

Town of Thurston Meeting Minutes  
Held: Wednesday January 20, 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, Joanne Reed, Nicholas Reed

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 complimented Michael Volino on how well the County Route 12 cemetery looks. Nicholas Reed stated that he would like to work with the Town and put guiderails and speed limit signs on Knowles road in the Town of Thurston for credit towards his Eagle Scout project. Richard Gauss, Jr explained why there are no guiderails and speed limit signs on that road and suggested replacing faded road sings that are already in place as an alternate project which would be more cost effective. Holly Chase suggested checking for available grant monies to help with funds toward the project.

Minutes: Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Holly Chase to accept and approve the Board Meeting minutes dated December 16, 2020. 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 Noel Sylvester seconded by Paul Peck for Wendy Lozo to pay all claims listed in the final December General bills A214-A215 totaling \$3,087.38, final Highway bill 198 totaling \$5,681.20, the General abstract A001- A027 totaling \$33,421.75, and the Highway abstract 001-021 totaling \$84,067.80. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Clerk's Report: December 2020 monthly deposits were \$215.00. Dolores Crooker stated that the 2020 yearend report total deposits were \$6,195.00. Dolores stated that the positions up for election in November need to carry their petitions starting in February and the primary elections will be held in June.

Justice Report: Wendy Lozo stated that the Justice still is not having court sessions according to the NYS Court system brought on by the present pandemic. Dolores Crooker stated that she called Justice Sweeney at home on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of December to let him know that there were people requesting his presence to take care of their legal matters. Attorney Shawn Sauro stated

that even though Court could not be in session legal business still needs to be tended to. Wendy Lozo stated that she would let Justice Sweeney know to be at the Town Hall on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month as it is the dates designated for him to be there.

Tax Collector Report: Wendy Lozo stated that Sandra Nowicki is collecting taxes in January on Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 6 to 8 pm and on Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm.

Assessor Report: Nothing.

Historian Report: Nothing.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: Wendy Lozo stated that the certified return receipt letter that Ray Orr sent to a resident on Tucker road to clean up their premises was returned unsigned. Attorney Shawn Sauro advised Wendy to put the returned letter in the folder associated with that location.

Dog Control Officer's Report: Randy Akins reported that he received 4 complaints about 4 dogs running at large.

Supervisor's Report: Wendy Lozo emailed December bookwork to the Board and a hard copy is on file in the Clerk's office. Wendy Lozo stated that she is still working with a Williamson Law representative on the yearend and beginning of year accounting programs.

Highway Superintendent's Report: December 2020 monthly report was presented to the Board. Richard Gauss, Jr. stated that because of requirements for NYS bid on fuel, the Town highway now gets fuel from 3 different fuel companies. Items of interest and work performed 12/16/20-01/21/21. All road conditions were checked 22 times. Roads have been plowed or sanded 20 times and the Town Hall parking lot was plowed 6 times. Town Hall sidewalks were cleared 5 times and the Fire Hall parking lot was plowed 4 times. Safety videos from Cornell were used for the local roads training program that the highway crew attended. Due to heavy rain and snow melt there were 6 roads with washout conditions that needed repair. Two days were spent mixing salt with sand. The contract with Auctions International has been renewed. The outside fuel storage tank had a new pump installed. Repairs were made to the following equipment. The 01 Volvo dump truck had the intake boost sensor replaced, an air chamber replaced, three u-joints in the drive shaft replaced, and a tire mounted on a new rim. Three new air chambers and new brake drums and shoes were installed on the 01 Autocar dump truck. A new conveyor chain was installed on the 05 Volvo dump truck. A hub cover was replaced on the 06 Sterling dump truck. The 01 F550 had 2 hydraulic lines and a shifter boot replaced. The Hyundai loader had a new battery installed. The F350 had a hydraulic line replaced on the plow unit. Richard Gauss, Jr stated that he would like to purchase a new dump truck in 2022 which would make the first payment due in 2023. He suggested a stainless steel box for longevity purposes. Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Michael Volino for Richard to bring 2 or more quotes to the Board for review and consideration. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Wendy Lozo asked for permission to call around to different banks for financing. Motion was made by Holly Chase seconded by Paul Peck for Wendy Lozo to call different banks for financing. 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 requires 1/3 of \$1,600.00 down and the remainder paid on installation. Paul Peck stated that the part for the parking lot lights came in last week. He will install that part at a later date because his physical ailment won't allow him to climb a ladder at this time. Wendy Lozo stated that she has been working on the emergency health plan that is required by the Dept. of Labor to be submitted by April 1, 2021. Wendy stated that there was no new news on the community building in Risingville. Wendy Lozo stated that Holly Chase and Michael Volino continue to research and reach out to other localities for information on their local solar laws. Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Michael Volino for Holly Chase to contact Eric Prutsman from Jasper NY for Jasper's format and template. 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 Holly Chase for Michael Volino to contact the Town of Troupsburg for their local solar law. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Attorney Shawn Sauro stated that the Payments in Lieu of taxes (PILOT) agreement looks like the way to go with NEXAMP. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester for Wendy Lozo to get in touch with Ryan McCune from NEXAMP concerning NYSERDA and the PILOT program to meet the 60 day notification requirement. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Wendy Lozo stated that there may be a need for a special meeting to discuss the NEXAMP solar project and the Board members agreed. Attorney Shawn Sauro stated that he liked the Road Use Law that Dansville has. Attorney Shawn Sauro stated that he would research the need for public hearings on local laws and find out if they need to be referendums or permissive referendums. 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 a motion/resolution was needed to be made to accept the 2020 Justice docket. Motion was made by Holly Chase seconded by Michael Volino to accept the 2020 Justice docket. 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 to accept the 2021 dog shelter agreement between the Town of Thurston and Ann Denmark. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Michael Volino to accept the 2021 dog shelter agreement. 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 to renew the Town insurance coverage with The Ryan Agency with Cyber security coverage at a total cost of \$26,708.86. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester to renew the policy with The Ryan Agency. 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 Holly Chase to refuse the terrorism coverage at this time. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Wendy Lozo stated that Steuben County will be lead agent to the Steuben County traffic diversion program. Wendy Lozo

stated that the census verification of the town boundary lines has been completed. 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 Noel Sylvester seconded by Paul Peck to adjourn the regular board meeting at 8:16 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