

Town of Thurston Meeting Minutes  
Held: Wednesday October 21, 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: Randy Akins  
Town Attorney: Shawn Sauro  
Town Code Officer:  
Town Historian: Michael Volino

Absent: Ray Orr

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: Nothing. Marge Taft gave the final 2021 Fire District Budget to the Town Clerk (Dolores Crooker) and a copy to the Town Supervisor (Wendy Lozo).

Minutes: Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester to accept and approve the Board meeting minutes dated September 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 Paul Peck seconded by Noel Sylvester for Wendy Lozo to pay all claims listed in the General abstract A169- A185 totaling \$11,373.31 and the Highway abstract 154-170 totaling \$64,582.85. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Clerk's Report: September 2020 monthly report was presented to the Board. Total deposits were \$156.00.

Justice Report: September 2020 monthly report was presented to the Board. Justice Sweeney collected \$630.00 in fines and fees with no breakdown of moneys dispersed from NYS yet.

Tax Collector Report: Nothing

Assessor Report: Nothing. Wendy Lozo stated that she purchased a new printer for the Assessors office.

Historian Report: Nothing. Michael Volino asked Shawn Sauro if he has found any definite information on the ownership of the building at the Risingville cemetery. Shawn stated that he has not.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: September monthly report was presented to the Board. Wendy Lozo stated that Ray Orr checked on the Lewis road property. New residents are there cleaning up and purchasing the property from Starlight Properties. Ray issued 3 building permits and collected \$491.00 in permit fees.

Dog Control Officer's Report: September 2020 monthly report was presented to the Board. Randy Akins reported 4 dogs running at large and 1 missing dog. Randy collected \$45.00 in dog license fees.

Supervisor's Report: Wendy Lozo emailed September bookwork to the Board and a hard copy was presented to the Clerk.

Highway Superintendent's Report: September 2020 monthly report was presented to the Board. Items of interest and work performed 09/16/20-10/21/2020. The fall grading was completed on September 30, 2020. Most of the patching of the oil and stone roads is finished for this year. The final 2,226.02 ton of road sand has been purchased. Choice Auto Glass installed glass in the 2 army trucks that were vandalized. Neil Shaw, the temporary summer help was laid off at the end of September. The highway crew are back on 5 work days a week and 8 hours a day since October 1, 2020. Two of the plow truck tires have been sent to Parmentor's to have the rims inspected, refurbished, and the tires recapped. The plow riggings have been reinstalled on the plow trucks, plows and trucks have been touched up with paint. Repairs were made to the following equipment: Rear brake pads were replaced on the 2015 F350. The 2005 Volvo dump truck had a new fuel pump, dust shields installed and was serviced. A new slack adjuster and dust shields were replaced on the 2001 Autocar. Richard Gauss, Jr stated that the Hyundai Loader has an oil leak on the backside of the valve cover around the seal gasket on the new motor which was installed by George and Sweede. Richard stated that he wants the oil leak fixed and does not think the Town should pay to get it fixed. Richard Gauss asked the Board to transfer money to the Equipment Contractual to pay the \$13, 988.32 which is the Town's portion of the new motor expense. The Board decided to move the \$13,988.32 from line item 9950.9A to the DA-5130.4 fund to cover the expense. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Holly Chase 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 Shawn Sauro to update the Board with his thoughts on the NEXAMP request for a letter from the Board for refusing lead agency on the solar farm project. Shawn went over the draft letter that he handed out to each of the Board members. Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Michael Volino for Shawn Sauro to clean up the draft letter and send it to Mr. McCunn on behalf of the Town of Thurston. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Wendy Lozo stated that the Town still needs a third Assessor to fill the vacancy. Wendy stated that the training and certificate requirements needed should be included with website post and Help Wanted Ad. Motion was made by Holly Chase seconded by Paul Peck to run a Help Wanted Ad with training and certificate requirements included. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Wendy Lozo stated that she got an estimate to have the Town Hall sanitized after the Elections and the cost is 20 cents a

square foot. The Board agreed to find out if the company can provide a Safety Data Sheet for the sanitizing agent to be used and if the company is liable if anyone gets sick. Holly Chase stated she found two other sanitizing companies to get estimates from Holly is going to forward that information to Wendy. Motion was made by Holly Chase seconded by Noel Sylvester to reserve \$700.00 for sanitizing the Town Hall after the Elections. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye, Carried. Wendy Lozo stated that the Preliminary Budget was approved by the Board at the October 12, 2020 budget meeting. Wendy Lozo stated that the Public Hearing for the 2021 Budget will be held November 10, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Wendy Lozo stated that she received an exemption form from Steuben County. Wendy Lozo asked Richard Gauss Jr if there was an update on the vandalism investigation and his reply was nothing lately. 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 thanked Michael Volino for researching solar laws within NYS. Wendy Lozo stated that the Board needs to address local laws and keep them up to date. Paul Peck proposed to replace the light fixtures over the basement doors before November 3, 2020 elections and to add a timer system at a later date. Motion was made by Noel Sylvester seconded by Michael Volino for Paul Peck to install new light fixtures over the basement doors before November 3, 2020 and add a timer system at a later date. Put to vote: Noel Sylvester, aye; Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried. Shawn Sauro stated that he had a chance to sit in on some local court hearings and there were repeated situations where clients weren't able to pay their fines to clear up their misdemeanor charges because they can't get the Town of Thurston Justice to respond to their requests. 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 Holly Chase to adjourn the regular board meeting at 8:31 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