

**Town of Genesee
Little Genesee, NY 14754
Regular Board Meeting
March 20, 2018**

ATTENDANCE: Supervisor Alex Smith; Councilpersons Joshua Bluhm, Howard Cornwall, Michael Cannon; Highway Superintendent Ben Reynolds; Assessors Carol Palidar and Karen Reynolds; Code Enforcement Officer Jonathon Barnes; Town Accountants Jack and Kathy Berry; Town Clerk Bonita Brunner
Absent: CP Alyn Holcomb

Visitors: Kayla and Colt Bluhm, Peggy Cowell

This meeting was brought to order by Supervisor Smith at 7 pm.

REPORTS:

- Accountants Berry & Berry presented the Financial Statements for year ending December 2017. This breaks down the financial activities during 2017 for the General, Highway, Fire Protection and Capital Project Funds. It also lists the necessary Budget Transfers that will be reviewed at the April Board meeting. Kathy Berry recommended that the Board consider transferring more available funds to the Investment-CLASS fund which would increase the interest earned during 2018. The interest paid on this account is presently 1.43% but is compounded daily.
- Supervisor's Report as of February 28, 2018 was presented and reviewed. Also, the Bank Reconciliations as of February 28, 2018 were provided.

Town Clerks Reports:

- Clerk's Report for February was submitted. Total monies collected were \$388.75. Of this, \$321.25 was paid to the Supervisor for the General Fund, \$20.00 to NYS Animal Control for dog licenses, and \$47.50 to Allegany County DPW for landfill tickets.
- Petty Cash Report for February was submitted. There is \$92.15 in Petty Cash as the Clerk used \$7.85 for postage.
- Minutes from the February Board Meeting had been e-mailed to the Board Members for approval.

Town Justice Report:

- Review of Court Fines collected during February totaled \$1,430.00.

Building Permit Report:

- One Building Permit application was received for a carport/garage between January 1 and March 20, 2018.

Motion made by CP Cannon and 2nd by CP Bluhm to accept all reports as submitted. Ayes all, motion carried.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS & REPORTS

Buildings & Repairs – Holcomb and Cannon

Highway Department – Holcomb and Bluhm

Parks – Cannon and Cornwall

Cemeteries – Holcomb and Cornwall

Grants – Smith and Cornwall

- Supervisor Smith advised that the Town has received the necessary Gateway number to apply for various Grants. He will be working with CP Cornwall to give him access to this information.

Code Enforcement – Cannon and Holcomb

Audit Committee – Holcomb and Cannon

OLD BUSINESS

- ➔ Discussion about the Cold War exemption on real property. Assessors Palidar and Reynolds advised that they had reviewed their records and feel that this exemption would not drastically affect the tax base. There might be a few residents eligible but not a large number. The Board decided that they would go with the 10%/\$4,000/\$20,000 limits in the Town's Local Law. Supervisor Smith will contact Attorney Brautigam and request that he complete the necessary Local Law to be presented to the Board. A Public Hearing will be published regarding this Local Law.
- ➔ Regarding the Genesee Library contract, Supervisor Smith presented a copy of an email to the Library Director from STLS explaining the need for a 10-year lease on the building. Attorney Brautigam had also been contacted regarding this and he stated that a lease could be for whatever length of time the Board wishes. After discussion it was decided to offer a 10-year building lease to the Library Board with some stipulations. The Clerk will write a letter to the Library Board stating our position and see if they would agree to this. If approved, Attorney Brautigam will be contacted to prepare the necessary lease paperwork. A permissive referendum and a Public Hearing will be held.
- ➔ Clerk advised that a check for \$759.31 has been received from Farmers Insurance to cover the damage to the Wells Cemetery fence. Lotter & Lotter will be contacted and, depending on the weather, the necessary repairs will be made as soon as possible.
- ➔ Discussion about the complaint, made to Senator Young's office, by Josiah Herne of 487 Butternut Brook Road regarding a location near his home which has had several car accidents and needs more signage. Highway Superintendent Reynolds has reviewed the location and also spoken with a representative from NYS DOT. The only additional signage that they feel is necessary would be an Arrow sign to indicate the dangerous curve ahead. The DOT official advised Mr. Reynolds that the signage in place now follows the DOT regulations. He recommends that the Town Attorney and Insurance Company both be notified of this complaint and advise them the matter "is under review." Supervisor Smith will write this letter, with a copy to Senator Young's office and Mr. Herne.
- ➔ Supervisor Smith advised that he met with a representative of CGR who have been contracted by Allegany County to assist with the Governors Shared Services initiative. This was an initial meeting to cover what types of services we do now that might be considered shared, i.e. Fire Protection, Highway Department, Code Enforcement Officer, etc..
- ➔ The Portville Fire Chief, T.J. Latten, has contacted Supervisor Smith regarding the need for house numbers for residents in the Portville Fire District. In the 2015 Fire Code, it states that all new and existing buildings needs to have this type of identification. This had previously

been discussed in 2016 and the Board determined that, due to the costs involved, no action was undertaken. Supervisor Smith would like to see if a grant might be available for this. CP Cornwall will look into this possibility. Also the possibility of giving residents the opportunity to purchase these signs at their own cost.

NEW BUSINESS

- Code Enforcement Officer Jonathon Barnes presented a request to the Board for some equipment that he needs. As he will be keeping all paperwork at the Town Hall, sharing a desk with the Assessors, he would like to have a filing cabinet for his paperwork. It may be necessary too for the Town or order some necessary forms such as Complaint forms, Certificate of Occupancy forms, Order to Remedy forms, etc. He also would like to request a laptop and some type of app for recording his work. CP Bluhm will look into prices for the laptop. The Board decided to discuss the matter further at the April meeting. Mr. Barnes also feels that our permit schedule needs to be updated. He provided a copy of the present rate schedule that he uses in the Village of Bolivar. It will also be necessary to add fees for rental inspections, commercial inspections and for remodeling done by Town residents. CP Bluhm will also provide a town email account for Mr. Barnes.
- Discussion about getting the paperwork and Code Books back from Mr. Cline. A letter was written to him on February 22 asking that he return all paperwork to the Town. Nothing has been heard from him since that time. Supervisor Smith will write another letter, sending it certified return-receipt requested, giving him a deadline for return of these items.
- During February an accident occurred on Bells Brook Road involving an individual and a Town snowplow. This matter was referred to Richardson & Stout and NYMIR. A formal request was received from Progressive Insurance, insurance carrier for the individual involved. NYMIR has now denied the claim under the 1103(b) V&T law as the Town was engaged in plowing at the time of this accident and is held harmless.
- Town resident Don Benson has requested that he be allowed to make a copy of the Holland Land Map that his grandfather donated to the Town in 1975. The Board approved this providing that the map is returned in the same condition. Clerk will contact Mr. Benson about this.
- Discussion about the need for a generator for the Highway Barns. In a power failure they have no power to run lights, garage doors, fueling, etc. CP Cornwall is looking into a possible grant for this and Highway Superintendent will get estimates for the costs involved.
- Town Clerk brought the matter of driveway repairs at the West Genesee Cemetery in Obi. Possibly the Highway Department would be able to do this in conjunction with Scott Fuller. This will be discussed further after the weather improves.
- Information was provided for the 25th Annual Local Government Conference to be held in Houghton on May 9. If anyone is interested they should get the information to the Town Clerk as soon as possible.
- There are 3 properties that will be in the Annual Tax Sale on April 21, 2018. One on High Street in Ceres, one on Low Street in Ceres, and one on Bells Brook/Ever Gray Road.

PAYING OF BILLS:

Abstracts totaling \$26,794.94 were reviewed for paying the Town bills as follows:

Abstract	Voucher Nos.	Abstract Amount
General Fund	39 - 57	\$ 7,097.78
Highway Fund	23 - 36	19,697.16

CP Cornwall made a motion to pay the above bills, 2nd by CP Cannon. Ayes all. Motion passed.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by CP Cannon, 2nd by CP Cornwall. Meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bonita Brunner
Town Clerk
Dated: March 21, 2018