

Town of Thurston Meeting Minutes
Held: Wednesday May 18, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.
Location: 7578 County Route 333, Thurston

Present: Town Supervisor: Wendy Lozo
Town Council Members: Michael Volino, Noel Sylvester, Holly Chase, Paul Peck
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, Dolores Crooker

Visitors: Diana Dixon, 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: Smoke alarms in the Town Hall are chirping. Marge Taft asked why the Town didn't update to the new 10 year smoke - fire alarms that are available. The new American Flags have arrived. Thank you to Tom Lozo for putting a new flag in flight. Tom reported the clips holding the flag are getting bad and need to be replaced. Wendy Lozo stated that Steven Frederick passed away on May 10, 2022. Wendy recognized Steven Frederick's years of service to the Town of Thurston as once being Town Supervisor, long time Board Member, Fire Chief/Chief Assistant, and Fire District Commissioner. Wendy Lozo Steuben County Legislature, reported that Steuben County is looking at redistricting the county and it will be voted on by the public in the November General Elections. Wendy Lozo stated that there is an EMS shortage which Steuben County is trying to find a way to help with the situation.

Minutes: Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester to accept and approve the Board Meeting minutes dated April 20, 2022. 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 A083- A098 totaling \$12,317.84 and the Highway abstract 73-93 totaling \$45,800.92. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Clerk's Report: Nothing

Justice Report: April 2022 monthly deposits were \$1,054.00. NYS received \$954.00 and the Town received \$100.00.

Tax Collector Report: Nothing

Assessor Report: Diana Dixon stated that the Assessors had to make changes to all Thurston Town assessments. NYS claims all land in Steuben County is assessed too low. Town of Thurston market value for every piece of property went up 6%. Some surrounding town assessments went up 4% and 9%. A resolution will be brought before the Town Board for disability letters in late summer or early fall.

Historian Report: The headstone for the Thurston Cemetery came in. The balance of \$180.00 is due. Motion was made by Holly Chase seconded by Paul Peck to pay the \$180.00 balance now. Put to vote. Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: One \$35.00 permit for a shed on Lewis road.

Dog Control Officer's Report: Randy Akins reported 3 dogs running at large. Sixty three animals were vaccinated at the rabies clinic. Total donations collected were \$149.00, split between Steuben County Public Health and the Town of Thurston. Randy collected \$45.00 in dog license fees. A late voucher has been turned in for the vet working the rabies clinic, Pepi Leids, for \$200.00. Motion was made by Holly Chase seconded by Noel Sylvester to pay Pepi Leids now. Put to vote. Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Supervisor's Report: April 2022 report has been emailed to the Board and the hard copy has been filed in the Clerk's office.

Highway Superintendent's Report: April 2022 monthly report was presented to the Board. Items of interest and work performed 04/21/22-05/18/22. The oil and stone roads have been swept, pot holes patched, and the weight limit signs have been removed. The turn around locations on Green Hill and Lewis roads have been smoothed out. The spring grading has been completed. Four loads of creek gravel and four loads of item 4 have been graded into a section of Barret road. Suit Kote made 150 ton of cold mix at the shop at a cost of \$10,580.39. This price is \$412.12 over their estimate because of the increased price of oil. A .3 mile section of Forty Dollar road has been repaired with 725.12 ton of crushed gravel. A 20 foot drive pipe on Hamilton road has been replaced. Water washouts on Bonny Hill road have been repaired, trees and brush have been cut, and a section of ditch has been cleaned. A 3 month activity report has been submitted to Wendy Lozo. The personnel report for Dale Chapin has been filed with Steuben County. Repairs have been made to the following equipment. The air chamber and air tank have been replaced on the 01 Volvo dump truck. New tires have been installed on the excavator. Four new tires, new rear rotors, and brake pads were installed on the 97 F450. New rotors and pads were installed on the 01 F550. An agreement to spend highway funds has been reviewed and approved by Attorney Shawn Sauro. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Michael Volino for the Town Board to sign the agreement. Put to vote. Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. The 2022 Chevy pickup is at the dealer it should be ready for delivery in 7 to 10 days. The Peterbilt dump truck is in NYS and should be ready in 6 to 8 weeks. Installation of the Mobiletech radio system should begin in June. 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 ARPA annual report has been completed and sent in. Wendy Lozo stated that she met with Aaron Moultrup from ACP on 5/17/22 at 3:00 p.m. Aaron looked at the handicap ramp, railings, and steps on the front of the Town Hall. Aaron also looked at the space in the basement for a kitchen area. Aaron's suggestion is to put the kitchen in the main area where the table is now with the microwave on it. There is more room there and any water used can be pumped to a drainage outlet. Aaron will get quotes to Wendy in a few months. The Town Board discussed 3 veteran exemptions prepared by Attorney Shawn Sauro. Shawn Sauro followed Steuben County exemption formats. Diana Dixon agreed that following Steuben County formats would keep everything cohesive. Michael Volino asked for more information on how many exemptions there is currently in Thurston. Diana Dixon will get that information. Noel Sylvester abstained from the conversation and vote due to being a veteran. Paul Peck made a motion seconded by Holly Chase to hold a public hearing on the 3 veteran exemption laws on July 20, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. Put to vote. Noel Sylvester, abstain; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. 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 Richard Gauss Jr. has been using his own vehicle for highway business as the highway truck was out for repairs and the new highway pickup is not available yet. A transfer of \$500.00 from A1990.4 contingency fund to A5010.4 highway superintendent contractual for mileage expense. Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Paul Peck to transfer \$500.00 from the contingency fund to the highway superintendent contractual fund. Put to vote. Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Wendy Lozo stated that the 2021 Vendor foil request is finished, submitted, and considered fulfilled. Wendy Lozo received the annual LP pre buy for the Town Hall from Countryside Propane. The year 2022 price per gallon is \$2.499 which has increased \$0.75 over the 2021 price. To pre purchase 1500 gallon the cost would be \$3,748.50. There is a credit of \$351.02 from 2021 so the total would be \$3,397.48. Motion was made by Holly Chase seconded by Paul Peck to pre pay and write the check now. Put to vote. Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. The bills from Chemung Canal for the loader and the Peterbilt came with incorrect information on them. The only thing that was correct on the bills were the amounts due. Wendy Lozo sent an email to Chemung Canal and included Attorney Shawn Sauro asking for the correct billing. The bills were due in May so Wendy asked permission to pay the bills when the corrected bills came. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Holly Chase to pay the corrected bills. 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 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 8:07 p.m. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Minutes taken by Wendy Lozo, Town Supervisor
Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Dolores Crooker, Town Clerk