

**REGULAR MEETING
SHELDON TOWN BOARD
February 17, 2021**

The Regular Meeting of the Sheldon Town Board held February 17, 2021 at the Sheldon Town Hall, 1380 Centerline Rd., Strykersville, NY 14145 and also held via Zoom teleconference was called to order by Town Supervisor Brian Becker at 7:30 p.m. The meeting took place at the Sheldon Town Hall and via Zoom teleconference due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Present: Supervisor Brian Becker (in-person)
Councilmen: Mike Armbrust (in-person), Vince Kirsch (via Zoom), Joe Meyer (in-person), Jim Fontaine (via Zoom)
Recording Secretary: Town Clerk Carol Zittel (via Zoom)
Also present: Highway Superintendent Dave Ricketson (via Zoom), Court Clerk Donna Almeter (in-person)

Minutes

A motion was made by Vince Kirsch and seconded by Mike Armbrust that the minutes from the January 20, 2021 regular meeting be approved.

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

Communications

The Town Clerk, Carol Zittel, had no communications this month.

Reports

The Town Supervisor financial report, Town Clerk January report and Town Justice's January reports were distributed prior to the meeting via email.

Highway Superintendent Report

Superintendent David Ricketson reported that the Department is busy plowing, sanding and keeping up with equipment upkeep. He reported that the new plow truck is working great so far.

Salt Storage Building Capacity

Councilman Kirsch asked if the salt storage building is able to hold all the salt and sand needed in a season. Superintendent Ricketson responded that he has not filled the building yet but thinks a full building will get them through a whole winter.

Supervisor's Report

Irondequoit vs. Monroe County Court Case

Supervisor Becker gave a brief recap of communication received from the office of David DiMatteo regarding the court case of Irondequoit vs. Monroe County and its ramifications for towns in Wyoming County. In regards to buildings that need to be demolished, the Judge in this case determined that it is the responsibility of the County to pay for these fees and not the Towns. This is contrary to what Wyoming County had informed the Towns some years back. It was always Supervisor Becker's position that the County should take on this responsibility and he had expressed this view years back when the topic had been brought up.

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Varysburg Water

Supervisor Becker and Bookkeeper, Katie Chmura, are working on the financial numbers for Varysburg Water. The District is losing approximately 7,000 gallons of water a night. Before the pipe replacement the District was losing approximately 50,000 gallons a night. There is still old pipe that needs to be replaced which may be where the leaks are occurring. The Water District brought in approximately \$10,500 in rents but has approximately \$15,000 in expenses. To make up for this shortfall, rates may need to be increased. Katie is putting together a three-year spreadsheet for the Board's review. We have one of the lowest water rates in the County.

Acceptance of Reports

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

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

Old Business

Appoint BAR Member

Supervisor Becker has reached out to another Town resident who may be interested in the position. The resident is a contractor that builds houses. The resident would like some time to think about it. Councilman Kirsch commented that it would be useful to have someone on the Board that knows something about the cost per square foot for homes. Supervisor Becker noted that if the Town does not find a member before May that the Board can still meet and a quorum is all that is required.

Senior Group Funding

Supervisor Becker and Bookkeeper, Katie Chmura, are working on the figures provided by the senior groups and have reached out to representatives for receipts. Once receipts are received, a number will be calculated for 2021 funding.

Town Audit

Supervisor Becker reached out to Don Przybyl. Mr. Przybyl expects to audit the Town books in March.

Judicial Consolidation with Wethersfield

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the proposed court consolidation with the Town of Wethersfield. Court Clerk, Donna Almeter, had concerns with making a decision when the number of cases handled by Wethersfield is unknown. Ms. Almeter expressed her concerns that the Town of Sheldon should not be absorbing any costs associated with taking on these new responsibilities. Councilman Armbrust, who is on the court consolidation committee, expressed his agreement with Ms. Almeter. There are many issues that need to be worked out before this plan goes forward. Supervisor Becker noted that a public hearing would need to be held and the details of the plan would be available before the public hearing could occur. Supervisor Becker will discuss how the Attorney bills will be handled going forward.

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NYSEG LED Light Conversion

The Town is aware that some lights have been converted to LED. The Town Clerk will reach out to our NYSEG representative to confirm that the conversion is complete. The Highway Superintendent asked the Town Clerk to report a street light outage at French Rd. and Route 20A.

New Business

Waste Management Contract Renewal

A motion was made by Mike Armbrust and seconded by Joe Meyer to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the agreement as a participating community with Wyoming County in their contract with Waste Management for waste disposal. The contract is effective January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2025.

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

Youth Recreation Director

The position of youth recreation director was left vacant in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Supervisor Becker informed the Board that a qualified individual has expressed interest in the position but that the Board should advertise to the public for any other interested parties.

A motion was made by Vince Kirsch and seconded by Joe Meyer to advertise for the position of youth recreation director.

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

Bills:

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

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Mike Armbrust that the General Bills #24 to #44 for a Total of \$7,647.42, the Highway Bills #11 to #26 for a Total of \$31,963.29, the Trust & Agency Bills #4 to #6 for a Total of \$549.20, the Varysburg Water District Bills #6 to #11 for a Total of \$685.49, the Lighting District Bills for a Total of \$1,043.05, the Harris Corners/Bennington Fire Contract for a Total of \$31,812.69, the Harris Corners Ambulance Contract for a Total of \$1,010.00, the Java Fire Contract for a Total of 13,534.20, the Sheldon Fire Contract for a Total of \$122,059.25, the Strykersville Fire Contract for a Total of \$36,814.27, and the Varysburg Fire Contract for a Total of \$36,372.80 be paid.

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

Comments from the Floor

At 8:44 p.m. Supervisor Becker opened the floor to comments.

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Building Improvements

Councilman Kirsch asked if the Board knew of any building improvements expected for 2021. Councilman Meyer responded that he will reach out to the park committee to make sure they don't have any repairs that the Board should be aware of. Supervisor Becker commented that he believes all park buildings have been updated with new roofs by the Lions Club in the past few years and that the Water pumphouse is all set for now as well as the Historical Museum. The Board discussed the Town Hall roof and to the Board's recollection the roof has been replaced since at least 2008.

Adjournment

At 8:46 p.m. a motion was made by Vince Kirsch and seconded by Joe Meyer to adjourn the February 17, 2021 meeting of the Sheldon Town Board.

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