

**Regular Meeting  
Sheldon Town Board  
February 18, 2026**

The Regular Meeting of the Sheldon Town Board held February 18, 2026, at the Sheldon Town Hall, 1380 Centerline Rd., NY 14145 was called to order by Town Supervisor Brian Becker at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Brian Becker  
Councilmen: Joe Meyer, Jim Fontaine, Vince Kirsch and Jim Kirsch  
Also present: Highway Superintendent Luke Metz and Deputy Highway Superintendent Wally Bohlen  
Recording Secretary: Town Clerk Kate Bulera  
A signed list of all present is on file in the Town Clerk's office.

**Minutes**

A motion was made by Vince Kirsch and seconded by Jim Fontaine that the minutes from January 21, 2026 regular meeting be approved.

Ayes: (5) Becker, Kirsch, Meyer, Fontaine, Kirsch Nays: (0) Absent: (0) Motion Carried.

**Communications**

**Ski Day**

The Town Clerk went down to Byrnclyff on President's Day to see how the Ski Day Program was going. At the time when I was there, they had only six people participating. It was around 12:30pm and the weather was warm. Next year, Ski Day will be held on MLK Day in January with a raincheck day of President's Day.

**Fire Department Officers**

Sheldon Fire Department submitted their list of 2026 Officers and Account Balance.

**Tri County Senior Citizens**

Tri County Senior Citizens submitted a wrap up and account balance summary for 2025.

**Historical Society**

The Town Board received the Historical Society Newsletter.

**2026 Intermunicipal Agreement for the Countywide Zoning Enforcement Services**

Supervisor Becker signed the agreement for services with the county on February 3, 2026. Permission was granted by the Town Board in January to sign the agreement when received.

**Erie Wyoming Transmission Solution Project**

A resident has reached out to the town with information sent to them about the NYSEG project. She would like to know if the town will be participating in the case or should residents sign up to speak at the negotiations. Supervisor Becker and the Board are aware of the project and do not plan as a town on participating. Councilmen Meyer will be affected by the project and knows they only plan to update with larger poles and will not be installing four-legged structures. They will be taking an acre and a half of his property to do so. There is small compensation for the landowners affected by the construction.

**Wyoming County Dog Licensing Prices**

The Town Clerk was made aware of the increases by the other town clerks. We were not notified by the County of this increase it will be making from our licensing process. Not all towns are raising prices for their residents. They plan to do that in 2027. Councilmen Vince Kirsch has suggested revisiting this topic in October or November. The current breakdown of what the town receives is as follows:

Spayed Dogs \$9.00 - Town keeps \$2.00  
County gets \$6.00  
NYS gets \$1.00  
Unspayed Dogs \$18.00 - Town keeps \$2.00  
County gets \$13.00  
NYS gets \$3.00

**Reports**

The Town Supervisor financial reports, Town Clerk monthly and Town Justice report were distributed.

**Wyoming County Zoning Report**

The Wyoming County Zoning report was distributed and is on file in the Town Clerk's office.

The ZBA will be holding a meeting on February 25, 2026, at 6pm regarding Boxler Maple, LLC. The ZBA denied the application from Matthew Creps for his deck at the January 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. He has until the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February to file an appeal with the County. He has expressed interest in doing so but no appeal has been filed. He is in talks with Don Roberts at the County level to remove the deck. He was sent a letter on February 5, 2026, informing him to remove it.

A permit was issued by the County to Joseph and Danille George on Route 77 to build a 12 x 8 deck.

**Highway Superintendent Report**

Highway Superintendent Luke Metz reported the following:

**Salt & Sand**

Superintendent Metz has reported we are now at good levels with the salt and the sand. He is very happy with the amount in the barn. Councilmen Vince Kirsch said he had reached out to contact in Egypt about the salt, and the company has overcommitted this year and not accepting new business.

Our contract with American Rock Salt ends in August and we will need to go back to bid. We have used more sand in the last week than two months.

**Plowing**

**Regular Meeting  
Sheldon Town Board  
February 18, 2026**

All is going well with the plowing. The guys are pushing back the banks. We are aware of the mess it has left in some yards and mailboxes that might have gotten hit. We can revisit clean up in the Spring.

**Overtime Hours**

This winter has been a hard one and has required a large amount of overtime for the department. This will ultimately affect the budget lines. But we got the plow blades last year so that won't play into the budget this year.

**Door Panel**

Councilmen Vince Kirsch asked about the overhead door panel on bay two. Superintendent Metz conveyed that it just fell off and he will be getting it fixed by Batavia Overhead Doors for \$1,200 to \$1,500. We want to get it fixed asap so moisture and other elements don't impact the rest of the door. It is believed that new tracks and other parts were installed eight years ago but not new doors.

**New Truck**

Highway Supervisor Metz reported he is installing auxiliary lights to it.

**Big Trucks**

The truck we ordered years ago is in cold storage at the moment; it was the wrong color chasey it is fully paid for. \$191,000 for the truck and it will be roughly \$167,000 for the plow equipment to be added. It will go back to fleet from Henderson in August and should be in to us by September or October then we will sell the 2015 Western Star.

**Supervisor Report**

Supervisor Brian Becker reported the following:

**Speedy Cow - County Broadband**

Supervisor Becker it was approved by the chair to move forward with Speedy Cow in the County. More PR to follow in the coming months.

**Camp Wyomoco**

Supervisor Becker reported that the County has made an offer on the old Camp Wyomoco. Cornell has accepted it contingent of grants matching funds. It was the old 4-H camp that shut down during COVID to never reopen. It is suggested to transit into a County Park. It is 67 acres of ponds, hiking trails, lodge for activities and soccer fields. The entry would be off Buffalo Road.

**Red Apple Sign**

Thomas Jorgensen remade it last year and Parker will remake it this year.

**Acceptance of Reports**

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Joe Meyer to accept all reports as presented.

Ayes: (5) Becker, Meyer, Kirsch, Fontaine, Kirsch Nays: (0) Absent: (0) Motion Carried.

**Old Business:**

**Varysburg Water Update**

Supervisor Becker gave a detailed update on the Varysburg Water. Water and service lines are all in! Working on new pump house lines and distribution system going from eight to twenty-inch lines. Superintendent Metz asked if there was still the additional spot for pulling water from. Yes, and it will create an additional revenue stream.

Put in a Dig Safely request for a location. North side of the road with our pipes but now to the South side. 19 feet from pole 982 and 18 feet from resident's home. This steamed from a concern voiced by a resident about a pipe issue in his yard. Supervisor Becker said that Varysburg Water District is responsible for the pump house, reservoir, water mains and the service lines to the curb boxes. The resident/homeowner is responsible for the lines from the curb box to their home.

**Mills Zoning Violation**

Nothing new to report.

**Windmill Decommissioning**

A motion was made by Vince Kirsch and seconded by Jim Fontaine to table this topic until we look into the as-built information and get contractor quotes.

Ayes: (5) Becker, Meyer, Kirsch, Fontaine, Kirsch Nays: (0) Absent: (0) Motion Carried.

**New Business:**

**Historical Society**

Jeanne Mest has come to the meeting this evening to request additional funds for a walkway to the rock honoring our revolutionary veterans. It is the hopes of the historical society to add benches, flowers and trees to create nice landscaping. She still wants to move it to the town lawn. Supervisor Becker and Superintendent Metz explained to Jeanne Mest how much work and money would be required for this requested project. Estimated material cost is \$3,000 dollars and the manpower would be more from the town budget we have not included for 2026. Who would maintain all this? More discussion about the up and down sides of moving this.

Ultimately, the Board did not support this request from Jeanne Mest. They suggested the ceremony in May will continue just to present the new plaque and no need to have landscaping done. Just keep it simple and it can still be nice. If we all agree in the future, maybe we can move it then.

**NYSLRS Resolution for Justice Laura Kirsch**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Sheldon hereby established the following standard work days for these titles and will report the officials to the New York State and Local Retirement based on their record of activities: Laura Kirsch, Justice, Current Term 1/1/23-12/31/26, standard work day is six days with record of activities results of 4.94.

**Regular Meeting  
Sheldon Town Board  
February 18, 2026**

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Joe Meyer to accept the NYSLRS Resolution for Justice Laura Kirsch. Jim Kirsch abstained from the vote.

Ayes: (4) Becker, Meyer, Kirsch, Fontaine Nays: (0) Absent: (0) Motion Carried.

**Agreement to Spend Town Highway Funds with Wyoming County**

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Joe Meyer to sign the agreement with the county. All board members, Supervisor Becker and Superintendent Metz signed it.

Ayes: (5) Becker, Meyer, Kirsch, Fontaine, Kirsch Nays: (0) Absent: (0) Motion Carried.

**USDA Invasive Insect Survey**

The USDA was notifying the Town they would be contacting residents directly to access property to set up traps for potential Invasive Insects. No motion is needed, just informing the residents and board.

**Budget Transfers**

TRANSFERS FOR 12/31/25 TO CLOSE BOOKS					
TRANSFER FROM	A1083	WIND POWER PAYMENTS DUE TO HWY	\$ 100,000.00		
TRANSFER TO	DA1083	WIND POWER PAYMENTS DUE TO HWY		\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
<b>HIGHWAY FUND</b>					
TRANSFER FROM	DA5110.4	GENERAL REPAIRS CONTRACTUAL	\$ 18,728.03		
TRANSFER TO	DA5110.1	GENERAL REPAIRS - PERSONAL SERVICES		\$ 556.52	
	DA5130.1	MACHINERY - PERSONAL SERVICES		\$ 460.17	
	DA5142.1	SNOW REMOVAL - PERSONAL SERVICES		\$ 10,137.69	
	DA5148.1	SERVICES FOR OTHER GOV'TS - PERSONAL SERVICES		\$ 5,440.09	
	DA9030.8			\$ 995.26	
	DA9030.81			\$ 308.56	
	DA9060.8			\$ 829.74	\$ 18,728.03
			\$ 18,728.03	\$ 18,728.03	
<b>VARYSBURG WATER FUND</b>					
TRANSFER FROM	SW1-8310.4	WATER ADMIN -CONTRACTUAL	\$ 48.00		
TRANSFER TO	SW1-8310.1	WATER ADMIN -PERSONAL SERVICES		\$ 48.00	\$ 48.00
			\$ 118,776.03	\$ 118,776.03	\$ 118,776.03

**Bills:**

Town Supervisor Becker confirmed that the Board had a chance to review the abstracts.

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Vince Kirsch that the

General Bills #25 to #45 for a Total of \$180,819.84 the

Highway Bills #20 to #32 for a Total of \$26, 226.12 the

Lighting District bills #5 for a Total of \$751.74 the

Trust & Agency bills #3 to #5 for a Total of \$268.68 the

Fire Districts bills #1 to #6 for a Total of \$343,067.44 the

Varysburg Water District bills #4 to #9 for a Total of \$5,382.67 the

Varysburg Water System Improvement bills #5 for a Total of \$111,901.00 be paid

Ayes: (5) Becker, Meyer, Kirsch, Fontaine, Kirsch Nays: (0) Absent: (0) Motion Carried.

**Comments from the Floor**

Supervisor Becker opened the floor to comments.

Councilmen Joe Meyer asked if he could relay Justa's information to the Town of Wales for their Dog Control problem. Supervisor Becker said to pass along the information to her.

Deanne Siemers wanted to let the Town Clerk know she is doing a great job on the website but would like the homepage picture changed from windmills to something else.

Mike Phfol wanted to loop the board and town in on Eastern Gas and Transmission Storage. They have contacted him to say they would be coming out in the Spring doing work for a day on line under his property.

**Mary Kern**

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Joe Meyer to enter executive session regarding Mary Kern at 8:31pm.

Ayes: (5) Becker, Meyer, Kirsch, Fontaine, Kirsch Nays: (0) Absent: (0) Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Joe Meyer to end executive session regarding Mary Kern.

Ayes: (5) Becker, Meyer, Kirsch, Fontaine, Kirsch Nays: (0) Absent: (0) Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Joe Meyer to accept Mary Kern's retirement as of 02/27/2026 and to rehire on 03/13/2026 thru 10/01/2026.

Ayes: (5) Becker, Meyer, Kirsch, Fontaine, Kirsch Nays: (0) Absent: (0) Motion Carried.

**Adjournment**

At 8:51 p.m. a motion was made by Vince Kirsch and seconded by Joe Meyer to adjourn the February 18, 2026 meeting of the Sheldon Town Board.

Ayes: (5) Becker, Meyer, Kirsch, Fontaine, Kirsch Nays: (0) Absent: (0) Motion Carried.