

Board Meeting  
July 11, 2013

The Gerry Town Board met at 6:30 PM, July 11, 2013, 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  
Linda D. Bartholomew, Councilwoman  
Jodie L. Fehlman, Deputy Town Clerk  
Mark A. Risley, Highway Superintendent

Absent were: Richard C. Heath, Councilman  
Recia L. Myers, Town Clerk  
William Duncanson, Jr., Town Attorney

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Supervisor Crossley called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

- 1) A letter was received from the Chautauqua County Board of Elections notifying of the reduction of districts.
- 2) A letter was received from the State of New York Department of Public Services informing of an informational forum that will be held at Suny Fredonia on July 15, 2013 at 6:00 PM for the purpose of repowering of the coal station in Dunkirk.

**OFFICERS REPORT:**

**Zoning Officer:**

David Crossley, Zoning Officer, stated that there are a few buildings going up and he will submit a report at a later date.

**Dog Control Officer.**

No report received.

**Highway Superintendent:**

Mark Risley, Highway Superintendent, stated that they are currently working on a mile of Old Chautauqua Road getting it ready to seal next week. Highway Superintendent, Mark Risley, also stated that they are going to try Micro Sealing the streets in the Town of Gerry and will be putting down about eight miles of black top this year.

Mark Risley, Highway Superintendent, stated that for a few years there has been a patch of weeds that was thought to be Hogweed; however he would like to have a second opinion as Mr. Risley thinks it is a flower called Angelica. David Crossley, Zoning officer, stated that there is a gentleman that would come down and identify it and let the town know if it is Hogweed and he will remove and destroy it. Mark Risley, Highway Superintendent, asked David Crossley, Zoning Officer, for the phone number of this gentleman and he stated that he will get him the number.

Mark Risley, Highway Superintendent, stated that the past couple of months the bill for the cell phone has been high due to the overage of calls and he has looked into getting a larger plan so he does not go over the minutes. The cell phone is also his personal phone and he is willing to have the extra \$25.00 a month taken out of his paycheck to make up the difference of the new plan. Supervisor Crossley stated that Mark Risley, Highway Superintendent, would have to speak to Town Attorney, William Duncanson Jr., to have a document drawn up to have this money taken out of his paycheck.

#### **ASSESSORS REPORT:**

The following report was submitted:

The final roll was filed July 1, 2013 and the appropriate legal notice was posted in the Post Journal.

I am in the process of researching computers in anticipation of getting our system updated to handle the new RPS version that is coming out next year. RPS will no longer be able to handle the XP operating system, but all computers have to be Windows 7 or later operating systems. We have been told by the Office of Real Property Tax Service to remove the STAR exemption on any individual who has a NYS tax liability. Notification was mailed to me and this process has been completed.

The process for the State verification of all Basic STAR exemptions is continuing. This is supposed to be handled this fall at the State level. However, in the meantime they seem to be creating a lot of work for local Assessors with address verifications.

Councilwoman Bartholomew, noted that the tentative tax roll has been added to the Town of Gerry's website.

#### **COMMITTEES, BOARDS & AGENCIES:**

##### **Park & Recreation Committee.**

Supervisor Crossley stated that the Park had been double booked as extra baseball games were booked and they need to be booked earlier in the spring. Supervisor Crossley stated that he would like to have a meeting set after Labor Day to work on a new schedule. Supervisor Crossley asked Deputy Town Clerk, Jodie Fehlman, to have The Town Clerk, Recia Myers, to set a date to have a meeting.

##### **Town Picnic:**

Councilwoman Bartholomew stated that she is double checking with a few people to see how they are coming with their duties for the town picnic. Councilwoman Bartholomew asked Highway Superintendent, Mark Risley, if he would be able to cook the corn again this

year and he stated that he would cook the corn. Councilwoman Bartholomew also commented that Councilman Richard Heath would be cooking the chicken.

Councilwoman Bartholomew stated that the Town Picnic will be held on August 10, 2013 from 4 PM to 9 PM.

**SPECIAL ORDERS:**

Resolution No. 30 – 2013. 2013 Budget Transfer. A motion was made by Councilman Heitzenrater, seconded by Councilman Swan. Approved.

Minute approval for June 2013 Board Meeting was approved on a motion by Councilman Swan, seconded by Councilwoman Bartholomew. Approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Supervisor Crossley stated that he would like to have a work session set up for ideas on how the town hall should be set up so there is an idea on how much money would have to be spent to fix up the existing Town Hall. Supervisor Crossley asked to have the Gerry Town Clerk, Recia Myers, to set up a date after Labor Day to have this work session.

Supervisor Crossley asked to have a work session for the Highway put on the agenda for next month as well.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Supervisor Crossley stated that Town Clerk, Recia Myers, has been working on an employee hand book and would like the Town of Gerry Board members to look through it and give some feedback as to any additions or corrections.

Supervisor Crossley stated that the Gerry Highway Employees have received new uniforms and Mark Risley, Highway Superintendent, is in the process of having a form drawn up by Town Attorney, William Duncanson Jr., for the guys to sign so the money will be deducted out of their paychecks for their uniforms.

Supervisor Crossley received a phone call from Mrs. Dietriek from Jamestown Jammers and she invited eight municipalities and would like one person to represent each town to throw out the opening pitch at the game. However; the game is held during rodeo week in the Town of Gerry. Supervisor Crossley stated that he would call her and let her know that it is a busy time in our town and thank her for the invite.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL:**

Highway Fund Vouchers #116 – 127 totaling \$ 9,779.05 was approved on a motion by Councilman Heitzenrater, seconded by Councilman Swan. Approved.

General Fund Vouchers # 308 – 331 totaling \$ 3,346.45 was approved on a motion by Councilman Swan, seconded by Councilwoman Bartholomew. Approved.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The next Board meeting will be held 6:30 PM, August 8, 2013 at the town hall.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 7:21 PM on a motion by Councilman Heitzenrater, seconded by Councilman Swan.

Minutes taken by

Jodie L. Fehlman  
Deputy Town Clerk