

**REGULAR MEETING
SHELDON TOWN BOARD
April 17, 2019**

The Regular Meeting of the Sheldon Town Board held April 17, 2019 at the Sheldon Town Hall was called to order by Town Supervisor Brian Becker at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Brian Becker
Councilmen: Mike Armbrust, Jim Fontaine, Vince Kirsch, Joe Meyer
Recording Secretary: Town Clerk Carol Zittel
Also present: David Ricketson, Highway Superintendent, Representatives from Connect/Gen

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

Minutes

A motion was made by Vince Kirsch and seconded by Joe Meyer that the minutes from the March 20, 2019 regular meeting be approved.

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

Communications

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

#10 Upcoming Meetings

The Town Clerk notified the Board of the following meetings:

Cemetery meeting – May 16th 5:30pm at the Town Hall

Reisdorf Variance Public Hearing – April 25th 7pm at Town Hall

USDA Meeting (Carol & Brian) – April 24th at Town Hall

Varysburg Water Meeting – April 23rd 7:15pm at Varysburg Fire Hall

Strykersville Garden – Info Meeting by Beaver Meadow – June Date TBD at Historical Society

Reports

Financial Reports were presented for the month of March 2019 from the Town Supervisor, Town Clerk and the Town Justices. The cash flow and payroll reports were also presented. The fund balance report through March 31, 2019 was also distributed.

Highway Superintendent's Report

Highway Superintendent David Ricketson reported on the following:

Salt Building

The salt building has been demolished. Wyoming County Highway helped with excavating. The Highway Superintendent thanked Francis George and the Sheldon Fire Department for offering to have a control burn. Dave Ricketson was informed by a DEC Officer that it would not be prudent to burn the remnants of the building. Therefore, the Town paid for dumpster service to dispose of the building remnants. The footers for the new building will be dug by the Highway Department.

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Spring Work

The Department is busy cleaning ditches and fixing shoulders. The roads are still soft with frost still coming out at this date.

2019 Projects

Bloecher Road needs addressing. Minkel Road should get finished this year as well.

Skid Steer

The skid steer should be delivered by end of next week.

10-Hour/4-Day Work Week

The Department will start their 10-hour/4-Day work week this week.

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Becker reported on the following:

Jam in the Valley Event

Zoning Officer, Alyssa Cutcliffe contacted Supervisor Becker asking if the Town wants to add a Town permit requirement for the Jam in the Valley event. The Board does not want to pursue issuing permits for events.

Government Conference

There will be a local government conference in Pittsford on May 17th.

Varysburg Water – Extension of Water Lines to Boxlers

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the request by Hans Boxler Jr. to extend Varysburg Water to his new building on 20A. At last month's meeting the Board approved the extension. AJ Dyrbala came to tonight's meeting to ask the Board to rescind their resolution. AJ noted the following:

- A written letter from Mr. Boxler was never received
- There are legality issues of jurisdiction outside of the Town limits
- The need for agreements with each individual person outside the Town limits
- The water advisory board should be consulted
- If we want to extend lines, let's get our ducks in a row and do it right

Amendment of March Resolution Approving Extension of Water to Boxler Property

A motion was made by Vince Kirsch and seconded by Mike Armbrust to amend the March 20, 2019 resolution which approved the extension of water lines to the Boxler property to the following:

A motion was made by Vince Kirsch and seconded by Mike Armbrust to allow the extension of the Varysburg Water District to Hans Boxler's new tractor repair barn with all costs associated with the extension (except for the installation of the concrete pit) being the responsibility of Mr.

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Boxler **pending the following:** approval by the Varysburg Water Advisory Board, the finalization of a service agreement between the parties and the determination of the proper number of EDU's the property should be billed.

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

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, Fontaine, Kirsch, Meyer Nays: (0) Motion Carried.

Solar Presentation by ConnectGen

Henry Woltag and Isaac Phillips from ConnectGen attended tonight's meeting on behalf of their company ConnectGen. They were accompanied by Jacob Runner from the Rochester Environmental Design Company EDR. Mr. Woltag gave a powerpoint presentation and also distributed hard copies of the slides. Their company was founded in 2018. Bullet points of the presentation:

- NYS is the primary area of focus due to the State driving towards 50% renewable and an aggressive drive for renewable energy
- Solar generation has been coming along in smaller projects such as in Houghton and Olean
- ConnectGen's projects are a series of interconnected smaller projects
- Their company is a team of developers who pride themselves on being recognized as a company that landowners like to do business with.
- Councilman Armbrust asked: "Why use a new company like yours instead of a bigger company like Invenergy that also has these projects?" Mr. Woltag responded: "Why not both? Spread eggs across a couple different baskets."
- The project area for this project is the Wales/Bennington/Sheldon townships specifically the north and south side of Route 20A. Approximately 1200-1400 acres.
- An open house was held at the Harris Corners Fire Hall last Tuesday
- Plan to build project in 2022/2023
- Benefits are tax revenue and revenue to landowners
- Agencies that will be involved in SEQR process include but are not limited to: NYS Public Service Commission, DEC, Townships, NYSERDA, NYS Economic Authority, NYS Ag & Markets, Community members
- Councilman Armbrust notes that in our newly adopted comprehensive plan that preserving farmland is a main goal. Mr. Woltag replies that the company wants to be in compliance with Town laws and plans.
- The Town Clerk notified Mr. Woltag that a solar law has been adopted by the Town Board – she will forward a copy of the law to his attention.
- Solar projects are very low maintenance
- Councilman Meyer asked what is the expected life for the project. Mr. Woltag replied at least 30 years.

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- Councilman Armbrust asked about the potential of ConnectGen selling the project to another company in the future. Mr. Woltag responded that “we are going forward as a developer/owner/operator but we have to be observant of the market.”
- Councilman Kirsch asked how they maintain the land under the solar panel. Mr. Woltag responded that a naturally low growing grass will be planted.
- Councilman Kirsch asks if they are fenced in. Mr. Woltag responds that yes, they are fenced in.
- The company is in the phase of reaching out and talking to landowners
- ConnectGen hopes to meet the 2019 NYSERDA RFP deadline of June
- The company would be notified in January 2020 if they are a recipient of a NYSERDA award which would put the project on track for a 2022/2023 build start date.
- Councilman Fontaine asked if they have presented to other Town boards. Mr. Woltag replied that last week they met with the Town Board of Bennington in Executive Session.
- Councilman Kirsch asked where ConnectGen would get their panels from. Mr. Woltag responded that there are 6-8 manufacturers and the final decision on the panels would be made a year before construction.

The Town Board thanked Mr. Woltag, Mr. Phillips and Mr. Runner for attending tonight’s meeting. The gentlemen excused themselves from the meeting.

Old Business:

Kiwanis – Garden Property in Strykersville

Mulch will be spread by the Kiwanis. On May 18th Beaver Meadow will plant shrubs and flowers. If anyone is interested in helping on that day, it would be appreciated. The flag pole donated by the Strykersville Fire Company is in. Bill and Lynn Streicher donated two benches. The well has been pulled – a tank may be put down there for water.

Salt Building – Opening of Bids

Only one bid was received. The bid received was from Hybrid Building Solutions, Brauer Road, Clarence Center, NY. The bid amount was higher than the project budget and the board rejected the bid asking that the amount of the bid not be publicized until after the project is rebid.

Rejection of Bid

A motion was made by Vince Kirsch and seconded by Joe Meyer to reject the bid received from Hybrid Building Solutions and to rebid the project once new specifications are approved by Councilman Kirsch and Highway Superintendent Ricketson.

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

The Town Clerk will notify Hybrid that their bid was rejected.

Strykersville Cemetery

The meeting with the NYS Division of Cemeteries regarding the Strykersville Cemetery Association will be held on May 16, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at the Sheldon Town Hall. A new ad had

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to be placed for three weeks in the Arcade Herald advertising the meeting and soliciting new members for the Association. Councilman Armbrust asked the Town Clerk to contact Shirley Farrant to ask her to notify Craig Wolcott of the meeting. Mr. Wolcott works for Forest Lawn Cemetery. Forest Lawn has been purchasing small rural cemeteries in the area and may be interested in the Strykersville Cemetery.

Engineer Quote – Varysburg Water - New Water Lines on School Street

Supervisor Becker received a quote from MRB Engineers (formerly Chatfield) for engineering services to replace old water lines on School Street. The Board wants to issue an RFQ for Engineering Services for the project.

A motion was made by Vince Kirsch and seconded by Jim Fontaine to advertise for RFQ's for engineering services for the installation of new water lines on School Street.

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

Harris Corners & Sheldon Fire Department Contracts

Both Harris Corners and Sheldon Fire Companies were contacted by the Town Clerk and asked to submit their contract request prior to a public hearing being scheduled. The Town Clerk will advise the Board when the requests are received.

New Business

Agreement to Spend Town Highway Funds – Wyoming County Highway Department

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Mike Armbrust to approve the agreement with Wyoming County Highway Department to spend Town Highway Funds.

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

Advertise for Lifeguards

A motion was made by Vince Kirsch and seconded by Joe Meyer to approve the placement of an ad in the Pennysavers advertising lifeguard positions.

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

Five Year Financial Plan

The NYS Comptroller's Office had recommended the Board write a five year financial plan per their audit report. DASNY has requested copies of items recommended by the Comptroller's Office audit report. The Town Bookkeeper, Town Supervisor and Highway Superintendent will set up a time to write the five year plan for submittal to the Town Board at their May meeting.

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

Fund Transfer

A motion was made by Mike Armbrust and seconded by Joe Meyer to authorize the transfer of \$7164.57 from DA5110.4 General Repairs Contractual to DA5142.4 Snow Removal Contractual \$3605.52 from DA5110.4 General Repairs Contractual to DA5148.4 Services for Other Governments Contractual.

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Bills:

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

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Vince Kirsch that the General Bills #79 to #105 for a Total of \$22,771.58, the Highway Bills #60 to #74 for a Total of \$22,493.12, the Trust & Agency Bills #10 to #12 for a Total of \$525.28, the Varysburg Water District Bills #24 to #32 for a Total of \$5,611.98 and the Lighting District Bills for a Total of \$903.48 be paid.

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

Comments from the Floor

At 9:30 p.m. Supervisor Becker opened the floor to comments. There were no comments.

Executive Session – Zoning Violation

At 9:30 p.m. a motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Vince Kirsch to enter into Executive Session to discuss a zoning violation that may result in court proceedings.

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

Exit Executive Session – Zoning Violation

At 10:00 p.m. a motion was made by Vince Kirsch and seconded by Joe Meyer to exit Executive Session.

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

Authorization to Send Zoning Violation to Attorney DiMatteo

A motion was made by Mike Armbrust and seconded by Vince Kirsch to authorize the Town Zoning Officer to turn the Schofield zoning violation over to the Town Attorney.

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

Adjournment

At 10:00 p.m. a motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Joe Meyer to adjourn the April 17, 2019 meeting of the Sheldon Town Board.

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