

Town of Thurston Meeting Minutes  
Held: Wednesday April 21, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.  
Location: 7578 County Route 333, Thurston

Present: Town Supervisor: Wendy Lozo  
Town Council Members: Michael Volino, Paul Peck, Noel Sylvester, Holly Chase  
Town Highway Superintendent: Richard Gauss, Jr.  
Town Dog Control Officer: Randy Akins  
Town Attorney: Shawn Sauro  
Town Code Officer: Ray Orr  
Town Historian: Michael Volino

Absent:

Visitors: Ryan McCune, Tom Lozo, Shawn Twist, Ed Tietje, Caleb Tietje, Marge Taft,

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

Public Comment: Nothing

Minutes: Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester to accept and approve the Board Meeting minutes dated March 17, 2021. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Bills Payable: Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester for Wendy Lozo to pay all claims listed in the General abstract A068- A087 totaling \$14,085.28, and the Highway abstract 055-075 totaling \$29,184.09. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Clerk's Report: March 2021 monthly deposits were \$199.00. Dolores Crooker stated that she received a letter from Steuben County Board of Elections stating that there would be no Primary Election in June.

Justice Report: Wendy Lozo stated that the Justice collected \$972.00. NYS received \$372.00 and the Town received \$600.00.

Tax Collector Report: Wendy Lozo stated that Sandra Nowicki has completed the Town and County tax collection year. All monies have been disbursed.

Assessor Report: Nothing.

Historian Report: Michael Volino stated that the William Beaton headstone free from the VA will cost \$250.00 to be set by Haughey Memorials. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Holly Chase for \$250.00 from the Historian contractual be used to set the headstone. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, abstain; Holly Chase,

aye. Carried. Michael Volino stated that Haughey Memorials quoted \$300.00 to reset the Spencer Monument and fix the retaining wall in the Risingville cemetery. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester for Haughey Memorials to reset the Spencer Monument and fix the retaining wall for \$300.00. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, abstain; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Michael Volino complimented Steuben County for their prompt attention in establishing an entrance to the Beaton Family cemetery on County Route 12. Michael Volino expressed interest in researching the sale of plots and mapping of each plot in the Aldrich cemetery on Foster road in the Town of Thurston. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Holly Chase for Michael to research the sale of plots and mapping of the cemetery. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, abstain; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: One building permit was issued for \$150.00. Ray Orr stated that he has been in contact with Caleb Tietje about cleaning up his property on South Hill road. Ray is satisfied with the progress being made and will continue to check on this location and report back to the Board. Ray Orr stated that he also checked on a complaint about junk vehicles on Cty Rte 12 and found 1 unlicensed vehicle which is acceptable.

Dog Control Officer's Report: Randy Akins reported 3 dogs running at large. The rabies clinic was held 4/15/21 70 dogs and 14 cats were vaccinated. Donations of \$180.00 was split evenly between Steuben County and the Town at \$90.00 apiece. Randy stated that he is grateful for the volunteers that help at each clinic.

Supervisor's Report: The month of March 2021 paperwork has been emailed to the Board and a hard copy is on file in the Clerk's office.

Highway Superintendent's Report: March 2021 monthly report was presented to the Board. Items of interest and work performed 03/17/21-04/21/21. All road conditions were checked twice and sanded once. Several large dead trees have been removed from along the roads. The spring grading has begun. The 07 Western Star brine truck has been repaired at the Steuben County repair shop under the shared service agreement. The only expense was for the parts and fluid used in the repair job. All oil and stone roads have been swept. All of the loose stone in the Town Hall parking lot has been removed. Fifteen feet of drain tile has been installed in the Town Hall parking lot and tied into the gutter drain. The lower headwall of a cross pipe on Hanrahan road has been reset. Thirty road signs that were faded or missing have been replaced. Sixteen loads of dirt were removed from the ditch line on Reed Hill road and Wood Hill road. A section of ditch on Helms road has been reshaped. Fifty feet of drive pipe has been installed on Yost road. Sixteen feet of fascia board has been replaced on the highway shop. Potholes have been patched with stone dust. One hundred fifty ton of cold patch is scheduled to be made on April 30, 2021. The overweight permits, brine permit, and the OGS salt contract have been renewed. The plow riggings have been removed from the plow trucks. Repairs were made to the following equipment: A new air cooler, tie rod end, transmission line, battery, windshield, and turn signal lever were replaced on the 2015 F350 pickup truck. New brake shoes, brake drums, air chamber, slack adjuster, dust shields, power steering seal, drag link, and axle breather have been installed on the 06 Sterling dump truck. It also has been serviced and inspected. The 01 Auto car has been inspected. A hydraulic line has been replaced on the Hyundai loader. One applicant with a CDL

applied for the summer position. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Michael Volino for Jeffery Beers to begin work May 1, 2021 at \$16.00 per hour if passing all preemployment requirements. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Richard stated that he needed the Agreement to Spend Highway Funds signed. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester for the Board to sign the agreement. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Richard stated that the CHIPS, PAVE NY, Extreme Winter Recovery programs amount to \$286,652.33. Richard asked the Board to purchase a new pickup truck with some of the money. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester for Richard to get at least two quotes for the Board to review. Put to vote: Paul Peck, aye; Noel Sylvester, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Holly Chase to accept and approve the Clerk's report through the Highway Superintendent's report. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Old Business: Wendy Lozo asked Paul Peck if the parking lot lights were complete. Paul stated that they were. Michael Volino asked Ryan McCune if the solar decommissioning could be agreed upon at 2.5% escalation rate and if a 12month inactivity with no energy production could start the decommissioning process. Ryan McCune agreed that the request was acceptable and within reason. Ryan McCune stated that he would have the 2.5% escalator and the 12month inactivity decommissioning added to the Bond language. Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Paul Peck to accept the NEXAMP proposal with the added Bond language agreed upon. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Richard Gauss, Jr. stated that classifications of roads in the Road Use Agreement are available and Ryan McCune stated that he would get with Richard to discuss the Road Use Agreement. Finance rates from Five Star at 3.35% - 3.6% and Chemung Canal Trust Co at 3.0% for the new Dump Truck were discussed. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester to use Chemung Canal for financing the Dump truck. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Wendy Lozo stated that the NYS Health Plan has been signed and sent to the NYS Teamsters Union. The Hazard Mitigation Plan has been signed and sent in. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester to close Old Business. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase. Carried.

New Business: Wendy Lozo stated that she needed to sign the cemetery maintenance agreement. Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Paul Peck for Wendy to sign the cemetery maintenance agreement. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Michael Volino stated that he would continue to volunteer maintenance and grass cutting at the remaining cemeteries in the Town. Wendy Lozo stated that there is a Stimulus package from the Federal Government called the American Rescue Plan with payments beginning in June or July of 2021 and the funds need to be spent by December 31, 2024. There will be guidance from the Government for spending of the stimulus funds and if the funds are not used the remainder of the money has to be returned to the government. Wendy Lozo stated that the legalization of Marijuana does not permit CDL drivers the right to use. Motion was made by Holly Chase seconded by Michael Volino to close New

Business. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Motion was made by Holly Chase seconded by Michael Volino to adjourn the regular board meeting at 8:13 p.m. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Dolores Crooker, Town Clerk