

Town of Thurston Meeting Minutes
Held: Wednesday February 17, 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:
Town Attorney: Shawn Sauro
Town Code Officer:
Town Historian: Michael Volino

Absent: Ray Orr, Randy Akins

Visitors: Tom Lozo, 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: Marge Taft returned Mark Taft's notarized 2021 Oath of Office form for the Board of Ethics position that he holds.

Minutes: Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Holly Chase to accept and approve the 2021 Organizational Meeting minutes dated January 6, 2021 and the Board Meeting minutes dated January 20, 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 Michael Volino for Wendy Lozo to pay all claims listed in the General abstract A028- A046 totaling \$39,455.24, and the Highway abstract 022-035 totaling \$25,424.22. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Clerk's Report: January 2021 monthly deposits were \$208.00. Dolores Crooker stated that the Republican elected official positions up for election in November need to carry their petitions starting in early March, turned in by the 25th of March, and the primary elections will be held in June.

Justice Report: Wendy Lozo stated that the Justice collected \$368.00 in January. NYS received \$218.00 and the Town of Thurston received \$150.00.

Tax Collector Report: Wendy Lozo stated that Sandra Nowicki is collecting taxes in February on Wednesday evenings from 6 to 8 pm.

Assessor Report: Nothing.

Historian Report: Nothing.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: Wendy Lozo stated that Ray Orr turned in 1 building permit for \$100.00.

Dog Control Officer's Report: Randy Akins reported that he received a couple calls about dogs that needed to be licensed, a call about a dog that recently passed away, and money for a dog tag replacement.

Supervisor's Report: The 2020 yearend bookwork has been completed and emailed to the Board. A copy is on file in the Clerk's office. NYS AUD has been completed and filed with NYS and the Town Clerk. Wendy Lozo emailed January 2021 bookwork to the Board and a hard copy is on file in the Clerk's office.

Highway Superintendent's Report: January 2021 monthly report was presented to the Board. Items of interest and work performed 01/20/21-02/16/21. All road conditions were checked 22 times. Roads have been plowed or sanded 20 times and the Town Hall parking lot was plowed 14 times. Town Hall sidewalks were cleared 14 times and the Fire Hall parking lot was plowed 15 times. One hundred ton of salt was delivered on January 11, 2021. Randy Akins spent a couple days clearing the roads of deep snow drifts with the excavator and the fabricated wing attachment. The new fuel pump on the bulk fuel tank quit working and will be replaced with a new one from Fill-Rite Co at no charge to the Town. A transformer was replaced on one of the furnaces in the shop. Rural Metro Ambulance Co requested snow removal at a driveway on County Route 22. Randy Akins plowed and sanded that driveway with F550 so the ambulance could get to the house. Repairs were made to the following equipment: The rear wing cable was replaced on the 06 Sterling dump truck. A new conveyor chain was installed on the 01 Autocar dump truck. A tire and a hydraulic line was replaced on the 01 Volvo dump truck. The axle u-joints, new hub seals, the dust shield and ball joints, and lockouts were replaced on the 2015 F350 pickup truck. A brake line, u-joint and hydraulic hose were replaced on the 01 F550 and the exhaust was repaired. Richard Gauss, Jr. presented the Board with 2 different quotes for a new dump truck with a stainless steel box. One from Western Star and the other from Peterbilt. Richard stated that he requested a quote from Kenworth but did not receive one. With Peterbilt being the better deal motion was made by Michael Volino seconded by Paul Peck for Wendy Lozo to focus on financing for the Peterbilt, checking with leasing and purchasing availability. 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 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 stated that the UV sanitizing system will be installed later this week or next week with 30% down and the remainder to be paid on completion. Paul Peck will install the parts in the parking lot lights as soon as the weather allows. Wendy Lozo stated she received an email from Ryan McCune and the engineers are still working on the cost and guidelines requested by the Board. Mr. McCune requested the Road Use Agreement form from the Town. Wendy Lozo will send it to him. Wendy Lozo stated that she needs a motion from the Board to send the required acknowledgement PILOT letter to NEXAMP. Shawn Sauro advised to send the

letter stating there needs to be more discussion and negotiations. Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Holly Chase to send the letter stating that more discussion and negotiations were needed. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester; aye, Paul Peck; aye, Wendy Lozo; aye, Michael Volino; aye, Holly Chase; aye. Carried. After some research by Shawn Sauro and a discussion by the Board motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Michael Volino to rescind the first motion. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester; aye, Paul Peck; aye, Wendy Lozo; aye, Michael Volino; aye, Holly Chase; aye. Carried. Now motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Holly Chase for Wendy Lozo to send a letter of affirmation for the PILOT program to NEXAMP. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester; aye, Paul Peck; aye, Wendy Lozo; aye, Michael Volino; aye, Holly Chase; aye. Carried. Wendy Lozo asked if there was any contact from Nicholas Reed on his Eagle Scout project. Dolores Crooker stated that she had not heard from him and Richard Gauss, Jr. stated that he had not heard from Nick either. Michael Volino asked if the Community Building in Risingville could be transferred from the Risingville Church to the Town of Thurston. Shawn Sauro Town Attorney stated that it could not be transferred because there is no proof of ownership. Wendy Lozo stated that maybe a consultation with a Real Estate Attorney could enlighten the Board with options on how to handle this situation. Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Paul Peck for Wendy Lozo to get quotes from 2 different Real Estate Attorneys for consultations. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester; aye, Paul Peck; aye, Wendy Lozo; aye, Michael Volino; aye, Holly Chase; aye. Carried. Richard Gauss, Jr. stated that the Sheriff's Dept. is still dealing with the Risingville cemetery and Highway property vandalisms. Wendy Lozo stated that she is working on the public employee essential functions and remote work protocols. Wendy lozo stated that the Town is required to have an information officer and the Board approved Wendy as the information officer for the Town of Thurston. Wendy Lozo stated that the Fire District received the tax levy check at the end of January 2021. 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 the Supervisor, Justice, and Clerk's internal audits need to be completed by the March 2021 Board meeting. Tax Collectors audit cannot be completed until after April 1, 2021. Wendy lozo stated that she is working on the vendor foil requests that she received. Steuben County keeps tax monies from the Town of Thurston for sales tax revenue. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester 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 Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester to adjourn the regular board meeting at 8:01 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