

**Village of Sherman –Regular Board Meeting**  
**Village Office-111 Mill St**  
**November 2, 2016**

Present: Trustees: Gratto, Reyda, Higginbotham and Mayor Patterson  
 Others: Jay Irwin, Doug Crane, Clerk Ramm, Charles Raven, Jeremiah Raven, Jim Higginbotham, Todd Thomas, Deb Sanders, Vicky Rater, Peter Hamilton, Bill Brosius, Dennis Sweatman, Jim VanVolkenberg and David Prenatt.

Mayor Patterson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**RESOLUTION #1:** On motion made by Trustee Gratto and seconded by Trustee Reyda to accept the October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Board meeting minutes as submitted.

AYES: All

NAYES: 0

Due to the guests present it was decided to begin with new business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:** Peter Hamilton spoke for the Neighborhood Watch Program recapping on the current increase in unacceptable juvenile behavior, vandalism and other areas of concern which were addressed at the Neighborhood Watch presentation on October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016. He introduced the idea of implementing a curfew in the Village of Sherman and explained that curfew laws in other communities had significantly reduced juvenile delinquency. He asked the Board to consider implementing a curfew.

Mr. Raven asked what would happen to the curfew if the Village dissolved. It would continue at the discretion of the Town. Mr. Irwin mentioned that the curfew wouldn't be an overnight fix. He explained that Brocton contracts a deputy to be present in their village Friday and Saturday evenings to catch unruly kids. Also, the deputy's presence is a big deterrent. Mrs. Rater added that the curfew allows any citizen to report any suspicious behavior.

Mayor Patterson said that Undersheriff Holder had told him that the curfew in Brocton had been exceptionally effective in curbing the undesirable juvenile behavior. Mayor Patterson had copies of the necessary documentation to implement a curfew law into the municipal government here in Sherman. He said he was in favor of the curfew and asked the Board to support it. It was agreed that the Board would look over the documentation and vote at the next Board meeting.

**DENNIS SWEATMAN** was disappointed that Mayor Patterson had reportedly said that the town wouldn't be able to assume the work of the village without loss of services. Mayor Patterson responded that in his opinion it was a possibility, and Mark Persons had said that services would be sacrificed. Mr. Prenatt quoted Mark Persons saying "I've been staying out of this, but I really believe that services will need to be cut if we go ahead with this" from the public meeting in August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

Mr. Sweatman queried why Mayor Patterson had said that the taxes are going to increase every

year over the next 5-6 years, and the village people won't see any of the \$75,000 aid. He added that if the dissolution goes through everything will be town wide. That means the \$75,000 goes to all the tax payers. Mrs. Higginbotham recited that the New York State Law stipulates that "at least 70% of the aid shall be used as direct property tax relief while the remaining amount may be used for general municipal purposes." Mayor Patterson suggested that Mr. Sweatman speak to Mark Persons personally. Mr. Sweatman reiterated that he'd appreciate it if the Town employees were left out of the paper. Mayor Patterson replied that he hadn't meant to. He had only mentioned the clerk's duties.

Mr. Prenatt explained that anything said in a public meeting was reportable and if someone shares their opinion, it is reported as such. So when Mayor Patterson shared his opinion it was reported as his opinion. So just be aware that if you say something at a public meeting it's reportable.

**INFORMATIONAL MEETING:** Jim VanVolkenberg mentioned that he'd heard we were having an informational meeting. Mayor Patterson explained that we planned to hold another public meeting before the vote where people could have their questions answered. Trustee Higginbotham asked who would be answering their questions. She said that since Mayor Patterson had said he didn't want to have anything more to do with the dissolution, the village shouldn't hold the public meeting. It should be a private meeting. Trustee Reyda differed saying that the petition forced our continued involvement, and we owed the people another chance to have their questions answered before the referendum. Trustee Higginbotham said we should have Paul Bishop back since he did the original study. Mr. Irwin reminded us that Paul Bishop had said he couldn't go any further with us without further study. Also, there would be a cost if Mr. Bishop were to participate. It was decided to hold an additional informational meeting and invite Christopher Grant.

### JAY

- Still working on the composting grant but should have it sorted out in the next few weeks.
- USDA was asked to hold off until we get this sorted out and we're waiting to hear back from a new engineer.
- Brandon Smith's last day of work was October 31<sup>st</sup> and we have nineteen applications for his position. The Board members were asked to read through all the applications, choose their top eight by noon Wednesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. Jay Irwin would then interview the top applicants and the Board would re-interview his top candidates.

### DOUG

- **STREETS** - we are picking up leaves and have a list of potholes to patch.
- **WATER** - we are set up to shut down the main on Miller Street next week.
- **METERS** - we have enough meters in to go through the training, but we don't have the time right now.
- **ACCOUNTS** - there are no accounts that need adjustments at this time.

**RESOLUTION #2:** On motion made by Trustee Higginbotham and seconded by Trustee Gratto to approve Voucher #6 submitted for \$11,146.21.

AYES: 3 Higginbotham, Gratto, Reyda

NAYES: 0

**CLERK**

CD Balance - \$174,524.97

Checking Account - \$35,060.97

Other – the Board of Elections has accepted our date of December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016, for the referendum. They require a letter regarding our upcoming referendum with all the details and the wording of the ballot. Mr. Thomas said that the law requires that the ballot read “shall the Village of Sherman be dissolved?” (Yes or No)

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**INSURANCE** – Joe Niezgoda presented a renewal policy at the previous meeting.

**RESOLUTION #3:** On motion made by Trustee Higginbotham and seconded by Trustee Gratto to accept the renewal of the Euclid insurance policy.

AYES: 3 Higginbotham, Gratto, Reyda

NAYES: 0

**RAVEN SERVICE AGREEMENT** – not ready to continue with the contract at this time.

**REGISTERING VEHICLES** – Four of the vehicles have temporary plates and the new plates will be mailed to us. The snow plow and the front loader don’t have titles so we’ll probably have to go to Albany to sort their plates out.

**RESOLUTION #4** On motion made by Trustee Gratto and seconded by Trustee Reyda to move into executive session at 8:11pm.

AYES: 3 Higginbotham, Gratto, Reyda

NAYES: 0

**RESOLUTION #5** On motion made by Trustee Reyda and seconded by Trustee Gratto to exit executive session and adjourn regular board meeting at 8:43 pm.

AYES: 3

NAYES: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette Ramm

Clerk/Treasurer