

*****2024*** RE-ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**
TOWN OF SHERMAN
January 4, 2024

The Town of Sherman re-organizational meeting was held on Thursday, January 4, 2024 at the Town Office, Town of Sherman, Chautauqua County, New York at 7:00 P.M.

Present:	Mark D. Persons	Supervisor
	James L. Higginbotham	Deputy Supervisor /Councilman
	Brant Henning	Councilman
	Howard Crump	Councilman
	Ben Nickerson	Councilman

ABSENCT: Tamera M Weise - Town Clerk, Dennis Sweatman - Highway Superintendent

GUESTS: Greg Rater – Town Resident, Marty Proctor – County Legislator

Supervisor Persons called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge to the Flag.

RESOLUTION #1

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman James Higginbotham made the motion, seconded by Councilman Brant Henning to approve the minutes of the last meeting. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION #2

ABSTRACT CLAIMS

Councilman James Higginbotham made the motion, seconded by Councilman Ben Nickerson to approve payment for General Claims #1 through #8 in the amount of \$23,319.92 and Highway Claims #1 through #4 in the amount of \$7,809.10. MOTION CARRIED.

JUDGE'S REPORT

Judge Cooper's Dec. report shows fines of \$710.00.

CLERKS REPORT

Clerk Tamera Weise presented the following to the Town Board:

- Supervisor Mark Persons presented the Oath of Offices and where signed by the re-elected/appointed officials. Councilman James Higginbotham, Councilman, Brant Henning, Highway Superintendent Dennis Sweatman and CEO Dennis Sweatman. Previously signed Oath of Office were signed on Jan. 2, 2024 by Supervisor Mark Persons, Town Clerk/Registrar Tamera Weise, and Deputy Town Clerk/Registrar Theresa Tallman. Clerk Weise will give the Oath of Office to Court Clerk Jody D'Anthony, and Dog Control Officer Kelly Thornton for their signatures.
- The Town Board member's along with Highway Superintendent Dennis Sweatman signed the 2024 Agreement to Spend Town Highway Funds.
- 2023 Registrar and Town Clerk/Registrar's Reports for the year will be submitted at the Feb. meeting after the December bank statement has been received and balanced.

CEO Dennis Sweatman – No Monthly report given.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – No Report given

SUPPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Mark Persons presented the following to the board:

- The Public Hearing for Local Law NO.1 of 2024, A Local Law Requiring Notification of Highway Defects was discussed.

RESOLUTION #3

Councilman James Higginbotham made the motion seconded by Councilman Brant Henning to set the Public Hearing for Local Law No. 1 of 2024, A Local Law Requiring Notification of Highway Defects.

MOTION CARRIED

- Paul Sears's term for Board of Assessment Review expired 9/30/2323. Supervisor Persons spoke with Paul and he has agreed to accept the re-appointment to serve on the Board of Assessment Review for another term

RESOLUTION #4

Councilman James Higginbotham made the motion, seconded by Supervisor Mark Persons to re-appoint Paul Sears for the term of 10/1/2024 - 9/30/2028 on The Board of Assessment Review.

MOTION CARRIED.

Supervisor Mark Persons – AYE

Councilman Brant Henning - AYE

Councilman James Higginbotham – AYE

Councilman Ben Nickerson - AYE

Councilman Howard Crump - AYE

- Supervisor Mark Persons presented the following:

REORGANIZATION for 2024

Agree to renew the Library Contract of \$55, 000.00.

The Jamestown Post-Journal will be the official newspaper.

Review Local Law #2-1992 covering Public Officials. This law is still in place.
This is covered through Edwards Insurance.

Community Bank, N.A., Sherman Branch was designated as depository for the Town.
Community Bank will also be used for investment purposes.

The Town Board meetings will continue to be held on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM. Meetings will be held at the Town Office Building. If the first Thursday falls on a holiday, then the meeting will be held the following Thursday.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW, the Town of Sherman, Chautauqua County, New York, has set the following dates for the town's regular meetings in 2024: January 4, February 1, March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6, July 11, August 1, September 5, October 3, November 7, and December 5. All regular meetings will be held in the Town Office Building at 7:00 P.M.

The Supervisor was authorized to invest any idle funds in accounts covered by FDIC or those which are backed by government agencies.

The salaries of town officials will be the same as stated on the approved budget for 2024. The Assessor, Highway Superintendent, Court Clerk, Town Clerk, Bookkeeper and Highway employees will be paid every two weeks. The Code Enforcement officer, Town Supervisor, Board Members and Justices will be paid monthly. The Cemetery workers as well as the dog control officer will be paid as their vouchers are turned-in

The rate of pay for the Board of Reviews will be \$110.00 for Chairman Paul Sears (term running from October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2023), and \$100.00 for Larry Jackson (term Oct. 1, 2020 through September 30, 2025). James Weise will be paid \$100 (term being Oct. 1, 2022 through September 30, 2026). Joel Seachrist will be the Town attorney.

It was agreed to authorize the Highway Superintendent to spend a maximum of \$500.00 for the purchase of small tools and equipment without prior Board approval.

Kelly Thorton will be dog control officer, with a \$16.00 per hour rate of pay.

PRIMARY – Small Town Shelter, 118 Franklin St, Sherman, NY 14781
\$25.00 per day Boarding Fees for 5 Days and a one-time \$15.00 DL-18 Processing Fee per dog.

SECONDARY - The Town will continue the contract with CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY to take care of boarding stray dogs in the Town of Sherman as follows: \$25 per day board fee, \$50 for each dog euthanized & cremated, \$5 for each dog to cover administrative fees.

The purchase of gravel for 2024 will be a maximum of \$8.00 a ton.

The Highway Superintendent was authorized to advertise for various road postings and necessary material bids.

All board members will serve on the Highway and Drainage Committee, Shared Services Committee, Ethics Board, and the Machinery and Building Committee.

Approval to continue shared services was given. The County Law Department will be notified of this.

Annette Swan was appointed as the Town Historian and be paid \$300 annually.

The court clerk will be Jody D'Anthony at a rate of pay of \$7,030 annually.

\$25,000 Employee Dishonesty including forgery and alteration coverage are included on the 2024 insurance policy. Excess limit of Employee Dishonesty coverage scheduled for Town Clerk/Tax Collector and Town Supervisor at \$100,000 each.

The Fire Contract for 2024 with the Stanley Hose Co., Inc. is \$44, 705 as set in the 2024 budget. This amount will be paid to the Village on June 1, 2024.

The code enforcement officer will be Dennis Sweatman. He is responsible for approving and delivering building permits.

Theresa Tallman will remain the deputy town clerk and deputy registrar for 2024 @ \$16.10 per hour

James Higginbotham will remain the deputy supervisor. He will be paid \$100.00 annually.

Cory Emory will be the Saturday morning basketball director; Heather Ramsey will be the director for the summer baseball program.

The Sherman Historical Society will be paid \$400.00 for the regular annual contribution amount.

The rate for the Towns contribution for health insurance will be \$11,000.00 annually for a family policy, \$9,000.00 for an employee + child \$10,500 for an employee + spouse and \$6,500.00 annually for a single policy. The amount will be divided equally over the employees' scheduled pay periods.

The sexual harassment policy remains in place.

The drug and alcohol contract remains effective with Langford Testing & Consulting, LLC.

Terms and conditions of employment will remain in effect.

Work Rules will remain in effect.

Highway employees rates of pay are: Michael Courtney \$23.63 per hour, Michael Zemcik \$23.16 per hour, and Ryan Robson \$22.84 per hour. Mr. Courtney's hourly rate includes a \$.25 incentive for being the Deputy Superintendent.

Graves at Sherman Cemetery and Sherman Valley Cemetery will stay at \$400.00 per grave. Wait Corners Cemetery will be \$250.00 per grave (a baby lot will be \$150.00). The cost of opening a grave is \$300.00 per adult grave. Ashes or a baby grave opening will be \$150.00. There will be an additional \$100.00 charge for any burial that occurs on a weekend or holiday. Foundations will be \$25.00 per cubic foot, with a minimum charge of \$100.00.

The agreement to spend highway funds was approved and signed in duplicate by the board members, supervisor, and superintendent.

Marriage licenses will remain at \$40.00.

The Cemetery Sexton will be paid \$16.70 per hour and assistant will be paid \$15.00 per hour.

RESOLUTION #4

A blanket motion was offered by Councilman Brant Henning, seconded by Councilman Howard Crump to approve the following appointments, rates and designations for the Town in 2024:

MOTION CARRIED.

Supervisor Mark Persons – AYE

Councilman Brant Henning - AYE

Councilman James Higginbotham – AYE

Councilman Ben Nickerson - AYE

Councilman Howard Crump - AYE

Councilman Howard Crump made the motion to adjourn the meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Tallman, Deputy Town Clerk