

**REGULAR MEETING
SHELDON TOWN BOARD
December 18, 2019**

The Regular Meeting of the Sheldon Town Board held December 18, 2019 at the Sheldon Town Hall, 1380 Centerline Rd., Strykersville, NY 14145 was called to order by Deputy Town Supervisor Mike Armbrust at 7:30 p.m.

Present:

Councilmen: Jim Fontaine, Joe Meyer, Mike Armbrust

Recording Secretary: Town Clerk Carol Zittel

Also present: Highway Superintendent David Ricketson, Kate Meyer

Absent: Supervisor Brian Becker, Councilman Vince Kirsch

A signed list of all those present is on file in the Town Clerk's office.

Minutes

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Joe Meyer that the minutes from the November 20, 2019 regular meeting be approved.

Ayes: (3) Fontaine, Meyer, Armbrust Absent: (2) Becker, Kirsch Nays: (0)

Motion Carried.

Communications

The Town Clerk, Carol Zittel, reported on the following:

Assessor Hours at Town Hall

Assessor, Mary Kern, will be available at the Town Hall on January 29, 2020 from 2pm-6pm to meet with residents who have assessment questions or assessment paperwork to submit.

Reports

Financial Reports were presented for the months of November 2019 from the Town Clerk, Town Court and Town Supervisor. The cash flow and payroll reports were also presented.

Highway Superintendent's Report

Highway Superintendent Ricketson reported the following:

Highway Work

The Department has been busy plowing snow and mixing sand and salt.

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Becker was absent from tonight's meeting. Deputy Supervisor Mike Armbrust reported the following:

Paid Family Leave Act – Farm Workers

Information was received from Wyoming County Human Resources regarding the mandatory paid family leave policy that will now be mandatory for farm operations.

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Acceptance of Reports

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

Ayes: (3) Fontaine, Meyer, Armbrust Absent: (2) Becker, Kirsch Nays: (0)
Motion Carried.

Old Business:

Schofield Zoning Violation Update

The ZBA agreed to the time extension that the attorneys worked out. The matter has been extended until February 1, 2020 while the attorneys continue negotiating a suitable resolution.

Resolution to Abandon Reisdorf Road

TOWN OF SHELDON RESOLUTION CONSIDERING THE ABANDONMENT OF REISDORF ROAD

WHEREAS, all Board Members, having due notice of said meeting, and that pursuant to Article 7, §104 of the Public Officers Law, said meeting was open to the general public and due and proper notice of the time and place whereof was given as required by law; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Sheldon is considering the abandonment of Reisdorf Road in the Town of Sheldon as depicted in the map attached hereto as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, David Ricketson, as Town Highway Superintendent for the Town of Sheldon, has dually certified in writing that Reisdorf Road is a Town highway beginning at the Java Town Line, intersecting at County Road 9, otherwise known as Perry Road, and continuing North for 1,161.6 feet, and that it is not necessary for municipal purposes; and

WHEREAS, the portion of Reisdorf Road as depicted on the CHIPS report is 1,161.6 feet in length (0.22 miles), width of 12 feet, one (1) lane, shoulder width of 4 feet, pavement type unimproved; and

WHEREAS, said road has not for the last 6 years or longer been usually travelled along the greater part thereof, by more than 1 vehicle daily, in addition to pedestrians and persons on horseback, and that an unqualified abandonment is proper and will not cause injustice or hardship to the owner or occupant of any lands adjoining such highway; and

WHEREAS; we as the Town Board Members of the Town of Sheldon do hereby consent to the making and filing of a certificate and request the Superintendent of Highways, David Ricketson, hereby abandon Reisdorf Road.

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NOW ON MOTION OF Joe Meyer, which has been duly seconded by Jim Fontaine, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Reisdorf Road hereby be abandoned, in accordance with an unqualified abandonment; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk be and she hereby is directed to enter the certificate of abandonment in the minutes of this meeting.

Ayes: (3) Fontaine, Meyer, Armbrust Absent: (2) Becker, Kirsch Nays: (0)
Motion Carried.

COPY OF CERTIFICATE OF ABANDONMENT – AND EXHIBIT A attached to end of these minutes

Resolution to Abandon Section of School Street

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF SHELDON
CONSIDERING THE ABANDONMENT OF A PORTION OF SCHOOL STREET**

WHEREAS, all Board Members, having due notice of said meeting, and that pursuant to Article 7, §104 of the Public Officers Law, said meeting was open to the general public and due and proper notice of the time and place whereof was given as required by law; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Sheldon is considering the abandonment of a portion of School Street in the Town of Sheldon as depicted in the map attached hereto as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, David Ricketson, as Town Highway Superintendent for the Town of Sheldon, has dually certified in writing that School Street is a Town highway beginning at the center line of Route 98 (Creek Road), continuing 1,030 feet to the intersect of the Varysburg Cemetery driveway, and that the road is not necessary for municipal purposes; and

WHEREAS, said road has not for the last six (6) years or longer been usually travelled along the greater part thereof, by more than one vehicle daily, in addition to pedestrians and persons on horseback, and that an unqualified abandonment is proper and will not cause injustice or hardship to the owner or occupant of any lands adjoining such highway; and

WHEREAS; Town Board Members of the Town of Sheldon do hereby consent to the making and filing of a certificate and request the Superintendent of Highways, David Ricketson, hereby abandon this portion of School Street.

NOW ON MOTION OF Joe Meyer, which has been duly seconded by Jim Fontaine, therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, that this portion of School Street hereby be abandoned, in accordance with an unqualified abandonment; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk be and she hereby is directed to enter the certificate of abandonment in the minutes of this meeting.

Ayes: (3) Fontaine, Meyer, Armbrust Absent: (2) Becker, Kirsch Nays: (0)
Motion Carried.

Copy of certificate of abandonment and map EXHIBIT A attached to end of these minutes

Zoning Map Update Public Hearing Date

The public hearing for Local Law 1-2019 updating the zoning map will be held on December 30, 2019 at the Sheldon Town Hall at 5:00 p.m.

Youth Director Update

An advertisement for the youth director position will be advertised soon.

New Business:

Authorization to Sign Contract with Williamson Law – Tax Collector Software

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Joe Meyer to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the contract with Williamson Law Books for the Tax Collector software at an annual cost of \$393. (an increase of \$8.00 from last year)

Ayes: (3) Fontaine, Meyer, Armbrust Absent: (2) Becker, Kirsch Nays: (0)
Motion Carried.

Motion to Hire Don Przybl to Audit 2019 Books

A motion was made by Joe Meyer and seconded by Jim Fontaine to hire Don Przybyl to audit the Town books from 2019 with the stipulation that the cost not be more than 5% more than last year's cost.

Ayes: (3) Fontaine, Meyer, Armbrust Absent: (1) Becker, Kirsch Nays: (0)
Motion Carried.

Resolution to Authorize Agreement with Wyoming County Water Resource Agency - \$846 Yearly

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Joe Meyer to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the agreement with Wyoming County Water Resource Agency for the reading of meters and preparation of water bills at an annual cost of \$846.00.

Ayes: (3) Fontaine, Meyer, Armbrust Absent: (2) Becker, Kirsch Nays: (0)
Motion Carried.

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Certificates of Deposit

Supervisor Becker requested rates from three banks: Five Star, Steuben Trust and Tompkins Financial but has only heard back from two banks so far.

A motion was made by Joe Meyer and seconded by Jim Fontaine to authorize the Town Supervisor to invest Town funds in Certificates of Deposit with the bank that offers the best rates.

Ayes: (3) Fontaine, Meyer, Armbrust Absent: (2) Becker, Kirsch Nays: (0)

Motion Carried.

Purchase of New Plow Truck

The Board asked the Highway Superintendent to put together bid specifications for a new plow truck and plow equipment.

Bills:

Deputy Supervisor Armbrust confirmed that the Board had a chance to review the bills.

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Joe Meyer that the General Bills #317 to #353 for a Total of \$23,676.09, the Highway Bills #177 to #195 for a Total of \$31,580.77, the Trust & Agency Bills #36 to #38 for a Total of \$525.28 the Varysburg Water District Bills #76 to #81 for a Total of \$843.45 and the Lighting District Bills for a Total of \$900.26 be paid.

Ayes: (3) Fontaine, Meyer, Armbrust Absent: (2) Becker, Kirsch Nays: (0)

Motion Carried.

Comments from the Floor

Deputy Supervisor Armbrust opened the floor to comments.

Solar Project

Farmer, Roger Almeter, asked about the solar project proposed by ConnectGen. A brief explanation was given for the need to draft a new solar law. Our current solar law only permits commercial solar farms on Industrially Zoned property. Town Attorney David DiMatteo is working on a draft version that should be available soon for the Town Board's review. Mr. Almeter expressed his apprehension of turning agricultural land into solar farms. He also expressed his opinion that these farms would change the character of the Town. There was a short discussion between resident Deanne Siemer, Roger Almeter and the Town Board regarding what needs to be done with the proposed new solar law.

Adjournment

At 8:45 p.m. a motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Joe Meyer to adjourn the December 18, 2019 meeting of the Sheldon Town Board.

Ayes: (3) Fontaine, Meyer, Armbrust Absent: (2) Becker, Kirsch Nays: (0)

Motion Carried.

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