

BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 12, 2013

The Gerry Town Board met at 6:30 PM, September 12, 2013, 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
 Recia L. Myers, Town Clerk
 William Duncanson, Jr., Town Attorney
 Larry Barmore, District Legislator

Absent were: Robert B. Heitzenrater, Councilman
 Linda D. Bartholomew, Councilwoman

CALL TO ORDER:

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Paul Cooley, Town Resident, noted how he represented the Town of Gerry at a Jamestown Jammers home game and pitched to cover for the Town Board members unable to attend. Supervisor Crossley thanked him and noted that there was a reason they chose him for his abilities and he served the town proud. Mr. Cooley showed a baseball signed by numerous players who were signed to professional teams to show his proof.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. A letter was sent from the NYS Office of Real Property notifying the Town of its equalization rate being at 100% for 2014.
2. A bill was received from Chautauqua County for the Workman's Compensation policy for \$10,649.34 it was an \$800.00 increase from last year.
3. A letter was received from the Cornell Coop regarding Highway School that it will be still going on at the college. Supervisor Crossley noted must be the letters of concern helped them to make their decision.

4. A letter with raffle tickets was received from the Ellery SnoCruisers informing the town of their annual snow show to be held Oct. 6th.

OFFICERS REPORT:

ZONING OFFICER:

Dave Crossley, Zoning Officer, was absent due to schooling and no report was received.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER:

No Report was received.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT:

Mark Risley, Highway Superintendent, noted that the new loader is being ordered and a resolution will be presented at the Budget Meeting on September 19th at 5:00 PM.

Mr. Risley spoke with a town resident who lives on Nobles Road about removing trees on his property and to cut out a hump for the visibility of the road and for the safety of snowplowing, as an accident almost occurred there last year. The owner John Zimmerman was fine with this. William Duncanson, Jr., Town Attorney, was going to put together a contract with the owner, but Mark Risley, Highway Superintendent, needs board approval for this process.

Councilman Swan entertained a motion to allow Mark Risley, Highway Superintendent, to work on Mr. Zimmerman's property for the removal of trees and for the sloping of the property for the safety of the town and for the visibility of the road with Mr. Risley choosing the best quote for the tree removal service. Seconded by Councilman Heath. Approved.

Mark Risley, Highway Superintendent, also would like to fix a ditch on Nobles Road as there has been draining problems.

Councilman Heath entertained a motion to allow Mark Risley, Highway Superintendent, to use the mini excavator on Dave Austin's property to correct a ditch drainage problem. Seconded by Councilman Swan. Approved.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT:

August

The School Tax Roll was filed with the County. Tax bill processing is under way with tax bills being mailed out the end of August.

The State has notified me of our final Equalization Rate, which is 100%.

I will be on vacation the last week of August. The office will be closed Monday, August 26th.

September

The initial Basic STAR renewal letters have been mailed out and will continue to be mailed through October. ALL property owners who currently have the Basic STAR exemption must register with the State of NY either online(www.tax.ny.gov) or by calling 518-457-2036.

All property owners with the Enhanced STAR exemption(age 65 over) will continue to file as they normally do. I will be mailing the renewal applications probably around the end of October and they will continue to file with the Assessor's Office. I will be attending the NYS Annual Assessors Conference from Tuesday October 1st to Friday October 4th. 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 & AGENCIES:

Town Park:

Councilman Heath reported that he spoke with Highway Superintendent, Mark Risley, about the walking track, and Mark Risley noted it should be getting paved soon. Mr. Heath also noted that Town Clerk, Recia Myers, had a request to take down the picnic sign at the Town Park and she will contact Councilwoman Bartholomew to see where she would like it to be stored.

SPECIAL ORDERS:

Resolution No. 31-2013. Authorizing Town Clerk to Hold a Rabies Clinic. A motion was made by Councilman Swan, seconded by Councilman Heath. Approved.

Resolution No. 32-2013. Appointment to Assessment Review Board. A motion was made by Councilman Heath, seconded by Councilman Swan. Approved.

Resolution No. 33-2013. Budget Transfers. 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 Councilman Swan. Approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Town Hall will be discussed at the Budget Session.

NEW BUSINESS:

Supervisor Crossley noted a resident on Route 60 has an air strip on his property and William Duncanson, Jr., Town Attorney, noted that Dave Crossley, Zoning Officer, has been in touch with him about this and he is allowed unless residents are concerned and could possibly change zoning laws.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

VOUCHER APPROVAL:

Highway Fund Vouchers #142-155 totaling \$73,428.49 was approved on a motion by Councilman Swan, seconded by Councilman Heath. Approved.

General Fund Vouchers #262-293 totaling \$6,156.49 was approved on a motion by Councilman Heath, seconded by Councilman Swan. Approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The budget session meeting for Saturday the 14th is cancelled and the next board meeting will be held at 6:30 PM, October 12, 2013 at the town hall.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Minutes taken by

Recia L. Myers,
Town Clerk