

**REGULAR MEETING  
SHELDON TOWN BOARD  
June 19, 2024**

The Regular Meeting of the Sheldon Town Board held June 19, 2024 at the Vincent Almeter Memorial Park in Varysburg, NY 14167 was called to order by Town Supervisor Brian Becker at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Brian Becker

Councilmen: Jim Fontaine, Joe Meyer, Mike Armbrust

Absent: Councilman Vince Kirsch

Recording Secretary: Town Clerk Carol Zittel

Also present: Highway Superintendent Luke Metz, Court Clerk Donna Almeter. A signed list of all present is on file in the Town Clerk's office.

**Minutes**

A motion was made by Mike Armbrust and seconded by Jim Fontaine that the minutes from the May 15, 2024 regular meeting and the June 5, 2024 special meeting be approved.

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

**Communications**

The Town Clerk Carol Zittel reported the following:

**BAR Meeting – Increase to Vouchers**

The Board of Assessment Review members had a very busy night for grievance day.

Appointments were every 15 minutes from 4pm-8:45pm with no time for breaks. A Board member requested an extra \$20 in compensation for all members.

A motion was made by Joe Meyer and seconded by Mike Armbrust to add an additional \$20 in pay to the Board of Assessment Review vouchers.

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

**Income Survey Training with RCAP for CDBG Grant**

The Town Clerk notified the Board of income survey training to be held on July 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm. Meeting place will be the town park. Volunteers are needed.

**Liquid Engineering Bill & Report – Water Tank Cleaning**

Liquid Engineering cleaned and inspected the water tank on May 17, 2024. The bill was received and is in tonight's bills, however, a written report has not yet been received.

A motion was made by Joe Meyer and seconded by Jim Fontaine to authorize the Town Bookkeeper to issue the check to Liquid Engineering but not to mail it until a written report has been received.

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

**Dog Enumeration Countywide**

The County animal shelter will be assisting with a county-wide postcard dog enumeration. Costs are still being calculated.

**Reports**

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The Town Supervisor financial reports, Town Clerk report and Town Justice Kirsch reports were distributed. Justice Janes did not submit a May report.

**WYOMING COUNTY ZONING MONTHLY REPORT**

**Date:** June 2024 – Report for May 2024

**Town:** Sheldon

**Open Projects:**

**No Open Projects**

**Permits Issued:**

- **Lisa Reinig (2588 School Street)** – submitted an application for 6’ wood fence; side yard.
- **Sebastian Natalizia (2080 Schwab Road)** – submitted an application for 1575 sq. ft. single family dwelling.
- **Michael Laska (2027 French Road)** – submitted an application for 24’ x 40’ pre-built shed.
- **Steven Rickettson (3736 Humphrey Road)** – submitted an application for 16’x 29’ addition off of dwelling.
- **James Fontaine (3598 Main Street)** – submitted an application for 42’ x 64’ pole barn for AG storage.
- **Lauren Beeley (2277 Rt. 20A)** – submitted an application for pool.
- **Matthew Darling (3568 Rt. 78)** – submitted an application 60’ x 72’ farm shop.
- **Adam Kirsch (510 Meadow Lane)** – submitted an application for 24’ x 16’ patio; 24’ x 16’ covered porch.
- **Cody Corke (742 Centerline Road)** – submitted an application for 40’ x 50’ pole barn.

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**High Weed Notice:**

**No High Weed Notice**

**Special Use Permits Renewed & Inspected:**

- **Breezyhill Dairy, LLC (2705 N. Sheldon Road)** – Renewed 5-28-24
- **James McNall (Humphrey Road)** – Renewed 4-2-24

**Property Maintenance Violations:**

- **Dennis Mills - 1907 Route 20A (SBL: 56.-2-26)** **Dennis Mills - 1907 Route 20A (SBL: 56.-2-26)** Decision of order was received and within order it stated that Don Roberts was to go out to the property and take inventory of the unlicensed unregistered motor vehicles. Don Roberts did the inspection on February 2, 2024. This matter was heard in Court on February 27, 2024, and because Don Roberts was denied access to the entire property on February 2, 2024, Don Roberts is working with Judge Kibler on the next steps.

**Highway Superintendent Report**

Superintendent Luke Metz reported the following:

**Humphrey Road Paving Complete**

Paving on Humphrey Road is complete.

**Skid Steer Arrived**

The new skid steer has arrived.

**Sale of Pickup Truck**

The Town of Attica is interested in the pickup.

A motion was made by Mike Armbrust and seconded by Joe Meyer to authorize the Town Highway Superintendent to sell the pickup truck to the Town of Attica at the price of \$10,000.00.

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

**Supervisor Report**

Supervisor Brian Becker reported the following:

**Wyoming County Community Hospital**

The hospital has received critical access care designation. It is projected that this will increase revenue by \$3 million a year.

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**Extending the Water District**

The Boxler's new maple sugar business would like to be added to the water district. Five houses would also be added. The Boxler's business would add three EDUs and five EDUs for the residential houses. Resident Darlene Janes asked how the cost of this extension would be handled. Supervisor Becker replied that the Boxler's and the residents included would pay for it. The only additional cost to the District would be a meter installed.

**Thomas Road Water Line Install**

Highway Superintendent Metz met with Steve Mountain and Steve Morsch regarding installing water lines down Thomas Road from the old railroad tracks to Old State and under Route 20A. Superintendent Metz wants to ensure that the road is not damaged during construction.

**Acceptance of Reports**

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

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

**Presentation by Malcolm Fraser from Strykersville Fire Company**

Mr. Fraser asked to present at tonight's meeting to make the Board aware of potential OSHA regulations that would have a profound effect on volunteer fire companies in our area.

Mr. Fraser gave a detailed presentation and provided via email several powerpoint presentations. Summary of the presentation:

- These proposed regulations would replace a 44 year old standard that has worked well for volunteer companies
- Proposed bill is 600 pages long
- Public inquiry period goes until July 22<sup>nd</sup> and the volunteer companies are looking for community response
- Number of training hours would increase significantly, making it difficult and impractical 124 hours to 256 hours
- Proposed regulations would make it almost impossible to find a qualified fire chief
- No proposed aid is included in these changes
- Equipment would need to be swapped out every 7 years regardless of hours used
- Diesel emission devices are proposed for trucks which would void warranties for many of them
- Administrative work to comply would add up to approximately 173 hours, making it necessary to hire a company for administrative tasks
- The proposed regulations have no plan on enforcement
- We are asking local, county and state lawmakers to be contacted
- We are asking for the public to write letters

The Town Board thanked Mr. Fraser for his well-done presentation. Mr. Fraser will request a notice from Emergency Services Director, Bill Streicher, that the Town Clerk can share with residents.

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**Old Business:**

**ARPA Funding**

Balance of ARPA funding will be used to pay for the skid steer. Supervisor Becker will work with the bookkeeper to submit the paperwork.

**Mills Zoning Violation**

Nothing new to report. Waiting on Judge Kibler.

**Schoolhouse Museum Repairs**

Nothing new to report. Bees are removed.

**New Business:**

**Byrncliff Swim Agreement**

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Joe Meyer to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the agreement with Byrncliff Resort for the summer swim program. (\$2,310)  
Ayes: (4) Becker, Fontaine, Armbrust, Meyer Nays: (0) Absent: (1) Kirsch Motion Carried.

**Budget Transfer**

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Joe Meyer to authorize the transfer of \$400,000 from General Money Market A1083 to Highway Money Market DA1083 for June and July 2024 bills and payroll.  
Ayes: (4) Becker, Fontaine, Armbrust, Meyer Nays: (0) Absent: (1) Kirsch Motion Carried.

**Wyoming County Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA)**

A motion was made by Mike Armbrust and seconded by Joe Meyer to table discussion of the FMLA until more information is distributed.  
Ayes: (4) Becker, Fontaine, Armbrust, Meyer Nays: (0) Absent: (1) Kirsch Motion Carried.

**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 Joe Meyer that the General Bills #114 to #149 for a Total of \$46,508.79, the Highway Bills #66 to #82 for a Total of \$308,555.87, the Lighting District Bills #6 to #6 for a Total of \$650.50, the Trust & Agency Bills #8 to #8 for a Total of \$241.00, and the Varysburg Water District Bills #24 to #33 for a Total of \$8,539.58 be paid.  
Ayes: (4) Becker, Fontaine, Armbrust, Meyer Nays: (0) Absent: (1) Kirsch Motion Carried.

**Comments from the Floor**

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**Thank you to Dave Thornton – Park Slide Repair**

Councilman Meyer thanked resident Dave Thornton who was in attendance tonight for his hard work in getting the slide fixed. A new slide would have cost \$12,000.

**Town Park Rental Update – Darlene Janes**

The park has many rentals for the summer months and into September. The baseball field has also been rented a few times by groups. There is discussion by the park committee to hold a fundraiser event like a garage sale at the park. Darlene will forward on more information as it becomes available. There is now a pickle ball court at the park.

**Notary Public – Court Clerk Donna Almeter**

Donna is now a notary public.

A motion was made by Mike Armbrust and seconded by Joe Meyer to authorize payment for half of the cost of the notary test and supplies to Donna Almeter. (The other half will be paid by the Town of Yorkshire where Donna is also court clerk)

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

**Enter into Executive Session**

At 8:15 p.m. a motion was made by Brian Becker and seconded by Joe Meyer to enter into executive session regarding Town of Sheldon court related matters. Justice Kirsch and Court Clerk Donna Almeter were invited into the session as well as the Town Clerk.

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

**Exit Executive Session**

At 8:36 p.m. a motion was made by Joe Meyer and seconded by Mike Armbrust to exit executive session.

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

**Adjournment**

At 8:37 p.m. a motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Joe Meyer to adjourn the June 19, 2024 meeting of the Sheldon Town Board.

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