

**REGULAR MEETING  
SHELDON TOWN BOARD  
November 22, 2014**

The Regular Meeting of the Sheldon Town Board held November 22, 2014 at the Sheldon Town Hall, was called to order by Town Supervisor John Knab at 10:00 a.m. The November 18, 2014 meeting had to be rescheduled due to a winter storm.

Present: Supervisor John Knab  
Councilmen: Brian Becker, Mike Armbrust, Jim Fontaine  
Absent: Vince Kirsch  
Recording Secretary: Town Clerk Carol Zittel  
Not Present: Highway Superintendent David Ricketson, Attorney DiMatteo  
Also Present: Only 2 people were in attendance in the audience: Ken Martin & Mary Kehl

**Minutes**

A motion was made by Brian Becker and seconded by Jim Fontaine that the minutes from the October 21, 2014 regular meeting and the November 6, 2014 budget public hearing meeting be approved.

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

**Communications**

The Town Clerk reported on the following:

**#51 Change in October Abstracts**

Voucher #368, the Association of Towns membership fee of \$800.00 was voided. It will be paid in January of 2015. The October General Fund Vouchers changed from \$14,361.31 to \$13,561.31.

**#52 Association of Towns Annual Conference**

The Association of Towns will hold their annual conference February 15-18, 2015 in New York City.

**#53 Wyoming County Traffic Safety Board**

The Town Clerk confirmed that all Board members received the letter from Joseph Heller, of the Wyoming County Traffic Safety Board. The October 28, 2014 letter states that a 4-way stop would not be recommended for the Centerline & Dutch Hollow intersection.

**#54 Time Warner/Comcast Merger**

The Cohen Law Group sent a packet of information regarding the purchase of Time Warner by Comcast. The law group is offering a free legal assessment of the Town's current franchise agreement. The Town Board asked the Town Clerk to email them a copy of the letter.

**#55 Letter from Sheldon Parent Teacher Group**

The Town Clerk read a letter received from the Sheldon Parent Teacher Group regarding the possible closure of Sheldon Elementary. The letter urges residents to write the Board of

Education members in support of keeping the school open. The Town Clerk asked the Board's permission to forward the PTG letter via the Town Clerk email newsletter. The Board authorized the Town Clerk to do so.

### **Highway Superintendent's Report**

Highway Supt. Ricketson was absent from today's meeting.

**Supervisor Report** – Supervisor John Knab reported on the following:

### **Wyoming County 2015 Budget**

Supervisor Knab stated that the proposed County budget would result in a 9.68% increase in 2015 taxes if passed as is.

### **Credit Card Machines – Town Justice Court**

The Town Justice Court will be receiving new credit card machines. There will be a 2.9% service fee passed onto the customer/credit card holder. In the past, New York State paid the fee.

### **Marilla Citizens Against Sludge**

Supervisor Knab received a letter from the Marilla Citizens Committee Against Sludge. They are asking for support in their fight against Quasar Corp. and the transporting, storage and spreading of toxic sewage sludge in the Town of Marilla and several other towns. Supervisor Knab believes that Wyoming County already bans the spread of sludge in the County.

### **Small Business Saturday**

November 29, 2014 has been proclaimed small business Saturday in Wyoming County.

### **Wyoming County Bills**

Wyoming County bills for October 2014 were \$4,059,106.93.

### **Varysburg Water District**

All easements have finally been signed and filed at County Clerk's office. The project is still waiting for a permit from NYSDOT before going out for bid.

### **Mortgage Tax Payments**

The Town will soon be receiving a mortgage tax payment of \$18,140.36. We have received a total of \$32,915.07 in mortgage tax payments so far this year. This amount is over what had budgeted. (\$25,000)

### **Invenergy Wind Project Revenue**

In March 2014 the Town received \$39,330.00 and on October 30<sup>th</sup> received \$827,016.57 for a total of \$866,346.57 in Wind Project Revenue for 2014.

### **Certificate of Deposit**

Supervisor Knab called the following banks to get rates on certificates of deposit. Five Star Bank offered 1%, Steuben Trust offered .26% and Bank of Castile offered 1% but would like the Town's other business (checking accounts).

A motion was made by Brian Becker and seconded by Mike Armbrust to authorize the Town Supervisor to deposit town funds in a certificate of deposit with 5-Star Bank at a return rate of 1%.

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

### **Acceptance of Reports**

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

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

### **Old Business**

#### **Town Hall Remodel**

The Town has not received any update on the Court grant.

### **New Business**

#### **Assessor Salary – Change in Preliminary Budget**

Supervisor Knab suggested that the \$1,250 salary increase requested by the Assessor not be included in the budget. Supervisor Knab would like this money to be put into the General Fund – Central Garage Account.

A motion was made by Brian Becker and seconded by Mike Armbrust to move the \$1,250.00 allocated for the increase in salary for the Town Assessor into the General Fund, Central Garage account.

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

#### **Deputy Zoning Officer – Change in Preliminary Budget**

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Brian Becker to eliminate the position of Town Deputy Zoning Officer and move the salary allocated to this position to the General Fund, Central Garage Account.

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

### **Adoption of 2015 Budget**

The changes in the Assessor Salary and the Deputy Zoning Officer Salaries were made to the preliminary budget.

A motion was made by Mike Armbrust and seconded by Brian Becker to adopt the preliminary budget as the 2015 final budget.

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

### **Deputy Supervisor Appointment**

Supervisor Knab asked authorization to appoint Vince Kirsch as Deputy Supervisor.

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Mike Armbrust to appoint Vince Kirsch as Deputy Supervisor and to authorize him to be listed as a signer on the Town of Sheldon Five Star Bank Accounts.

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

### **Tax Bill Notice**

A motion was made by Brian Becker and seconded by Mike Armbrust to authorize the insertion of a notice in the Town tax bills explaining the wind revenue benefit on the Town tax rate.

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

### **Court Security Contract**

A motion was made by Brian Becker and seconded by Mike Armbrust to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the contract with the Wyoming County Sheriff Department for court security.

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

### **Town Hall Generator**

There was discussion regarding the need to purchase a new generator for the town hall. The Town's generator is no longer functional. Councilman Fontaine stated the necessity of having a generator in the event the Town has to set up an emergency staging area.

A motion was made by Brian Becker and seconded by Mike Armbrust to authorize Supervisor Knab to seek out a consultant to assist in writing specifications for a 25000kw water cooled generator.

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

### **Town Clerk Support Contract Williamson Law**

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Mike Armbrust to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the contract with Williamson Law Book for the Town Clerk computer support contract in the amount of \$300 for 2015.

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

### **Budget Transfers**

A motion was made by Mike Armbrust and seconded by Brian Becker to authorize the following budget transfers:

\$599,734.00 from A9901.9 transfers to other funds to DA5031 Interfund transfers (for Highway portion of windmill revenue

\$1056.00 from A9060.8 Hospital & Medical Ins. to A9010.8 State Retirement

\$1000.00 from A9060.8 Hospital & Medical Ins. to A1110.4 Municipal Court Contractual

\$1000.00 from A9060.8 Hospital & Medical Ins. to A8020.4 Planning Contractual

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

**Bills:**

Supervisor Knab confirmed that the Board had a chance to review the bills. Councilman Becker questioned the receipt for a computer monitor for the Tax Collector. Councilman Becker asked if the monitor was for a Town computer or her personal computer. The Town Clerk responded that it is an old Town computer.

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Mike Armbrust that the  
General Bills #370 to #401 for a Total of \$43,407.59, the  
Highway Bills #178 to #190 for a Total of \$68,043.80, the  
Trust & Agency Bills #47 to #49 for a Total of \$1,094.11 the  
Varysburg Water District Bills #71 to #74 for a Total of \$1,094.11 the  
Capital Project Bills #14 to #15 for a Total of \$259.00 and the  
Lighting District Bills for a Total of \$866.11 be paid.

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

**Comments from the Floor**

There were no comments from the floor.

**Adjournment**

At 11:00 a.m. a motion was made by Brian Becker and seconded by Jim Fontaine to adjourn the November 22, 2014 meeting of the Sheldon Town Board.

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