

REGULAR MEETING, TOWN OF SHERMAN,

Oct. 8, 2020

A regular meeting of the Town of Sherman Board was held on Thursday Oct. 8, 2020 at the Town Highway Building, 111A Mill St, Town of Sherman, Chautauqua County, New York at 7:00 PM.

Present:	Mark D. Persons	Supervisor
	James L. Higginbotham	Council Member/ Deputy Supervisor
	Howard E. Crump	Council Member
	Bessie V. Endress	Council Member
	Ben Nickerson	Council Member
	Tamera M Weise	Town Clerk
	Dennis Sweatman	Highway Superintendent

Guests: Greg Osman – CEO, Greg Rater – Town Resident

Supervisor Persons called the meeting to order at 7:00 and led the Pledge to the flag.

*Greg Osman- CEO gave his monthly report as follows:

Number of inspections for September are 32
Number of inspections this year are 187
Number of Permits issued for September are 5
Number of Permits for this year are 26
Dollar Amount of Permits for September are \$67,500
Dollar amount of Building this year are \$991,000
Miles traveled for 169

Permits issued to:

Melvin Burkholder, 3605 Stebbins Rd for a barn
Russell Phelps, 8200 Bailey Hill Rd for a barn
Matthew Miller, 2452 Waits Corners Rd, section rebuild
Nelson Hostetler, 3385 Armenian Rd for a saw mill
Ray Miller, 8188 Alder Bottom Rd for a barn.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION #44

Councilwoman Bessie Endress made the motion, seconded by Councilman Howard Crump to approve the minutes from the last board meeting. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION #45

ABSTRACTS/CLAIMS

Councilwoman Bessie Endress made the motion, seconded by Councilman James Higginbotham to approve payment of General Claims #124 through #135 in the amount of \$3,109.76. Highway Claims #104 through #114 in the amount of \$5,459.18. MOTION CARRIED.

JUDGE'S REPORT

Judge Neal's Sept. report shows fines of \$308.00 Civil fees of \$8.60 and surcharges of \$578.00 for a total of \$894.60. Judge VanVolkenburg's Sept. report shows fines of \$266.00, civil fees of \$0 and surcharges of \$435.00 for a total of \$701.00.

CLERK/REGISTRAR'S REPORT

- Clerk Weise reminded the Board that it is time for 2020 Sexual Harassment Training. I did receive an email from Mike Fotti saying he is still willing to come for the training. I will contact Clymer and French Creek to see if they are still wanting to participate again this year.
- Clerk Weise presented the following to The Town Board,
2020 Report from Board of Assessment Review:
On May 27th the Board of Assessment Review, consisted of Larry Jackson, Norm Rater and Paul Sears, met from 4 pm until 8 pm at the Findley Lake Community Center. Due to the COVID pandemic it was necessary to use the gymnasium to allow for social distancing requirements. The office of Heather Young-Deyell, The Town of Sherman's Assessor is also located in the Community Building making it convenient to hold the annual Grievance Day hearings at this location. The assessor prepared several copies of the current assessment role, work sheets, and property sales summary. For the board members to use with each complainant. The Town Assessor was present and available to assist the board and /or tax payers with answers to their questions. Paul Sears was elected to serve as chairman/secretary. All board members are up to date on their certification.

This was a re-evaluation year and the changes in the assessments on property values was completed by the assessor in a timely manner. Land owners were informed of new assessed values by way of mail; included in that mailing was information as to how a land owner could discuss the assessment changes with the assessor and information on Grievance Day and procedures involved with grievance. Heather met with over fifty land owners and cared for most all of the complaints.

When the Grievance Board met on May 27th we addressed grievances from four land owners, three of which required deliberation. Normal procedures were followed and determinations were filled out and will be cared for by the Assessor and Town Clerk. During the allotted time the Board reviewed the sales and several changes made by the assessor prior to Grievance Day. The work done by the Assessor prior to Grievance Day apparently satisfied most all of the tax payers as far as the reevaluation is concerned. The total changes determined by the BAR amounted to a reduction of \$32,000.

Heather not only did the hard work of re-evaluation but met with a large number of landowners to resolve complaints and explain changes prior to Grievance Day. As in the past, she continues to work hard and is doing a commendable, fair and equitable job of assessment. The Board expresses appreciation for the opportunity to serve the Town Board and tax payers in the process of achieving fair and equitable assessment.

Sincerely yours, Paul A Sears, Chainman-Secretary, Larry Jackson and Norm Rater

- Clerk Weise reported that only 2 Bids were received for the replacement of the metal roof & bathroom repair of the Town Office.
 Daniel Miller & Sons Roof - \$8950 Bathroom- \$3600 TOTAL -\$12,550
 Jonas Burkholder Jr. Roof - \$8750 Bathroom - \$3750 TOTAL - \$12,500
 No written bids were received from Marvin Burkholder or Nathan Miller.

RESOLUTION #46

Councilman James Higginbotham made the motion, seconded by Councilman Ben Nickerson to accept the bid from Daniel Miller & Sons in the amount of \$12,550.00 to replace/repair the roof and bathroom in The Town office. MOTION CARRIED.

- Clerk Weise received a letter from Argo Group Insurance that they will not cover any of the costs for the roof replacement and bathroom repairs as it was caused from unattended maintenance on the roof.

Jeff & Brenda Ireland from Edwards Insurance came out and took pictures and submitted with a letter that the Insurance reconsider and at least pay for inside damage but Argo denied the coverage.

The Following Fund Balance was presented:

Justice Holding	\$ 1,595.60
Highway	\$165,793.84
General	\$125,221.22
Youth Checking	\$ 280.67
Youth Savings	\$ 5,172.83

ASSESSOR’S REPORT

- There were 4 deeds recorded in August.
- I will be attending the annual NYSAA Annual Conference October 5th and 6th. This year the conference is virtual and will all take place through an online training platform.
- Exemption renewal application will be prepared this month, to be mailed at the end of the month/early November. In previous years, the exemption renewal applications have been mailed in late December. Sending them earlier will allow more time for property owners to return, and is likely beneficial this year.
- The cap4assessment.com webpage has been updated to provide links to all the most-used exemption applications. This change allows for property owners to access the necessary forms, without having to come into the office. I urge everyone to utilize the website as these is a lot of useful information.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Highway Superintendent reported the following to the Board:

- New Highway employee Joe Britton started on Sept. 22nd.
- Greg Rater is interested in purchasing a 6” drainage tube that was removed and is in the scrap pile. Town Supervisor Persons deemed the 6” tube as surplus.

RESOLUTION #47

Councilman James Higginbotham made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Bessie Endress for Highway Superintendent Dennis Sweatman to sell the 6” tube to Greg Rater at Scrap Value. MOTION CARRIED.

SUPERVISOR REPORT

- Before presenting the 2021 Tentative Budget Supervisor Persons reported to the Town Board that the 2020 Budget has taken a huge hit this year due to the COVID pandemic. One of the biggest hits to the budget is the lack of Judicial Funds because of the courts being closed. Also the roof replacement/bathroom repairs and the State Aid being cut by 20% has also caused a huge hit.

2021 Budget

Mark Persons – 2021 Budget Officer presented the Town Board with the Tentative 2021 Budget for the Town of Sherman as follows:

General	\$225,070
General Outside Village	\$ 8,910
Highway Town Wide	\$271,500
Highway Outside Village	\$229,300
Fire District	<u>\$ 42,126</u>
TOTAL 2021 TENTATIVE	\$776,906

Discussion was held on the Tentative Budget. The Town Board decreased the Justice Expenses by \$1,000 and increased the Highway Superintendents P.S. by \$1,000.

RESOLUTION #48

Councilman James Higginbotham made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Bessie Endress to adopt the Tentative Budget as the Preliminary Budget and to set the Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget for November 5, 2020 at 7:00 at the Town of Sherman Highway Building. MOTION CARRIED.

202 Preliminary Budget

General	\$225,070
General Outside Village	\$ 8,910
Highway Town wide	\$271,500
Highway Outside Village	\$229,300
Fire District	<u>\$ 42,126</u>
TOTAL 2021 PRELIMINARY	\$776,906

- Supervisor Persons presented the Board with Local Law No. 5 FOR THE YEAR 2020.
A LOCAL LAW TO OVERRIDE THE TAX LEVY LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW SECTION 3-C

RESOLUTION #49

Councilwoman Bessie Endress made the motion, seconded by Councilman James Higginbotham set the Public Hearing on LOCAL LAW NO. 5 FOR THE YEAR 2020. A LOCAL LAW TO OVERRIDE THE TAX LEVY LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW SECTION 3-C to be held November 5, 2020 at 7:10 PM at the Town of Sherman Highway Building, 111A, Mill St., Sherman, NY 14781.
MOTION CARRIED.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:07 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tamera M Weise
Sherman Town Clerk