

BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 13, 2012

The Gerry Town Board met at 6:30 PM, September 13, 2012, at the Gerry Town Hall for the regular monthly board meeting.

Present were: John R. Crossley, Supervisor
Robert B. Heitzenrater, Councilman
Gary J. Swan, Councilman
Richard C. Heath, Councilman
Linda D. Bartholomew, Councilwoman
Recia L. Myers, Town Clerk
Mark A. Risley, Highway Superintendent
Dave Crossley, Zoning Officer
William Duncanson, Jr., Town Attorney
Larry Barmore, District 9 Legislator

CALL TO ORDER:

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1.) The Town of Gerry received a letter from the Chautauqua County Hospice program informing the Town of their program for a tree lighting ceremony where the town would supply trees with lights and anyone may purchase bows to decorate these trees in honor of loved ones for these trees. The Town Board agreed to engage in this program and Recia Myers, Town Clerk and Supervisor Crossley will work on this.

OFFICERS REPORT:

Zoning Officer.

The following report was submitted:

September 2012

7 permits issued this month

12 permits pending.

Dave Crossley, Code Enforcement Officer, commented a new home went up on Nobles Road and discussed a fire that occurred on Gerry Ellington Road. Dave met with the owners and the problem is the owners had no insurance on home and have no money. The DEC and the Dept. of Labor are requiring an asbestos study. The Town could be liable for the cleanup for the remains of the home if there is asbestos found which can run to be a \$15,000 job. Dave contacted the Dept. of Labor and has discussed this problem with Town Attorney, William Duncanson Jr., and they would like to form a committee to get together on these problems as it is happening throughout the county and these places need cleaned up as it poses health concerns to the neighboring residents and

workers. They don't know what the answer is but they have to start somewhere. They will be discussing the concerns more after the asbestos study is returned back to the town within a few days.

Dog Control Officer.

Troy Kennelley, Dog Control Officer, was absent; however he submitted the following report: On 9/2 Trooper Johnson called him stating he picked up two stray dogs near the four corners in Gerry. I was unable to pick up the dogs as I was working so he dropped them off at Pick of the Litter and later on I transported them to the Humane Society.

A woman living on Gerry-Levant Road contacted me regarding a dog barking throughout the night and she wanted to file a formal complaint but she ended up talking to the owner of the dog and said she worked things out.

Highway Superintendent.

Mark Risley, Highway Superintendent, received a quote for the wiring from the shop to the cold storage building for an underground cable. The cost would run \$1,000.00 to \$1,200.00. Supervisor Crossley will check with the accountants to see if money is available.

Mark Risley, Highway Superintendent, reported the project on Damon Hill Road is finished and the total cost was \$4,000.00. He noted we should be seeing the CHIPS reimbursement in December. An analysis was done at the Highway Garage for the electric usage by the Power Masters Company. Mark Risley, Highway Superintendent, said we would be guaranteed a 10 % savings for the year by going with the program(a unit is installed to the breaker). Councilman Heath asked what the actually projected savings they quoted is and the man said it was hard to tell right now. The installation of the unit runs at \$1,800.00. Mark Risley, Highway Superintendent, will get specifics on the program and report back.

Assessor's report.

Kevin Okerlund, Town of Gerry assessor, was absent, but submitted the following report: STAR & Senior renewal exemptions will start going out to eligible property owners in the beginning of November. I will be attending the NYS Annual Assessors Conference from Sunday September 30th to Wednesday October 3. This will give me the required 12 continuing education credits.

School tax bills have been mailed to all property owners. If a property owner has not received their bill they should contact the tax collector. If there is a problem with any exemptions or any other issues they should contact me.

COMMITTEES, BOARDS OR AGENCIES:

Park & Recreation.

Councilman Heath reported he replaced a few bulbs at the park and is looking into replacing a door handle on the ladies bathroom. Steve Jeret replaced a few things on the toilets at the park and he noted that Dan Heitzenrater, Part Time Mower, is doing a great job.

Town Picnic Committee.

Councilwoman Bartholomew commented the picnic was such a success and it

couldn't have happened without all the people in the community working together. She gave a special thank you to all board members. She noted that they received so many donations from local companies and farmers and also received a Resolution from the Governor of New York State in which Councilwoman Bartholomew read to everyone.

Councilwoman Bartholomew requested to have the resolutions framed and the Town Board agreed to her request.

Supervisor Crossley gave a special thank you to her for all her work and dedication to the picnic as well.

SPECIAL ORDERS:

Resolution No. 43 -2012. Town of Gerry Fair Housing Plan. A motion was made by Councilman Heitzenrater, seconded by Councilman Heath. Approved.

Resolution No. 44 -2012. 2012 Budget Transfer. A motion was made by Councilman Swan, seconded by Councilman Heath. Approved.

Minute approval for the August Board Meeting. A motion was made by Councilman Heath; seconded by Councilwoman Bartholomew. Approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Town Hall. Supervisor Crossley commented he is done dealing with the reserves center and is looking at renovating the town hall. There was \$2,000.00 set up in the tentative budget to start at looking at hiring an engineer to see how much and what to do. Supervisor Crossley will contact the Gerry Methodist Church to see if the parking lot is still okay to use and is having the Fenton's come look at the Town Hall for elevator/stairway chair use. Town Clerk, Recia Myers, has contacted Southern Tier West for ideas of grants and Supervisor Crossley is contacting Judge Sirwatka to check on grant money through the Office of Court Administration. Dave Crossley, Zoning Officer, commented that the Town of Charlotte received approximately \$30,000.00 for their courtroom over a 2 year period. Supervisor Crossley noted that if anyone had any ideas to contact him.

Emergency Plan. Supervisor Crossley received a copy of this plan and would like Recia Myers, Town Clerk, to fill in blanks and have Mark Risley, Highway Superintendent, work on it as well and return back to him when ready.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dates were set for a budget session on Sept. 24th beginning at 6:00 PM.

A Tentative Budget was given to the Town Board for review and Supervisor Crossley noted that a huge bill of \$9,400.00 was pushed on the Town by the County which was not expected. The reveal had a big effect on the tentative rate and this budget will be more reviewed on September 24th.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Dave Hall gave thanks to the Highway Department for their help for the Fire Department's parking lot and the bill will be taken care of. The toilet is running a lot in the bathrooms at the Town

Hall he noted and he informed the Town Board of a meeting regarding the Post Office hours on December 3, 2012 at 5:30 PM at the Gerry Rodeo Grounds.

VOUCHER APPROVAL:

Highway Fund Vouchers #129 – 143 totaling \$77,537.94 was approved on a motion by Councilman Swan; seconded by Councilwoman Bartholomew. Approved.

General Fund Voucher's #268 –308 totaling \$ 7,969.30 was approved on a motion by Councilman Heath; seconded by Councilman Swan. Approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next Board meeting will be held 6:30 PM, October 11, 2012 at the town hall. The Town Board decided to reschedule the board meeting as they will not be able to have a quorum that date for October 15, 2012.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM on a motion by Councilman Heitzenrater, seconded by Councilman Swan.

Minutes taken by

Recia L. Myers,
Gerry Town Clerk