

BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 14, 2019

The Gerry Town Board met at 6:30 PM, February 14, 2019, 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 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:

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. A Letter was received from the County Board of Elections advising of the new laws where the Primary Election will be changed to June 25 and petitions will be required to be in earlier.
2. The accountants sent over the calculation of the Gerry Homes Contribution for 2019 based on the Index point change which would be for \$99,657.00. Councilman Swan asked if that would change after the construction of the horse stables and Supervisor Crossley commented that it will be left alone right now but will have to be looked at when the contract is up within a few years.
3. The Association of Towns sent a letter of request to contact state and local representatives as the Governor proposed taking away incentives for the towns which last year the Town received this funding of \$14,500.00 which is called AIM funding and also the Governor was trying to keep the tax cap at 2%, and no raise in CHIP funding and also to rid of winter recovery funding which the town also received this funding of \$16,000.00 last year and these items would affect our township. Supervisor Crossley contacted our local representatives to let them know the town is against the elimination of all these items of funding and will keep the board informed on the status. Councilman Heath noted that this funding would affect the county as well in a big way.

OFFICERS REPORT:

Zoning Officer.

Dave Crossley, Zoning Officer, gave the following report:

3 permits issued
18 pending permits

Dave Crossley, Zoning Officer, reported that he received a report from ISO which they grade the Code Effectiveness within Towns and the Town of Gerry was graded a 4 which the low rate is a great rate.

Dave Crossley, Zoning Officer, also noted that there will be a couple special use meetings coming up. The one will be Spartan Tool location which they are leasing the building to a moving storage company and there is problems that they need to address with the storage and the dumpster having overflow of mattresses, etc. The other meeting will be Tri-James expanding the gravel pit across the road from the Town Clerk's home on Route 60. The DEC is involved with the process and the Town Attorney commented that the Town needs to be more proactive this round as the last special use permit has not been followed through. He is concerned about the roads with the mud build up, the banks being too high and flooding occurring. Councilwoman Bartholomew noted that someone who lives near that area believes there water table was affected by the expansion as well. The Town Code will be looked at as well as it must be within 300 ft. of property line and fenced in as well as being on a state road.

Dave Crossley, Zoning Officer, also received a phone call from the Army Reserve center wondering the classification of the property which he said by that call he thinks they may be listing the property for sale. Supervisor Crossley will contact the Reserve Center to see what is going on as he thinks that as far as chronological order the Town should be contacted.

Dog Control Officer.

Matthew Abbey, Dog Control Officer, was absent but submitted the following report:

Received a phone call of a Siberian husky being left outside all day with no food or water and shelter and the location was at Hillside Estates. After checking on the situation he found no dogs tied up and the dog did have an igloo house that it could get to, so no further action was taken.

1-9-19 received another phone call from the neighbor of the dog running at large constantly on Wilson Street. The neighbor explained how the dog comes over to there porch all the time and doesn't want to leave and the dog seems to have a wound on one of his legs which she took pictures of as well. He has stopped several times of the owners of the dog and no one will answer the door at the residence. He advised the next time the dog comes back to the neighbor's house he will come pick it up and take to the holding center.

1-14-19 went to the town hall to be sworn in and updated unlicensed dogs with the Town Clerk and spoke with the Supervisor on how to handle the renewal of late dog licenses and they agreed on a 30 day notice.

Had a court hearing regarding a dangerous dog complaint but the complainant never showed up, so the case was dismissed and the owner of the dangerous dog Ms. Mckoon licensed her dog that day.

1-16-19. received a message from a Ms. Rowley regarding a dog almost biting her husband which she said it was Ms. Mckoon's dog across the street. After speaking with Ms. Rowley he realized it was the dog of Ms. Mckoon's and he informed Ms. Rowley to file a dangerous dog complaint with the court or he could issue Ms. McKoon a warning for that dog. She decided to go with the warning first. He contacted Ms. McKoon and informed her of the complaint and made it clear that she would receive tickets for court from this point forward for a dog running at large. Ms. McKoon said that her fiancé had the dog running outside with him and it ran near the road and almost got hit but denied it went to the neighbor's home. He notified the Town Clerk of the court case from this week and of the call as well.

1-17-19. spoke with the Town Attorney's Secretary about a few questions as far as someone complaining about a dangerous dog and if he can summon the complainant to court so they have to show up. He heard back that he cannot and also asked if the Attorney would be willing to send a letter stating due to the number of complaints about her dogs that no more warnings issued and all matters will go to the court. The attorney let him know that he cannot but the Dog Control Officer can though, due to the fact of numerous complaints

1-21-19. Received a text from an Adam and stated that he had a dog complaint and he returned his call and no answer so he left a message and has not heard back.

1-25-19 Received 2 calls from Heritage Village regarding a dog running around property and he asked if they could hold them until noon as he gets out of work but they could not so they dropped the dog off at the Highway Building. Upon arrival the dog had no tags however he noticed it was the same dog of Ms. McKoon's . He took the dog to the humane society and notified them in order to release it the impoundment fee must be paid and a ticket/summons will be issued and he gave Ms. McKoon a zero tolerance policy regarding her dogs.

1-25-19. Ms. McKoon called me to see if Oakley was picked up and he returned her call and informed her that he did and it was running loose all over town and reminded her of the zero tolerance policy I set in place for her and she would have to wait until Monday to contact the Town Clerk to pay the fees and see me for summons/ticket for court.

1-28-19. Met with Ms. McKoon at Falconer CVS to give the summons/ticket scheduled for 2-18-19 and reminded her to see the Town Clerk to pay the Impoundment fee and called the Humane Society to have them release dog as long as she has that receipt.

Highway Superintendent.

Brian Anderson, Highway Superintendent, stated that everything going well and mild winter so far. He requested to get a Sam's Club Membership and the Town Board agreed.

Assessor's Report.

Kevin Okerlund, Town Assessor, was absent but submitted the following report: March 1st, Taxable Status Date is fast approaching, All STAR, Aged and Agricultural exemptions need to be filed on or before March 1st 2018. They can also be post marked March 1st.

Kevin Okerlund, Town Assessor, will be sending out in the next week to those who have not yet reapplied for their STAR, Aged or AG exemption. He will call those who have not yet reapplied by the last week of February.

COMMITTEES, BOARDS OR AGENCIES:

Councilman Heath noted that the lights look good at the Park.

SPECIAL ORDERS:

Resolution No. 17 – 2019. Adoption of the Gerry Complete Streets Policy. A motion was made by Councilman Swan, seconded by Councilman Heath. Approved.

Resolution No. 18 – 2019. Agreement to Spend Town Highway Repair and Improvement Funds. A motion was made by Councilman Heath, seconded by Councilwoman Bartholomew. Approved.

Resolution No. 19 – 2019. Authorizing Municipal Cooperative Agreement for Highway Projects and Maintenance and Designation of Coordinators for Town of Gerry. A motion was made by Councilwoman Bartholomew, seconded by Councilman Zahm. Approved.

Minute approval for the January Board Meeting, the Annual Audit Meeting and Supervisor's Monthly Report. Councilman Zahm noted that the Board Meeting time was incorrect and the Town Clerk let him know she fixed the date. A motion was made by Councilman Heath, seconded by Councilman Zahm. Approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Councilman Heath discussed the Complete Street Policy Resolution explaining how in order to apply they needed to adopt the policy and over 800 thousand is available for projects. He is looking at Gerry-Ellington Road all the way up to 28 Creek Road in having sidewalks and shoulders be put in for bikes and walkers. Councilwoman Bartholomew asked who would do the designing and Councilman Heath noted that the County would as it is there road. Councilman Heath said a long time ago the County did surface it but it was never maintained. The Clerk will fax over the policy and Councilman Heath will contact Ms. Certo to see what the next step will be.

NEW BUSINESS:

Supervisor Crossley asked if the Town Board would be willing to change the date for the Board Meeting in March. After discussion the Meeting will be changed to March 15th at 6 pm and the Town Clerk will post in the paper of the change.

A letter was given to the Town Board Members to review to be sent to the Fire Departments regarding new state law requirements. The Town Attorney will review the letter before it will be sent.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

VOUCHER APPROVAL:

Highway Fund Vouchers #7 – 21 totaling \$10,703.52 was approved on a motion by Councilman Swan; seconded by Councilman Heath. Approved.

General Fund Vouchers #27 – 65 totaling \$146,249.13 was approved on a motion by Councilman Heath; seconded by Councilwoman Bartholomew. Approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next board meeting will be held 6:00 PM, March 15, 2019 at the town hall.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 PM on a motion by Councilwoman Bartholomew; seconded by Councilman Zahm.

Minutes taken by

Recia L. Myers,
Town Clerk

