

BOARD MEETING
MARCH 13, 2014

The Gerry Town Board met at 6:30 PM, March 13, 2014, at the Gerry Town Hall for the regular monthly board meeting.

Present were: Richard C. Heath, Deputy Supervisor
Gary J. Swan, Councilman
Linda D. Bartholomew, Councilwoman
Todd R. Anderson, Councilman
Recia L. Myers, Town Clerk
Brian T. Anderson, Highway Superintendent
William Duncanson, Jr., Town Attorney
Mark Tarbrake, District Legislator

Absent was: John R. Crossley, Supervisor

CALL TO ORDER:

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Mark Tarbrake, District Legislator gave a copy of a resolution that is going to be presented to the County regarding Earth Day and the Town Clean ups with the County Landfill waiving the fees of garbage disposal for two weeks. Mark Tarbrake, District Legislator, commented that the sale of the County Home is going to be good for taxpayers within the County.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1) A Thank you card was received from the Valley Historical Society regarding the Town's annual donation to them and inviting everyone to a Maple Sugar party in April.

OFFICERS REPORT:

Zoning Officer.

No Report received.

Dog Control Officer.

DCO Kennelley, was absent but submitted the following report:

Picked up two dogs and transported them to the Holding Center and wrote several tickets for unlicensed dogs. Troy Kennelley, Dog Control Officer, also handled a dog bite situation with the County and the dog's owners and it has been resolved.

Highway Superintendent.

Brian Anderson, Highway Superintendent, noted everything is going good and would like to meet with the Town Board to go over the Highway Equipment and also found out that part of a road known as Shelters Road is being closed by the Town of Ellington and a Gerry resident owns a small piece of land on that road which is located within the Town. William Duncanson, Jr., Town Attorney, commented that there is a liability concern at that location as there is a steep ravine on that road that is why Ellington is deciding to close it down. A map was provided to the Town Board from the Highway Superintendent to review. After discussion, William Duncanson, Jr., Town Attorney, noted that the Superintendent should contact the landowner that is within our town and they will have to come to a meeting to discuss this and to see if they would be willing to agree with the abandonment of the Shelters road as they will have access to the property from Engdahl Road. Councilman Swan asked Brian Anderson, Highway Superintendent, to contact them and he will.

Brian Anderson, Highway Superintendent, commented that Joseph Reed is interested in the mowing position. Councilman Swan noted that they will have to advertise for the position and asked if anyone received complaints of the previous one and Brian said he did not.

Highway Superintendent, Brian Anderson, noted that the Town shares a roller with Cherry Creek and Charlotte and they would like to sell this item in the auction as it is a money pit. Councilman Swan made a motion to allow upon approval from the Towns of Cherry Creek and Charlotte to declare the roller as surplus and be placed in the April auction for sale, seconded by Councilwoman Bartholomew. Approved. Brian Anderson, Highway Superintendent, will contact the Highway Superintendent from Charlotte and will let the Town Board know the status.

Assessor.

The Assessor was absent but submitted the following report:

The State of NY will be sending out the list of all property owners that have not reapplied by the end of March. I will then remove the exemptions from the assessment roll. However, it is my understanding that property owners can continue to register online until further notice. If they do not register by the time school tax bills are issued Assessors can still file a correction for those who qualify.

I have received the tentative gas well production values from the State for the upcoming year. Production values have dropped to \$6.08/mcf from \$8.13/mcf..a drop of approximately 25%. Gas wells are valued as follows:

$$\text{Production(mcf)} \times \text{Production Value} \times \text{Equalization Rate} = \text{Assessed Value.}$$

If there was no change in production the taxable assessment of gas wells will see a 25% drop....approximately \$400,000.00 plus.

I will be out in the field over the next month or so finishing up data collection and property reviews.

COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND AGENCIES:

Town Picnic.

Councilwoman Bartholomew noted the Gerry Town Picnic is set for August 9th from 4:00-9:00 PM with two bands and Councilman Heath will be barbecuing again and everyone from the Town and who has lived in this Town is welcome to attend.

SPECIAL ORDERS:

Resolution No. 20 -2014. Amended One Year Agreement for Highway Employees Wages and Benefits. Councilman Swan informed the Town Attorney, William Duncanson, Jr. that they took the dollar amount that was there as the percentage has changed and just based the pay scale on a percentage of the base rate of the MEO. A motion was made by Councilwoman Bartholomew, seconded by Councilman Anderson. Approved.

Resolution No. 21 -2014. Appointment for Full Time-MEO Position. A motion was made by Councilman Swan, seconded by Councilwoman Bartholomew. Approved.

Minute approval for the February Board Meeting and Public Hearing for Local Law No. 1 of 2014. A motion was made by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Bartholomew. Approved.

OLD BUSINESS.

Justice.

Deputy Supervisor Heath noted that the Justice books were found to be in order from the 2014 Annual Audit.

NEW BUSINESS.

Part Time Mower.

After discussion the Town Board will have the mowing position advertised until March 31st and interviews will be the first week of April so someone can be hired at the next board meeting.

Town Clean Up Day.

Recia Myers, Town Clerk, asked if April 26th was a good date for the Town Clean-up Day and the Town Board agreed. She will contact the Town of Charlotte, Village of Sinclairville to see if this works for them too and will let everyone know. Deputy Supervisor Heath suggested using a Town Truck for the garbage disposal too.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Councilman Swan suggested that the Highway Department go over the Highway equipment and let them know as he believes the whole Town Board would not be able to do this. Brian Anderson, Highway Superintendent, noted that he meant just the Highway Committee and after discussion the Committee is meeting with him next Monday to do this.

VOUCHER APPROVAL:

Highway Fund Vouchers #27 - 42 totaling \$8,842.46 was approved on a motion by Councilwoman Bartholomew, seconded by Councilman Anderson. Approved.

General Fund Vouchers#62 - 89 totaling \$5,226.60 was approved on a motion by Councilman Swan, seconded by Councilwoman Bartholomew. Approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next board meeting will be held at 6:30 PM, April 10, 2014 at the Town Hall.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:29 PM on a motion by Councilwoman Bartholomew; seconded by Councilman Swan.

Minutes taken by

Recia L. Myers,
Town Clerk