

**REGULAR MEETING  
SHELDON TOWN BOARD  
May 19, 2021**

The Regular Meeting of the Sheldon Town Board held May 19, 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), Joe Meyer (in-person), Vince Kirsch (in-person), Jim Fontaine (in-person)  
Recording Secretary: Town Clerk Carol Zittel (via Zoom)  
Also present: Highway Superintendent Dave Ricketson (in-person)

**Minutes**

A motion was made by Vince Kirsch and seconded by Mike Armbrust that the minutes from the April 21, 2021 regular meeting be approved.

Ayes: (4) Becker, Kirsch, Armbrust, Meyer Absent: (1) Fontaine Nays: (0) Motion Carried.

Councilman Fontaine arrived.

**Communications**

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

**Air Purifiers for the Town Hall**

The Town Clerk requested permission to purchase two air purifiers (approx. cost \$200 each) for the Town Hall. Councilman Kirsch questioned the purpose of the air purifiers and noted that the cost of replacing filters may be significant. The Town Clerk responded that the purifiers would clean the air of any contaminants, viruses included. She was unaware of the cost to replace the filters on this particular model but noted that her home unit requires changing a filter every three months at minimal cost and the HEPA filter once a year. The Town Clerk offered to use her Town Clerk budget line if necessary. Supervisor Becker approved the Town Clerk's request to purchase the purifiers.

**Sidewalks in Strykersville**

A young man called the Town Clerk inquiring as to the possibility of sidewalks in the hamlet of Strykersville. Councilman Armbrust replied that it is illegal to ride a bike on sidewalks and that Route 78 is a State road so it would be a State matter.

**Open Swim at Byrncliff**

A resident contacted the Town Clerk inquiring as to whether the Town would be offering open swim at Byrncliff on Saturdays this year as was done last year. The Town Board responded that last year was a special circumstance as there was no youth swim courses offered due to the pandemic. This year the open swim on Saturdays will not be offered due to the swim program resuming.

**REGULAR MEETING  
SHELDON TOWN BOARD  
May 19, 2021**

**Reports**

The Town Supervisor financial report, cash flow report, Town Clerk report and Town Justice reports were distributed prior to the meeting via email.

**Highway Superintendent Report**

Superintendent David Ricketson reported on the following:

**Leveling Roads – Use of Larger Stone**

The Highway Superintendent advised the Board that he will be using a larger size stone mixed in with his usual sized stone. 50/50 mixture.

**CHIPS Money for Falls Road**

The Town received \$36,775 in CHIPS funding. The Highway Superintendent plans on using the funds to pave Falls Road. 809 ton should cost approximately \$48,000.

**Generator Not Working**

The generator is not working – an error code showed low voltage. Strykersville Plumbing and Heating inspected it and weren't able to fix it. Stitzman from Alden came out and gave an estimate of \$2,080 to fix it. Stitzman also offered to take it on trade and replace with a 22kW unit at a cost of \$5,900 including a three-year warranty. The Highway Superintendent will get a second opinion from another company. Councilman Armbrust gave the Superintendent a contact number for someone who works on generators. The Town Clerk recommended M&M Holland as well. The Highway Superintendent had already reached out to M&M with no response.

**Supervisor's Report**

Supervisor Brian Becker reported on the following:

**County Use of Investment Group**

The County began using the 321 Investment Group in the past year and made \$100,000.00 in extra revenue in doing so. The County used to use certificates of deposit which did not generate this type of gain.

**American Recovery Plan**

There are numerous funding opportunities through the American Recovery Plan. The County has staff looking at the opportunities available. Supervisor Becker noted that the virtual portal available online lists the opportunities.

**Acceptance of Reports**

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

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

**Old Business:**

**REGULAR MEETING  
SHELDON TOWN BOARD  
May 19, 2021**

**Senior Group Funding**

A meeting with the senior group representatives was held last week at the Town Hall. Supervisor Becker, Councilman Fontaine, Attorney David DiMatteo, Tri-Town reps John Knab and Gertie Plowe, Strykersville Senior reps Peter Pilc and Gloria George along with two other gentlemen were present. The meeting was held to determine the best way to go forward with funding for 2021 since most of 2020's funding was not used due to the COVID pandemic.

Supervisor Becker read the following that he had written:

The Town of Sheldon Board realized that due to COVID 19, the monies spent by the senior groups in 2020 would be significantly less and planned on simply making the groups whole for 2021.

The previous administration had changed the way it was distributing monies to the seniors programs. It is not the correct way to distribute the monies as guided by NYS Comptrollers office. The current administrators of the two seniors groups were unaware of this and are still unaware of the correct way the money should be administrated.

This has caused great disharmony between the seniors groups and the Town of Sheldon Board. The Board realizes if COVID didn't happen the monies would have been spent in 2020 and an additional full appropriation would have been made for 2021. Furthermore, we realize that as there is currently no town tax, these monies are not being taken from the younger generations of tax payers within the Town.

The Board does not wish to disrespect our most treasured group of people, our seniors, the staple of our community and the people who took care of our town before us. The Board also realized the monies will eventually be spent on the groups in its intended way. At that I make the motion we fully fund the senior groups for 2021.

A motion was made by Brian Becker and seconded by Jim Fontaine to fully fund the senior groups for 2021 per the 2021 budget.

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

**Varysburg Water Repairs – Electrical Issue**

The Town Supervisor met with four vendors regarding the electrical issue. He will hire HMR Inc. to repair the issue at a cost of approximately \$567.00.

**Varysburg Water Repairs – Rotted Piping Pumphouse**

HMR Inc. sent a revised quote for the repairs to the pumphouse piping, however, Supervisor Becker will reach out to two more vendors to receive additional quotes.

**New Business:**

**Create New Position of Lifeguard and Certified Water Instructor**

The Town Bookkeeper requested the official creation of the positions of lifeguard and certified water instructor per NYS Civil Service requirements for payroll processing. The Town expects to hire four lifeguards this summer.

**REGULAR MEETING  
SHELDON TOWN BOARD  
May 19, 2021**

A motion was made by Joe Meyer and seconded by Vince Kirsch to authorize the creation of the position of four lifeguard positions and the position of certified water instructor.

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

**Schedule Public Hearing – Special Use Permit – S. Kissel**

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Joe Meyer to schedule a public hearing for June 16, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. for the special use permit application submitted by Savannah Kissell, 2760 Maxon Rd., Varysburg to open an event/wedding venue at her property.

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

The Town Planning Board had requested that Ms. Kissel inform her neighbors on Maxon Road.

**Schedule Public Hearing – Community Development Block Grant Funding (CDBG) for Varysburg Water**

A motion was made by Vince Kirsch and seconded by Mike Armbrust to schedule a public hearing for June 16, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. to discuss community development needs, and to discuss the possible submission of one or more Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) applications for the 2021 program year.

The Town is specifically interested in at least one application pursuing a grant for the Varysburg Water District.

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

Supervisor Becker will provide the Town Clerk contact information from Barton & Loguidice to coordinate the advertisement of the public hearing. Barton & Loguidice offered to provide administrative support in this regard.

**Bills:**

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

A motion was made by Vince Kirsch and seconded by Mike Armbrust that the General Bills #101 to #121 for a Total of \$17,266.84, the Highway Bills #56 to #69 for a Total of \$31,351.94, the Trust & Agency Bills #14 to #17 for a Total of \$713.80, the Varysburg Water District Bills #23 to #26 for a Total of \$28,581.95, and the Lighting District Bills for a Total of \$437.49, be paid.

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

**Comments from the Floor**

At 8:20 p.m. Supervisor Becker opened the floor to comments.

**Highway Superintendent**

Superintendent Ricketson informed the Board of his upcoming knee replacement surgery.

**Adjournment**

At 8:25 p.m. a motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Vince Kirsch to adjourn the May 19, 2021 meeting of the Sheldon Town Board.

**REGULAR MEETING  
SHELDON TOWN BOARD  
May 19, 2021**

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