

Town of Thurston Meeting Minutes  
Held: Wednesday September 21, 2022 7:02 P.M.  
Location: 7578 County Route 333, Thurston

Present: Town Supervisor: Wendy Lozo  
Town Council Members: Michael Volino, Holly Chase, Paul Peck  
Town Highway Superintendent: Richard Gauss, Jr.  
Town Dog Control Officer: Randy Akins  
Town Attorney: Shawn Sauro  
Town Code Officer:  
Town Historian: Michael Volino  
Town Assessor: Diana Dixson  
Absent: Ray Orr, Noel Sylvester

Visitors: Marge Taft

Wendy Lozo called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. The Board opened with the US Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: Marge Taft presented Wendy Lozo and Dolores Crooker the Thurston Fire District 2023 Budget.

Minutes: Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Michael Volino to accept and approve the Board Meeting minutes dated August 17, 2022. Put to vote: Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Bills Payable: Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Holly Chase for Wendy Lozo to pay all claims listed in the General abstract A151- A169 totaling \$13,535.92 and the Highway abstract 144-164 totaling \$125,831.75. Put to vote: Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Clerk's Report: August 2022 monthly deposits were \$869.00. Dolores Crooker stated that the 3 Veteran Exemption Laws have been filed with the State of New York. Dolores stated that Mary Schoonover left a message on the Clerk's answering machine that there were loads of hay bales being transported on the Tucker road.

Justice Report: August 2022 monthly deposits were 0.00 and July deposit was \$760.00. NYS received \$750.00 and the Town received \$10.00.

Tax Collector Report: Nothing

Assessor Report: Nothing

Historian Report: Michael Volino stated that he spoke with Caward Tree Service and the trees should be removed from the Aldrich cemetery before the end of September 2022. Wendy Lozo suggested that the Board extend the cutoff date for the tree removal through the end of October

2022. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Holly Chase to extend the tree removal at the Aldrich cemetery through the end of October 2022. Put to vote. Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Holly Chase, aye; Michael Volino, abstain. Carried.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: One building permit for \$175.00.

Dog Control Officer's Report: Randy Akins stated that he was contacted by the Steuben County Sheriff Dept about an animal cruelty investigation. Four dogs were removed from the location. Ann Draper contracted shelter location was unavailable so the dogs were taken to Jerry Aldrich Jr dog shelter in Rathbone. Then transported to the SPCA. Randy reported a second animal cruelty complaint and one dog running at large. Randy collected \$15.00 in dog license fees. Randy asked the Board if Jerry Aldrich Jr dog shelter could be listed as alternate shelter to Ann Draper. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Holly Chase for Jerry Aldrich Jr to contract as a reputable shelter meeting all NYS requirements as alternate to Ann Draper shelter. Put to vote. Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Holly Chase, aye; Michael Volino, aye. Carried. Randy stated that he would like to purchase a large animal crate. Randy will get prices and return to the Board in October. Randy stated that he is trying to find a vet to administer vaccinations before setting a date for a clinic.

Supervisor's Report: August 2022 report has been emailed to the Board members and the hard copy is on file in the Clerk's office. Wendy Lozo stated that the PERMA annual payroll audit has been completed.

Highway Superintendent's Report: August 2022 monthly report was presented to the Board. Items of interest and work performed 08/18/22-09/21/22. The oil and stone projects on Starr, Griffin, and Tucker roads have been completed. Four days were spent trucking 2,506.9 ton of road sand to the shop from Austin Construction. Two trucks spent three days removing waste material from the bridge project on Campbell Savona road. A 30' drive pipe was installed on Harrison and Bonny Hill roads and a 20' drive pipe was installed on Crane road. Sections of ditch on Harrison and Bonny Hill roads were cleaned. Pot holes are being patched on the oil and stone roads. Trees and limbs were removed from roadways. Five days were spent cutting trees and brush back along Tucker, Strait, and Starr roads with the excavator and bucket truck. Fall grading has begun. Two loads of creek gravel were graded into the Dixon road and five loads of gravel have been graded into Harrison road. Four loads of stone dust have been purchased from the Stone Quarry. The new Town Hall sign has been put in place and the old one has been put in storage. Repairs have been made to the following equipment. The 2015 F350 pickup truck had a refurbished DPF installed and has been listed for sale on Auctions International. There is a closing bid price of \$15,600.00 and is waiting on Board approval. Motion was made by Michael Volino seconded by Paul Peck to approve the \$15,600.00 closing bid. Put to vote. Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Holly Chase, aye; Michael Volino, aye. Carried. The Volvo roller had a new highspeed travel solenoid installed. The John Deere grader had 2 new batteries installed. The 01 F550 dump truck had a new hydraulic line installed. The Hyundai loader had the brake and cooling fan hydraulic pressures reset by George-N-Sweede's service tech. Wendy Lozo stated that there was a need for a motion to pay the invoice for the Peterbilt dump truck with the Highway Superintendents satisfaction of acceptance. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Holly Chase for Wendy Lozo to pay the Peterbilt invoice with Richard Gauss Jr satisfaction

of acceptance. Put to vote. Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Holly Chase, aye; Michael Volino, aye. Carried. Richard Gauss Jr stated that he would like to list the old Volvo dump truck on Auctions International. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Michael Volino for Richard to list the Volvo dump truck on Auctions International. Put to vote. Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Holly Chase, aye; Michael Volino, aye. Carried. Richard Gauss Jr stated that he heard Casella Disposal Service purchased 120 acres of Dickson Farm. Holly Chase stated that she spoke with a DEC representative and they explained to her that the land use cannot change without the required permits to do so. Michael Volino will research bonding of roads under commercial use. 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: Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Old Business: Wendy Lozo gave an update on the ARPA project. Wendy stated that the stove and refrigerator have been delivered. Paul Peck stated that the whole kitchenette project needs to be handicap accessible. Paul will check with NYS Official Codes Dept for proper determination of written code. Wendy Lozo asked the Board members if the new Smoke/Carbon monoxide detectors would qualify under ARPA purchasing requirements. A motion/resolution was made by Michael Volino seconded by Paul Peck to name the ARPA project the Smoke Detector project. Put to vote. Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Holly Chase, aye; Michael Volino, aye. Carried. Holly Chase stated that she called the Sheriff's Dept about the truck and trailer that is parked on County Route 24. Holly stated that she never can reach a person to speak with. Wendy Lozo stated that Holly should keep calling the Sheriff's Dept. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Holly Chase to close Old Business. Put to vote: Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

New Business: Wendy Lozo stated that the State Aid check now comes in September instead of December. Wendy stated that the NYS Workers comp calculations will change starting October 1, 2022. Steuben County now does election charge backs for early voting. Wendy Lozo stated that dates need to be established for budget meetings. Tentative budget will be handed out on October 4, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. One budget workshop will be held October 11, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. and the other workshop will be held October 18, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. if needed. Motion was made by Wendy Lozo seconded by Holly Chase to move November board meeting date to November 9, 2022 and schedule the public hearing for 6:45 p.m. that day. Put to vote. Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Holly Chase, aye; Michael, aye. Carried. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Holly Chase to close New Business. Put to vote: 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 8:26 p.m. Put to vote: Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye; Holly Chase, aye. Carried.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Dolores Crooker, Town Clerk