

**REGULAR MEETING  
SHELDON TOWN BOARD  
March 20, 2019**

The Regular Meeting of the Sheldon Town Board held March 20, 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  
Absent: Vince Kirsch, Joe Meyer  
Recording Secretary: Town Clerk Carol Zittel  
Also present: David Ricketson, Highway Superintendent  
A signed list of all present is on file in the Town Clerk's office.

**Minutes**

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Mike Armbrust that the minutes from the February 20, 2019 regular meeting be approved.

Ayes: (3) Becker, Armbrust, Fontaine Absent: (2) Kirsch, Meyer Nays: (0) Motion Carried.

**Communications**

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

**#8 Local Government Conference**

A local Government Conference will be held on May 9, 2019 at Houghton College from 9am-4pm.

**#9 ConnectGen – Solar Panels**

ConnectGen is a renewable energy company soliciting landowners to sell/lease land to site solar farms. The company has asked to make a presentation at the next planning board meeting on April 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Reports**

Financial Reports were presented for the month of February 2019 from the Town Supervisor, Town Clerk and the Town Justices. The cash flow and payroll reports were also presented.

**Highway Superintendent's Report**

Highway Superintendent David Ricketson reported on the following:

**Sand & Salt**

The department has used up the salt and sand budget for the year. Funds for purchase of more sand and salt will come out of road work money for the rest of the year.

**2012 Peterbilt**

The hydraulic pump went out on the 2012 Peterbilt (Jim's truck). The bill (approx. \$4700) is in tonight's bills.

**REGULAR MEETING  
SHELDON TOWN BOARD  
March 20, 2019**

**2009 Peterbilt**

The transmission in the 2009 Peterbilt (Kevin's truck) is acting up.

**Skid Steer**

The skid steer should arrive by mid-April.

**Supervisor's Report**

Supervisor Becker reported on the following:

**Water Leak – Varysburg**

Supervisor Becker gave a recap of the water main break in the Varysburg Water District. Ken Bittner from the NYSDOT notified Supervisor Becker that the Town needs to apply for an annual permit that would allow the Town highwaymen to work on a State road. Supervisor Becker will work with the Town Bookkeeper, Katie Chmura, to submit the necessary paperwork to the DOT. Luckily, the Varysburg Fire Company volunteers were able to assist on that day. The Town Board asked the Town Clerk to send a thank you letter to the Varysburg Fire Department.

**Hans Boxler Request of Extension of Water District**

Hans Boxler is constructing a tractor repair barn on Route 20A and has requested water service. Supervisor Becker reported that Ed Zehler will be hired by the Water District to install a concrete pit – all other work from that point will be the financial responsibility of Hans Boxler.

A motion was made by Mike Armbrust and seconded by Jim Fontaine 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. Boxler and that the new building be billed for one EDU.

Ayes: (3) Becker, Armbrust, Fontaine Absent: (2) Kirsch, Meyer Nays: (0) Motion Carried.

**Revaluation Letters**

The re-assessment letters will be mailed to Town residents this week. Residents should be advised to call the Wyoming County Real Property Tax office with any questions.

**Acceptance of Reports**

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

Ayes: (3) Becker, Armbrust, Fontaine Absent: (2) Kirsch, Meyer Nays: (0) Motion Carried.

**Senior Citizen Group Presentations**

Gertie Plowe attended tonight's meeting on behalf of the Tri-Town Seniors group. Ms. Plowe reported that the group has 72 members and they meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month. They have a trip to the Broadway Market, a Bison's game and a Christmas party planned for the year.

**REGULAR MEETING  
SHELDON TOWN BOARD  
March 20, 2019**

Peter Pilc presented on behalf of the Strykersville Seniors. Mr. Pilc reported that their group has doubled in membership. Mr. Pilc reported on many offerings that are available to seniors such as:

- the yellow dot kit which allows for a yellow dot to be placed in a senior's car or home window alerting first responders to look in the glove compartment or freezer to find a zip lock bag with pertinent information such as medications and emergency contacts
- free smoke alarms with free installation from the American Red Cross
- free income tax prep
- free caption phone for the hearing impaired
- free National fuel winterization kit

Mr. Pilc brought a poster demonstration with the various upcoming events and trips planned for 2019.

Supervisor Becker asked the Town Clerk to contact the Wyoming County Office for the Aging to obtain information on appointments of town residents to their board.

The Town Board thanked Ms. Plowe and Mr. Pilc for attending and for all of their outstanding work.

**Kiwanis – Garden Property in Strykersville**

The Boy Scouts will be putting in a flag pole at the property.

**Salt Building – DASNY Funding**

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Mike Armbrust to advertise for bids for the construction of a new salt building and to set the date for a mandatory pre-bid walk through for April 4, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. and a bid opening for April 17, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Ayes: (3) Becker, Armbrust, Fontaine Absent: (2) Kirsch, Meyer Nays: (0) Motion Carried.

**Boil Water Notice – Varysburg Water**

Due to a water main break a boil water notice was in effect in a portion of the Varysburg Water District. There was some miscommunication to residents as some thought the whole district was under a boil water notice. All testing during and after the water main break was negative for any contaminants.

**Grant Money for Replacing Old Water Lines**

Supervisor Becker has reached out to Senator Gallivan's office about the possibility of grant funding to replace some of the old water lines in the water district. Supervisor Becker will be in contact with the Senator's office regarding next steps.

**Engineer Quote – Replacing Water Lines on School Street**

Supervisor Becker has met with MRB Engineers to request a quote on replacing the water lines on School Street.

**Town Cemeteries**

**REGULAR MEETING  
SHELDON TOWN BOARD  
March 20, 2019**

An ad needs to be placed in local newspapers soliciting for new members for the Strykersville Cemetery Association. The Town Clerk will call Shirley Farrant regarding the placement of the ads. The Town Board is willing to pay the costs for advertisement.

**Public Hearings – Harris Corners and Sheldon Fire**

The Town Clerk is waiting to receive contract requests from the Harris Corners and Sheldon Fire Departments. Once their contract requests are received a public hearing will be scheduled most likely in June or July.

**Grant Money for Community Center**

Resident, Peter Pilc, asked if there was grant money available to expand the current town hall to accommodate a community center. The senior citizen groups need a larger space as their numbers increased.

**Right to Farm Committee**

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Mike Armbrust to table the issue of a right to farm committee until a new Zoning Law is adopted.

Ayes: (3) Becker, Armbrust, Fontaine Absent: (2) Kirsch, Meyer Nays: (0) Motion Carried.

**Payroll Software Support – Williamson Law**

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Mike Armbrust to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the annual contract (\$775.00) with Williamson Law Book Company for Payroll Software Support.

Ayes: (3) Becker, Armbrust, Fontaine Absent: (2) Kirsch, Meyer Nays: (0) Motion Carried.  
The support contract increased by \$15.00 from 2018.

**Thank You to Senator Gallivan**

A motion was made by Mike Armbrust and seconded by Jim Fontaine to send a thank you letter to Senator Gallivan for his assistance in removing/replacing telephone lines on Route 98 that were becoming a safety concern.

Ayes: (3) Becker, Armbrust, Fontaine Absent: (2) Kirsch, Meyer Nays: (0) Motion Carried.

**Fund Transfer**

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Mike Armbrust to authorize the transfer of \$100,000.00 from General Money Market A1083 to Highway Money Market DA1083 for March bills and payroll.

Ayes: (3) Becker, Armbrust, Fontaine Absent: (2) Kirsch, Meyer Nays: (0) Motion Carried.

**Bills**

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

A motion was made by Mike Armbrust and seconded by Jim Fontaine that the General Bills #47 to #78 for a Total of \$21,286.83, the Highway Bills #43 to #59 for a Total of \$37,313.21, the

**REGULAR MEETING  
SHELDON TOWN BOARD  
March 20, 2019**

Trust & Agency Bills #7 to #9 for a Total of \$525.28, the Harris Corners/Bennington/Sheldon Fire Protection contract payment #1 for a Total of \$30,577.36, the Strykersville Fire/Harris Ambulance contract payment #2 for a Total of \$1,010.00, the Java Fire Protection District contract payment #3 for a Total of \$8,346.62, the Sheldon Fire Protection District contract payment #4 for a Total of \$114,868.56, the Strykersville Fire Protection contract payment #5 for a Total of \$36,814.27, the Varysburg Fire District contract payment #6 for a Total of \$35,881.94 Varysburg Water District Bills #16 to #23 for a Total of \$4,081.29 and the Lighting District Bills for a Total of \$914.92 be paid.  
Ayes: (3) Becker, Armbrust, Fontaine Absent: (2) Kirsch, Meyer Nays: (0) Motion Carried.

**Route 98 Road Erosion**

Supervisor Becker noted that the section of road on Route 98 in Varysburg across from Dan Balon's house is being eaten away. On Route 98 south of Johnsonburg near the Skawienski farm the road is also being eroded away. This is a DEC issue. Senator Gallivan's office has contacted the DOT and the DEC. Supervisor Becker hopes that permits get issued before the road washes out.

**Comments from the Floor**

At 8:35 p.m. Supervisor Becker opened the floor to comments.

**Senior Group Funding**

Gertie Plowe asked why the Tri-Town Seniors received less funding in 2019 than the Strykersville Seniors. The Board responded that the Strykersville Group attended a meeting and asked for more funding. The Board also stated that the Tri-Town group receives funding from three towns and also received funding from Invenergy while the Strykersville group only receives funding from the Town of Sheldon.

**Adjournment**

At 8:40 p.m. a motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Mike Armbrust to adjourn the March 20, 2019 meeting of the Sheldon Town Board.

Ayes: (3) Becker, Armbrust, Fontaine Absent: (2) Kirsch, Meyer Nays: (0) Motion Carried.

**REGULAR MEETING  
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