

Town of Thurston Meeting Minutes
Held: Wednesday May 20, 2020 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:

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

Public Comment:

Minutes: Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester to accept and approve the Board meeting minutes dated April 29, 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 Paul Peck seconded by Michael Volino for Wendy Lozo to pay all claims listed in the General abstract A085- A101 totaling \$11,955.49 and the Highway abstract 075-087 totaling \$34,718.09. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Clerk's Report: April 2020 monthly report was presented to the Board. Total deposits were \$127.00. Dolores Crooker stated that she received a letter from NYSDEC concerning DECALS hunting and fishing licenses. The letter stated that pursuant to 6 NYCRR 183.6 if an agent doesn't sell at least 100 licenses annually NYS can discontinue the business from issuing licenses for low annual sales levels. Therefore, after May 31, 2020 the Town of Thurston will no longer sell hunting or fishing licenses. Motion was made by Holly Chase seconded by Noel Sylvester for Dolores to put the discontinuation of hunting and fishing license sales on the webpage. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Justice Report: No activity in the month of April. NYS cancelled Justice Court through April 30, 2020 because of COVID-19 pandemic.

Tax Collector Report: Taxes have been collected through the month of April and deposited.

Assessor Report: Nothing

Historian Report: April 2020 report was presented to the Board by email. Michael Volino stated that he has been researching the ownership of the Community Building in Risingville. Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Holly Chase for Michael Volino to approach the Minister of the Risingville Church with a letter of interest concerning ownership and the preservation of the building. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, abstain; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Michael shared an early photo of the Veterans from the Town of Thurston that participated in the Civil War.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: Wendy Lozo stated that Ray Orr had a two page report consisting of 11 building permits.

Dog Control Officer's Report: Randy Akins reported 4 dogs running at large. One dog held at the shelter for 11 days then was adopted out.

Supervisor's Report: April 2020 monthly report was emailed to each of the Board members and a hard copy was presented to the Clerk. Wendy Lozo stated that she is starting Gold tier training for NYS Retirement.

Highway Superintendent's Report: April 2020 monthly report was presented to the Board. Items of interest and work performed 04/29/20-05/20/2020. The spring grading is close to completion. The weight limit signs were removed from the oil and stone roads on the 6th of May. Vantage Equipment did a factory upgrade on the roller's wiring harness. The plow riggings have been removed from the plow trucks. The Hyundai loader had an issue while finishing the sweeping of the oil and stone roads. The Campbell Highway Shop was used by George and Sweede to replace an injector which didn't fix the problem. Sensors are now being replaced. Steuben County loaned Thurston Highway Dept. a loader for mixing cold patch. One hundred fifty one ton of cold patch was made. Pot hole patching on oil and stone roads is in progress. Neil Shaw was hired as a part time laborer. Repairs were made to the following equipment. A new fuel tank was installed on the 01 Volvo dump truck. New scarifier teeth were installed on the Grader. New transmission lines were installed on the F550. Exhaust work was done on the 97 F450 bucket truck. Richard stated that there has been no news about CHIPS money at this time. 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 asked if any of the Board members researched the video streaming of public meetings. Holly Chase stated that she looked into it but would like more time to check out Zoom, Skype, and Webex along with security concerns. Voting during video streaming is a question of concern. The Board will continue to research the possibilities and readdress them at the June meeting. Wendy Lozo asked if all Board members received the union information that she sent them. The Board will review and discuss the information at the June meeting. Holly Chase will continue to research IT policy requirements. Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Paul Peck 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 Michael Volino asked if the Town Board had any input on the Thurston yard sale days. The Thurston Town Board does not get involved with the local yard sale days. Wendy stated that the local residents get together and decide on dates and the Fire Dept posts it on the sign in front of the Fire Dept. Wendy Lozo stated that she received a quote from Countryside Propane for 1500 gallon at \$1.499. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester for Wendy Lozo to sign the contract for \$2,248.50 and write the check to Countryside Propane. Put to vote. Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Wendy Lozo stated that 2 out of the 3 BAR members have to be present for the Grievance Meeting. Gordon Foster is working on a plan to receive the public on Grievance night. Wendy Lozo stated that she will purchase ink and paper through the Building Codes Contractual to update the NYS Code Books for Ray Orr. Wendy Lozo asked the Board if the Town Clerk should remain on one evening per week schedule until phase two of the reopening of NY. Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Holly Chase for the Clerk to remain on one evening per week until phase two and a sign in sheet is to be kept by the Clerk in case of exposure to COVID-19. Put to vote. Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Wendy Lozo stated that she is getting an estimate for the kitchenette to be installed in the Town Hall basement but will not proceed with it until after this pandemic is over and all finances are reviewed. 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 Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester to adjourn the regular board meeting at 7:58 p.m. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase. Carried

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Dolores Crooker, Town Clerk