

BOARD MEETING
APRIL 12, 2018

The Gerry Town Board met at 6:30 PM, April 12, 2018, at the Gerry Town Hall for the regular monthly board meeting.

Present were: John R. Crossley, Supervisor
Gary J. Swan, Councilman
Richard C. Heath, Councilman
Linda D. Bartholomew, Councilwoman
Randy J. Zahm, Councilman
Recia L. Myers, Town Clerk
Brian T. Anderson, Highway Superintendent
William Duncanson Jr., Town Attorney
Dave Crossley, Zoning Officer

CALL TO ORDER:

Supervisor Crossley called the meeting to order and led in the pledge of allegiance.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Beth Hadley, Sinclairville Free Library Manager, introduced herself and thanked the town for their continuing support and she wanted to see how to provide more services to the Town of Gerry. She said she currently has been having book club meetings at Heritage Village and she would like to find a way students in Gerry can have a way for them to obtain books from the library. She was wondering about a book drop off possibly at the town hall or some location within the town and also she was asking to see if a bus was supplied by the library for recreation kids to be able to attend a July 31st program provided by library. Councilman Heath commented that he will let the Recreation Director know and the board said that sounds like a great idea. Supervisor Crossley will contact Ms. Hadley with the details on accessing of donated books and the Recreation Leader will call her for the program to be held on July 31st. The Town Board thanked her for coming in and providing them with all her information for the Sinclairville Free Library.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Received a resignation letter from Stan Anderson for the Board of Assessment Review, which the board was aware and a resolution will be presented.
2. A thank you note was received from the Valley Historical Society for the town's annual donation.
3. An Invitation was received for a recognition night on Tuesday, April 17th 6:00 PM at the Park Church for the Sinclairville Free Library in which all board members are welcome.
4. A flyer was received from Southern Tier West noting their annual conference to be held on May 9th at Houghton College.

5. An invitation was received from the County workers memorial committee for job recognition of workers who have been injured or killed on the job that will be held at Erlandson Park on Saturday, May 6th at 11 am.

OFFICERS REPORT:

Zoning Officer.

Dave Crossley, Zoning Officer, submitted the following report:
Has issued 3 Permits this month and has 15 pending permits.

Dave Crossley, Zoning Officer, commented that he has been busy and Heritage Village is going to court over the sprinkler system they feel they do not need with the state. The state is requiring this due to the occupancy of the building being over 300 people. The town is not involved. Dave Crossley, Zoning Officer, noted that there are 8 zombie properties within the town in which the cost of the process is expensive and time consuming. This is an economy problem everywhere and he just went through the process on Bloomer Road which went through 7 court appearances. The town board discussed the problem with the Zoning Officer explaining all the details of the process of eliminating these properties and Councilman Swan noted that it would cost about 10 – 15 thousand per property for the town to pay for cleanup and Dave Crossley said yes about that amount and they could use landfill credits but there is only so much and the Town Board discussed that the town could not afford this and a letter is going to be drawn up to Cathy Young and Mr. Goodell voicing their concerns of these properties.

Dog Control Officer. No DCO at time so no report received.

Highway Superintendent.

Brian Anderson, Highway Superintendent, explained how last month they discussed the truck and he found a Ford for about \$29,000.00 but he remembered Councilman Zahm noting the cost of fixing a body was really expensive. Councilman Zahm noted it depended on the size. Brian said the Chevy was about \$32,500.00 and Dodge was super high at \$45,000.00. He said he actually liked the Ford when he test drove it. Councilman Zahm commented to make sure to look at what you can tow to and Councilman Swan noted that it is ultimately the Highway Superintendent's decision. After discussion the Highway Superintendent is going to look at different options of payments and check again on prices and report next month as the other truck that the transmission was down in, they ended up replacing so it is not a dire need for one now.

Brian Anderson, Highway Superintendent, noted that there is a 10 Wheeler on Auctions International right now that he would be interested in as the one they currently have is getting rough with the floor going bad and rusting out. Councilman Heath said the county will be placing one online next week but this one has snowplowed and Brian said the one right now seems to be in real good condition online. After discussion, Brian asked for permission from the town board to bid online now for the 97 International. A motion was made by Councilman Swan to allow the Highway Superintendent to bid on the 97 International 10 wheeler online at Auctions International and to not exceed \$20,000.00, seconded by Councilman Heath. The Town Attorney suggested the amount to be set at \$21,000.00 so therefore the motion was

amended for the amount not to exceed \$21,000.00. Motion was made by Councilman Swan, seconded by Councilman Heath. Approved.

Brian Anderson, Highway Superintendent, requested to see if it was okay for the highway to install a building around the fuel pumps outside to be able to lock and he wanted to double check as it would come from the Garage account that was reduced this year and he was concerned about going over on the account now. He said it would probably cost them about \$1,200.00. Supervisor Crossley commented that it should be fine and if necessary they could move money around later and will double check with the accountants and let him know.

Assessor Report.

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I am in the process of finishing up new construction and valuation, gas well valuation, special franchise review, and property owner requests.

Gas well production values have fallen from \$9.54/mcf in 2012 to \$1.22/mcf last year. However, this year production values have increased to \$1.77/mcf. Assuming gas well production remains the same we should see an increase in gas well assessment. May 1, 2018 the tentative roll will be filed and the appropriate legal notice will be posted in the paper. State land, Telecommunications, and special franchise valuation is complete.

COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND AGENCIES:

PARK COMMITTEE.

Councilman Heath looked into the replacing of LED lights along with the flag pole light as the lighting at the park is a problem and asked if the Highway Superintendent could please put them in and they will cost about \$140.00 each from Jamestown Electric Company. Councilman Heath received paperwork from the Chautauqua Works for hiring seasonal help for the recreation season and after discussion with Councilwoman Bartholomew explaining how the program works the Town Board agreed to move forward with filling out the paperwork to have the opportunity for residents within the town. Councilman Heath contacted Kevin Carlson discussing the board concerns and he is still taking the Part-Time Mower position and a resolution will be presented.

Councilman Zahm asked about the Ross Mills cemetery but the Board explained it was not within the Town but they are going to set up a date next month to work on the cleaning up of the cemetery on Hanson Road.

SPECIAL ORDERS:

Resolution No. 22 - 2018. Appointment of Part Time Mower and Maintenance Position. A motion was made by Councilman Heath, seconded by Councilwoman Bartholomew. Approved.

Resolution No. 23 - 2018. Appointment to Assessment Review Board. A motion was made by Councilwoman Bartholomew, seconded by Councilman Zahm. Approved.

Resolution No. 24 -2018. Authorizing Town Officials to attend training. A motion was made by Councilman Zahm, seconded by Councilman Swan. Approved.

Minute approval for the March Board Meeting, Special Board Meeting and Supervisor's Monthly Report. A motion was made by Councilman Swan, seconded by Councilman Zahm. Approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Consolidation. Supervisor Crossley noted that the state has still not advised the county yet on the grant applied for consolidation, so this is still on hold.

Army Reserve.

Supervisor Crossley noted that the building is officially vacant and he has spoken with a contact and they advised him to send a letter of interest. Supervisor Crossley sent a letter of interest to see what would be happening with the building and was told it could take up to 1 – 4 years for them to dispose of the building due to what was being held at the facility, in which case this place did not hold ammunition, etc. Supervisor Crossley commented that the Fire Department is interested in the bay out back for storage but after speaking with Dave Hall they are now interested in occupying the building as well. Supervisor Crossley left a message to his contact at the reserve center to see if the fire dept. and the town officials could take a look at the facility to get an idea what they could work with so right now he is waiting to hear back and will report as soon as he hears.

DCO Position.

Supervisor Crossley noted that due to the vacancy of the Dog Control Officer at the last meeting it was discussed to check the rate of pays of surrounding areas to possibly adjust the pay. Poland pays \$15.00 an hour with a budget to not exceed \$2,000.00. Ellington pays \$2,000.00 salaried yearly with mileage. Falconer is \$3,096.00 salaried yearly with mileage. The Town Board discussed the pay to possibly be dropped to \$2,500.00 leaving the contractual of \$1,000.00 alone.

Kristina Wiles, Town of Charlotte Dog Control Officer, spoke up and introduced herself noting that she has been filling in for the previous Dog Control Officer for our town and commented that for what the position does that amount would be low as the wear and tear on your vehicle and keeping peace between the neighbors and she noted that she doesn't even turn in half her mileage to the Town of Charlotte. Supervisor Crossley commented that the Town has to stay within their budget and adjust by the usage of the accounts. Ms. Wiles explained that she had to step in and take care of an issue within our town recently as she said due to the shared services contract in which she gave Supervisor Crossley the paperwork regarding the situation. She explained that someone stole a dog from the township and the owner did receive the dog back after she removed the dog. Supervisor Crossley commented that the Town should have received a phone call regarding this as we received the call from the lady who took the dog instead. Ms. Wiles apologized and explained that she was interested in the Dog Control position as she has been filling in for the previous DCO and knows our area. Supervisor Crossley commented that the Town will be advertising and for her to put her

application in and they will be checking on the status of the shared services agreement and Ms. Wiles thanked the town board for their time.

The Town Board discussed the rate of pay and decided to put the position of Dog Control Officer at \$2,500.00 yearly salaried and leave the contractual at \$1,000.00 for now and the Town Clerk will advertise tomorrow with applications to be accepted until April 26th and have interviews before the next meeting to have an appointment set for next month.

Census. Supervisor Crossley received a packet from the census bureau requesting the town to verify residences within the town and if this paperwork is not done the town could run into FEMA problems down the road, so Supervisor Crossley is going to take a couple of days to do this and is going to email the town board some days to work on this and if anyone can help would be great. He explained the process of how it needs to be done to the board members.

NEW BUSINESS:

Flags. Supervisor Crossley asked the Town Clerk about the flags in the cemeteries and she said yes next month that she will have them placed before Memorial Day and set up a day and if whomever would like to help can.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Dave Hall, asked about the flag pole out front. Supervisor Crossley asked if the Town Clerk could leave the quotes she obtained for him and he will check on it. Dave asked the Highway Superintendent if he can put up the flags and they will look over how many they have that are in good shape and see how many more they need to order. Recia Myers, Town Clerk, noted that she did purchase flags last year from the US Flag Store and she suggested this store as the cost was reasonable and the quality was good she will look up the cost of flags and contact Dave Hall.

VOUCHER APPROVAL:

Highway Fund Voucher's #48 – 60 totaling \$12,925.81 was approved on a motion by Councilman Heath, seconded by Councilwoman Bartholomew. Approved.

General Fund Voucher's #86 – 116 totaling \$4,328.79 was approved on a motion by Councilwoman Bartholomew, seconded by Councilman Swan. Approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next board meeting will be held at 6:30 PM, May 11, 2017 at the town hall.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM on a motion by Councilman Swan; seconded by Councilman Heath.

Minutes taken by

Recia L. Myers,
Town Clerk