Chip has a paper that shows he only has 6 families left to serve summons to which is out of 121 families. The other thing is Chip would be willing to do the Dog Warden position again next year. He is asking that the Board approve a salary of \$1500.00 a year plus \$300.00 for the dog enumeration as well as mileage. The current salary is not sufficient for the hassle of dealing with dog licensing and the owners. Sharon hopes that if the Town realizes we are going to follow through with these things that they will come in quicker to get these things taken care of.

PLANNING BOARD REPORT:

Kathryn reported that there was no meeting due to any new business. She stated that most of the Planning Board went an informative meeting on Hydro Fracking in Cortland. Sharon agreed saying it was the best meeting she had ever been to. The man that led the meeting was neither for nor against drilling but showed roads where some of them have been and they had fixed the roads in better condition than when they moved in. Jim agreed saying a lot of the roads were in awful shape and they fixed them up beautifully and said they found it was easier to build the roads up beforehand rather than tear them up with the heavy trucks then try to get in there and fix it. Sharon said one thing that impressed her was where they had put some of their pumping stations on farms that they are building them to look like barns to go along with the look of the farm. They are all insulated and are very quiet, but are now building them in open places where they are trucking water sometimes 6-8 miles. They reported that it really helped out the economy and you see a lot of new buildings and shiny equipment on these farms. Farmers did not take the money and run off on vacation, they are using it for everyday living expenses. Steve said they are putting up a big one on 81 and where they are going out into the field they are making roads out of railroad ties to run their equipment on. Steve and Jim said they thought it was a great meeting and glad they went. Kathryn said she had an issue for The Board; Whitney Meeker (Secretary for the Planning Board) has sold her house and moved out of Taylor. Kathryn has talked with Dan Dineen and he said it is permissible for her to still be the Taylor Planning Board Secretary, but she can't be on the Planning Board (voting member). Kathryn wanted to know if that was okay and everyone said that was fine.

HIGHWAY REPORT:

Jim said they are all ready to go just waiting on the snow. Steve asked him how the new guy was working out and Jim answered that he is working out well. Jeff asked if Norm was done and Jim said he said he talked to him and this week they are doing shots in his back and that was all he knew. Jim said Ray is a good worker, is willing to do anything and Jim feels lucky to have him. The trucks are all set to go except for the wings but that will only take 2-3 hours and they will be ready to roll. The highway guys spent a day or so helping move the boilers around from her and Steve's. They have put 3 loads of coal in for this year and Jim said last year we only went through 2 ton last year, granted it was an easy winter. The bins are full and with the new insulation Jim thinks we will be all set because the furnace never runs.

CLERK'S REPORT:

April reported that it was a slower month in hunting licenses and we sold \$760.00 for DEC. On or about November 14, 2012 they will automatically deduct \$730.47 leaving \$29.53 for the Town in commission. We licensed 12 spayed/neutered dogs and 8 unspayed/unneutered dogs giving the Town \$160.00 and a check was sent to Department of Ag and Markets for \$36.00. We issued 3 buildings permits this month and names are on the report. The total check written to Steve for this month was \$414.53 and the total funds disbursed this month were \$1181.00. I have included copies of all checks are on the back my report.

MOTION: Accept the 2013 proposed Budget
Made by Sharon Eltz, 2nd by Jeff Smith

Votes cast:	Jeff Smith	Aye	
	Nancy Elwood	Aye	
	Sharon Eltz	Aye	carried

MOTION: Close Public hearing on proposed budget for 2013
Made by Sharon Eltz, 2nd by Jeff Smith

Votes cast:	Jeff Smith	Aye	
	Nancy Elwood	Aye	
	Sharon Eltz	Aye	carried

MOTION:To adjourn meeting was made by Sharon Eltz, 2nd by Jeff Smith.....carried

Respectfully submitted,

April Law