

Town of Thurston Board Meeting Minutes
Held: Wednesday November 13, 2024 at 7:00 P.M.
Location: 7578 County Route 333, Thurston

Present: Town Supervisor: Michael Volino
Town Council Members: Noel Sylvester, Holly Chase, Daniel Gee, Jennifer Hargrave
Town Highway Superintendent: Saige McGarvey
Town Dog Control Officer:
Town Attorney:
Town Code Officer: Nick Nolton
Town Historian: Noel Sylvester
Town Assessor: Diana Dixon
Town Justice:

Absent: Randy Akins, Darlene Smith, Rachel Treichler

Visitors: Cathy Manning, Teresa Borhman, Marge Taft, Jeff Sweeney, Tim Hargrave, Lisa Hargrave, Eva Turner, Sam Dick, Sue Conklin, Morris Smith

Supervisor Volino called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. The Board opened with the US Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: Kayla Wagner from Sprague Insurance Agency gave a presentation of the 2025 renewal quote of the NYMIR insurance policy. The early quote was for budgeting purposes. The increase in cost was due to improvements and updates to buildings and equipment. Motion was made by Holly Chase seconded by Noel Sylvester to close public comment. Put to vote: Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Minutes: Motion was made by Jennifer Hargrave seconded by Holly Chase to accept and approve the October 16, 2024 Regular Board meeting minutes. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Bills Payable: Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Daniel Gee for Michael Volino to pay all claims listed in the General abstract dated November 13, 2024 totaling \$11,370.00, the Highway abstract totaling \$18,644.61, and the T&A totaling \$158.00. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Clerk's Report: October 2024 monthly deposits were \$954.90. Dolores Crooker stated that she had not received the official November 5th election results. Crooker stated that the unofficial results were as follows. Clerk: Sue Conklin 581 votes unopposed, Highway Superintendent: Morris Smith 477 votes Saige McGarvey 168 votes. Proposition to extend term limits from 2 to 4 years are as follows: Supervisor failed 304 to 324, Town Clerk: passed 335 to 296, Highway Superintendent: passed 320 to 311, Tax Collector, passed 329 to 301.

Justice Report: October 2024 Darlene Smith collected \$20.00.

Tax Collector Report: Nothing

Assessor Report: Diana Dixon stated that 1 senior citizen exemption has been sent out. Diana Dixon asked if anyone knew which house in the Town of Thurston is the oldest house and when it was built. Sam Dick asked if veterans have to renew annually. Diana Dixon stated no that the veterans do not have to renew annually.

Historian Report: Nothing

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: Nick Nolton reported 1 new building permit and 2 C of O's issued.

Dog Control Officer's Report: Supervisor Volino stated that Randy Akins is working with Darlene Smith on outdated dog licenses.

Highway Superintendent's Report: Saige McGarvey stated that a turn around has been created on South Hill road. The highway crew hung Hometown Hero Banners. New security cameras have been installed at the shop. All trucks have been serviced. The turn around on Smith Hill road has been updated. Installed a new driveway pipe and ordered new side boards for the new truck.

Supervisor's Report: Michael Volino attended an Emergency Response meeting with the Addison Superintendent and other local officials on October 17, 2024. The new security cameras have been installed at the Highway shop and Salt barn on October 21, 2024. The Town Hall cameras were installed on November 12, 2024. The end of month closing for October was completed and sent to the Town Board on November 2, 2024. Motion was made by Holly Chase seconded by Noel Sylvester to accept and approve the Clerk's report through the Supervisor's report. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Unfinished Business:

2025 Budget

Supervisor Volino asked the Board to consider making the 2025 Preliminary Budget the 2025 Final Budget with \$8,000.00 transferred from the General Tax Stability Reserve fund to the Highway Superintendent Contractual. Motion was made by Holly Chase seconded by Noel Sylvester to make the 2025 Preliminary budget the 2025 Final Budget with the \$8,000.00 transfer. Put to vote: Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Local Law #3 of 2024 Partial Tax Exemption for Firefighters or EMT Workers

Motion was made by Holly Chase seconded by Daniel Gee to adopt the Local Law #3 of 2024 as the Partial Tax Exemption for Firefighters or EMT workers. Put to vote: Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Local Law #4 Regulating Solar Energy Systems

Supervisor Volino read aloud the draft of the proposed Local Law #4 of 2024. Motion was made by Jennifer Hargrave seconded by Holly Chase to accept as form the proposed draft of the Town of Thurston local law #4 of 2024. Put to vote: Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. A Public Hearing on the Local Law #4 Regulating Solar Energy Systems has been set for December 18, 2024 at 6:30 P.M.

Postage Machine:

Supervisor Volino stated that he got 2 quotes on postage machines. Volino stated that both machines are rated for low volume usage. FP Post Base Mini is \$22.95 a month and the Pitney Bowes Sendpro Mailstream is \$29.99 a month with a 60day free trial. Motion was made by Holly Chase seconded by Noel Sylvester to get the Pitney Bowes and try it for 60days. Put to vote: Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Motion was made by Daniel Gee seconded by Jennifer Hargrave to close Unfinished Business. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

New Business:

NYSERDA Grant:

Supervisor Volino stated that there is a NYSERDA grant available. Supervisor Volino asked for permission to apply for the grant to replace the lighting fixtures at the highway shop. Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Jennifer Hargrave for Supervisor Volino to apply for the grant and adopt the Energy Benchmarking Requirements for Municipal Buildings. Put to vote: Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Concrete Pads for Fuel Tanks:

Supervisor Volino stated that Hargrave Construction estimated \$2,880.00 to construct a 15' x 15' concrete slab for new self contained fuel tanks to sit on. Motion was made by Daniel Gee seconded by Holly Chase to approve Hargrave Construction to construct the concrete slab. Put to vote: Jennifer Hargrave, abstain; Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Flooring in Highway Superintendent's Office and Breakroom.

Hargrave Construction estimated the flooring for the Superintendent's office and breakroom to be \$2,880.00. Motion was made by Holly Chase seconded by Daniel Gee for Hargrave Construction to install flooring in the Superintendent's office and breakroom at \$2,880.00. Put to

vote: Jennifer Hargrave, abstain; Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Equipment purchase:

10 Wheel Dump Truck Estimates:

Supervisor Volino got estimates from Volvo, Mack, and Peterbilt. Motion was made by Daniel Gee seconded by Jennifer Hargrave for Supervisor Volino to order the 2025 Peterbilt with plow package. Put to vote: Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Motion was made by Holly Chase seconded by Noel Sylvester to close New Business. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Announcements: December 18, 2024 Public Hearing Local Law #4 of 2024 at 6:30 P.M. Regular Board Meeting at 7:00 P.M.

Motion was made by Jennifer Hargrave seconded by Daniel Gee to adjourn the regular board meeting at 7:55 p.m. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Dolores Crooker, Town Clerk