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## Charging stations arriving in Sherman

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**SHERMAN** - Village trustees learned the EV charging stations would be arriving during this month. Village Mayor Colleen Meeder told board members that construction would not begin until March.

In another matter, Meeder expressed hope that all applications for funds from the New York Main Street grant would be submitted by Main Street businesses within 30 days.

"Business owners seem to be consistent in wanting to remove the western-style braces from the poles," Meeder said. "But we need to make some decisions on the colors we are going to use."

Meeder also told trustees that she wants the board to discuss the buildings on Main Street which were donated to the village. She said a few parties have expressed interest in the buildings. "Those interested love the historic character, location as a bedroom community with an excellent school and proximity to I-86," she said.

Meeder also informed trustees of the passing of Eileen Powers, Director of Housing Rehabilitation Services for Chautauqua Home Rehabilitation and Improvement Corp. (CHRIC). "She will be greatly missed for her sincerity and hard work," she said.

Meeder said she will be meeting with CHRIC representatives soon to find out who is going to administer the program.

In other business, trustees approved a resolution to support the Sherman Historical Society's application to the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation for up to \$20,000 in grant funds for the restoration and repairs of buildings at the Yorker Museum.

Trustees also approved the Village's application for \$14,000 in Preserve NY Grant funds toward an Historic Structure Report on the Yorker and authorized the mayor to sign and contribute supporting documents related to the Sherman Yorker Museum Restoration Project. "

A historic structure report will be completed and information will be prepared for the National Registry," she said.

The village will be applying for a Preserve New York

Grant of \$14,000 with a \$6,000 local match to prepare the Historic Structure Report on the Yorker Museum, Meeder said. The grant is administered by the New York Preservation League.

The local share of the money could come from a Community Foundation local grant, Meeder said. "In essence, this should cost the village nothing," she said.

Meeder said the architectural firm Clinton Brown Company Architecture will help the village obtain the Preserve New York grant and will only charge the village if the application is successful. "We don't pay them a penny unless they get the grant," she said.

"The Yorker Museum is deeded to the Village and is insured by the Village," she said. "The Sherman Historical Society does not have its own insurance," she added.

She explained that the village of Sherman is participating in the Chautauqua County Water & Wastewater Cooperative Steering Committee along with Ripley and Cherry Creek.

According to Meeder, Sherman has offered to assist Cherry Creek with a certified operator while they are in the process of recruiting. This is similar to the arrangement Sherman had with Little Valley, she said.

During the period of public comment, village resident Carol Chase inquired about the possible property tax exemption for firefighters, which was suggested by County Executive Marty Proctor. Chase asked about the qualifications which would make one eligible for the tax exemption, and asked about village participation in this.

Meeder explained that it is difficult for the smaller local municipalities to offer exemptions that redistribute the tax burden onto others. "At our level, it means we have to shift the burden," she said. "At the county level, it makes sense to have exemptions for veterans, seniors, firefighters . . ."

In her report to the board, village Clerk Jeanette Ramm said the Chamber of Commerce had a very good response to several recent events. "They are very excited about the next music festival and tractor parade. Those events brought a lot of foot traffic to the businesses," she said. "They are very forward thinking this year."