

Town of Thurston Board Meeting Minutes
Held: Wednesday December 21, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.
Location: 7578 County Route 333, Thurston

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

Visitors: Rachel Treichler, Tim Hargrave, Jim & Bonnie Morse

Wendy Lozo called the Regular Board 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 Holly Chase to accept and approve the November 9, 2022 Public Hearing and Regular Town Board Meeting minutes. 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 A197- A218 totaling \$25,147.32 and the Highway abstract 200-214 totaling \$29,554.76. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Clerk's Report: November 2022 monthly deposits were \$121.00. Dolores Crooker stated that she received an election certificate showing Darlene Smith was voted in as the Thurston Town Justice with 482 votes. Dolores stated that Mary Schoonover's BAR term has expired. Mary agreed to return as a BAR member during a phone conversation. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester to reappoint Mary Schoonover to the BAR. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Justice Report: November 2022 monthly deposits were \$450.00. NYS received \$250.00 and the Town received \$200.00. Wendy Lozo read aloud a letter from Justice Sweeney to the Board. Wendy stated that Justice Darlene Smith attended training in Albany and will be reimbursed for her expenses.

Tax Collector Report: Sandra Nowicki will begin collecting Town and County taxes January 4, 2023 at 6:00 pm.

Assessor Report: Diana Dixon and Jerry Gephard will be doing their training sessions by zoom meetings starting in January 2023.

Historian Report: Michael Volino stated that a large tree limb from a cherry tree fell in the Risingville cemetery. Randy Akins took care of the limb. The highway department doesn't have the means to remove trees in the cemetery. Richard Gauss, Jr stated that the highway department would take care of the trees and limbs after the trees are removed and piled in a place that the crew could get to safely. Michael Volino contacted Caward Tree Service for an estimate to remove the Cherry Tree and four other smaller trees. The total to remove all 5 trees is \$2,000.00. Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Holly Chase to approve Caward Tree Service to remove the 5 trees for \$2,000.00. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: Ray Orr reported 3 Building Permits were issued totaling \$588.00. Bonnie Morse stated that she had been in touch with Trisha Brown the Town Health Officer about a deer processing business on Lewis Rd. NYSDEC has been contacted also and both entities referred the Morse's back to the Town Code Officer for assistance with the situation. Pictures were presented to the Board and Wendy asked for more information to give to the Town Code Officer. Wendy Lozo stated more research is needed in the matter and it could take some time to see results. Attorney Shawn Sauro stated that he would help research the situation.

Dog Control Officer's Report: Randy Akins reported 2 dogs running at large and 1 dog exposed to the elements. Randy stated that his DCO inspection is scheduled for January 4, 2023 at 4 p.m. Randy stated that the Denmark shelter has been inspected and has passed inspection. Wendy Lozo verified the inspection with an inspection certification from NYS. Randy Akins presented the Board with a new Denmark annual shelter agreement. Attorney Shawn Sauro reviewed and approved the shelter agreement. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester for Wendy Lozo to sign the Denmark shelter agreement. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Wendy Lozo asked Randy if the Aldrich Shelter was going to submit a contract for backup to the Denmark shelter. Randy confirmed he would get with Mr. Aldrich for an agreement and bring it to the Board.

Supervisor's Report: October and November bookwork has been presented to the Board by email and the hard copies are on file in the Clerk's office.

Highway Superintendent's Report: November 2022 monthly report was presented to the Board. Items of interest and work performed 11/09/22-12/21/22. Roads were checked 14 times plowed and or sanded 11 times. Town Hall parking lot has been plowed 4 times. The highway crew were on vacation the majority of November. CHIPS and Pave NY reimbursement forms have been submitted to NYSDOT in the amount of \$131,181.83. The reimbursement check should arrive around the end of December. A 10' extension has been added to the Noody residence drive pipe at the request of the Campbell Savona Bus Garage Supervisor. The annual fire extinguisher inspection has been completed. Trees and branches that were blown down during high winds have been removed. The Highway Crew all attended the Work Place Violence and Sexual Harassment Prevention Training classes provided by Steuben County. Roads sign repairs have

been completed. A large tree limb that fell in the Risingville cemetery has been removed. Several large potholes at the end of 3 different driveways have been filled. The new Peterbilt truck had a 2-way radio installed. The 2022 Chevy pickup has been serviced. Two new rims have been put on the 01 Autocar truck. Richard Gauss, Jr stated that the cost of the remanufactured rear axel housing for the grader is approximately \$54,000.00 There is \$46,000.00 available towards the cost. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester for Wendy Lozo to make budget adjustments to cover the remaining \$8,000.00. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Richard Gauss, Jr. stated a voucher is needed for the last two payrolls of 2022. Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Paul Peck 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 gave an update on the ARPA kitchenette project. Wendy Lozo stated that the Local Law labeled Landfill Law will need to be labeled the Local Law #1 of 2023. Wendy asked for a motion to set a date for a public hearing. Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Holly Chase to set the Public Hearing for Local Law #1 of 2023 for 6:30 pm on January 18, 2023. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Requests for hard copies of any documents are 25 cents apiece. 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, aye. Carried.

New Business: Wendy Lozo stated that an anonymous donation of cookware has been donated to the Town for use in the kitchenette. The water well repair cost was \$1,400.00. An ultraviolet water system (Viqua) cost installed is \$850.00 plus \$100.00 for an extra bulb. Wendy Lozo stated that ARPA funds can be used for this purchase. A Motion /Resolution was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Michael Volino to purchase the Viqua Ultraviolet system using ARPA funds. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Wendy Lozo stated that there were 4 computers that need to be purchased. One for the Supervisor, one for the Tax Collector, one for the Assessors, and one for the Clerk. Wendy stated that the computers can be paid for with ARPA funds. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester for Wendy to purchase 4 computers up to \$7,000.00 which includes an IT person to migrate stored info from old computers to new computers. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Wendy Lozo stated that a motion was needed for Justice Jeffery Sweeney to close bank accounts and Justice Darlene Smith to open bank accounts. Motion /Resolution was made by Holly Chase seconded by Paul Peck for Justice Jeffery Sweeney to close bank accounts and Justice Darlene Smith to open bank accounts. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester for Justice Darlene Smith to purchase a Justice Robe in her size using the Justice contractual. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Wendy Lozo stated that she received a sales tax check from Steuben County for \$46,800.00 and the second half of equal amount will be deposited in April or May of 2023. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester for Wendy Lozo to make final budget adjustments for 2022 in bookwork as needed. Put to vote;

Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Wendy Lozo stated that a date and time needed to be set for the 2023 Organizational Meeting. The Board agreed on January 5, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. Wendy Lozo stated that she received a Mobile work program letter from Steuben County. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Holly Chase to decline entering the mobile work program agreement with Steuben County. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Dolores Crooker asked each of the Town officials to email their personal and official information to her so she can update the required Town of Thurston annual list and provide the NYS Comptroller accurate information. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Holly Chase 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 Noel Sylvester seconded by Paul Peck to adjourn the regular board meeting at 8:19 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