

Town of Thurston Board Meeting Minutes
Held: Wednesday October 18, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.
Location: 7578 County Route 333, Thurston

Present: Town Supervisor: Michael Volino
Town Council Members: Noel Sylvester, Holly Chase, Daniel Gee, Jennifer Hargrave
Town Highway Superintendent: Richard Gauss, Jr
Town Dog Control Officer:
Town Attorney: Rachel Treichler
Town Code Officer: Nick Nolton
Town Historian: Noel Sylvester
Town Assessor: Diana Dixon
Town Justice:
Absent: Randy Akins, Darlene Smith

Visitors: Elizabeth Donderewicz, Mike Volino, Chris Volino, Kelly Wilson, Danny Wilson, Bill Glosick, Fritz Anderson, Reginald Rice, Cal Hoad, Lamora Hoad, Eva Turner, Brett Dickson, LeeAnn Dickson, Andy Dickson, Heather Quick, Barbara Dartt, Tim Hargrave, Lisa Hargrave, Mary Rayeski, Larry Shilling, Rosalyn Renner, Ruth Schoonover, Margie Taft

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

Old Business: Michael Volino stated that a vote on sewage sludge is long overdue. Volino stated that the Town could not blame old Town Boards for not doing anything about sludge spreading. Volino stated that there was not the knowledge of proven dangers of PFAS and heavy metals found in sewage sludge back then like there is today. Michael Volino read the Resolution of the Town of Thurston approving a SEQRA. Volino stated his gratitude to several persons and the Town Board for their contributions to the work on the research, testing, and lengthy time involved with creating the Local Law #3 Preventing the Spread of Sewage Sludge in the Town of Thurston.

Michael Volino stated that he is not satisfied with Masonic Cleaning Service. Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Jennifer Hargrave to hire All Star Cleaning Service at \$175.00 per month. Put to vote: Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Michael Volino stated it was time to focus on the kitchenette. Jennifer Hargrave will contact a couple contractors to get some estimates. Noel Sylvester will contact a contractor also. Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Jennifer Hargrave to close Old Business. Put to vote: Jennifer Hargrave, aye Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Public Comment: Marge Taft presented the Town Board and the Town Clerk with the 2024 Fire District Final Budget. Motion was made by Daniel Gee seconded by Holly Chase to accept the 2024 Fire District Final Budget. Put to vote: Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Minutes: Michael Volino stated that the Board does not have to approve the Official Recorded Transcripts before posting them on the website. Motion was made by Jennifer Hargrave seconded by Noel Sylvester to accept and approve the September 20, 2023 Regular Board meeting minutes. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Bills Payable: Motion was made by Holly Chase seconded by Noel Sylvester for Michael Volino to pay all claims listed in the General abstract dated October 18, 2023 totaling \$6,301.89, the Highway abstract totaling \$113,336.88, and the T&A \$157.00. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Clerk's Report: September 2023 monthly deposits were \$1,071.00.00.

Justice Report: Justice Darlene Smith reported a total deposit of \$1,157.00.

Tax Collector Report: Nothing

Assessor Report: Diana Dixon stated that the Assessor's will start their site drive around in November.

Historian Report: Nothing

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: 2 building permits were issued. Both were for manufactured homes. Year to date 15 permits totaling \$1,675.00. Followed up on one property maintenance Code violation.

Dog Control Officer's Report: There will be no Fall rabies Clinic. Working on overdue dog licenses.

Supervisor's Report: Michael Volino emailed the September 2023 report to the Board and a hard copy is on file in the Clerk's office. Volino stated that he web filed the Q3 NYS-45 form on 9/24/23 and mailed the Q3 Federal 941 on 9/25/23. The 2025 Peterbilt dump truck has been ordered, financing will need to be decided by March 2024. Signed retainer agreement with Earth Justice on 09/27/23. Attended retirement training on transitioning to Gold Reporting on 10/03/23 and 10/10/23. Parkitects playground equipment will arrive in March 2024. Work on the Railings of the Town Hall is underway, final payment at Board approval. Response was sent to Dept of Ag and Markets as it relates to request for review of abandoned version of Local Law #3. Requested another 30 days to respond to latest review on 10/17/23.

Highway Superintendent's Report: September 2023 monthly report was presented to the Board. Items of interest and work performed 09/21/23-10/18/23. Bonny Hill and Starr road projects have been completed. New road signs have been installed on Bonny Hill road. Two ten foot extensions have been installed on drive pipes on Dee road. The Fall grading is near completion. 300 ton of gravel has been purchased from Coots Gravel for South Hill road. A 1050' section of South Hill road starting at the 333 intersection has been oil and stoned, it includes coating the bridge as Steuben County requested, and trees have been removed along the road as well.

Several days have been spent mixing sand. Plow riggings have been installed on the plow trucks. Kaden Jewells last day of work was September 28, 2023. He has been hired full time with the City of Corning. Equipment has been serviced and recapped tires have been put on two of the plow trucks. The reimbursement forms for the CHIPS and EWR programs will be submitted by the 6th of November. Reimbursements will be sent out by NYS around December 14, 2023. Bonny Hill reimbursement is \$82,421.87, Starr road is \$109,809.96, and South Hill road is \$13,045.63 for a total of \$205,277.46. Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Daniel Gee to pay Vestal Asphalt and ST Coots by voucher on Abstract #10 by October 31, 2023. Put to vote: Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Motion was made by Jennifer Hargrave seconded by Noel Sylvester for Richard Gauss, Jr to list the 2005 Ford Dump Truck on Auctions International. Put to vote: Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Motion was made by Holly Chase seconded by Daniel Gee to accept and approve the Clerk's report through the Highway Superintendent's report. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

New Business: Michael Volino stated that he needed a motion to adopt the 2024 tentative budget as the 2024 preliminary budget. Motion was made by Jennifer Hargrave seconded by Holly Chase to adopt the 2024 tentative budget as the 2024 preliminary budget. Put to vote: Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Motion was made by Holly Chase seconded by Jennifer Hargrave to move the November 15th board meeting to November 8, 2023 at 7:00 pm. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Motion was made by Holly Chase seconded by Noel Sylvester to schedule a public hearing for the 2024 preliminary budget at 6:45 pm on November 8, 2023. Put to vote: Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Holly Chase for Crazy Abe's Tree Service to remove 3 Box Elder trees from around the Town Hall at no charge. Put to vote: Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, abstain; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Holly Chase to approve Michael Volino to transfer \$300.00 from A1990.4 Contingency fund to the Justice contractual. Put to vote: Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Noel Sylvester, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Holly Chase to close New Business. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Motion was made by Daniel Gee seconded by Noel Sylvester to adjourn the regular board meeting at 7:55 p.m. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Jennifer Hargrave, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Daniel Gee, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Dolores Crooker, Town Clerk