

January 27, 2021 Special Board Meeting

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF THURMAN, NEW YORK HELD JANUARY 27, 2021 AT THE THURMAN TOWN HALL, 311 ATHOL ROAD, ATHOL, NEW YORK COMMENCING AT 6:00 PM.....

PRESENT: Mr. Ed Brown, Councilman

Mr. Randy Galusha, Councilman

Mrs. Joan Harris, Councilwoman

Mrs. Susan Shepler, Supervisor

ABSENT: Mr. Douglas Needham, Councilman

RECORDING SECRETARY: Susan E. Staples

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

ROLL CALL:

Due to the rise in Covid-19 cases the meeting was closed to the Public.

The meeting was called to order at **6:05 pm.**

Discussion: Supervisor Shepler noted thank you. The purpose of this evenings meeting is to go over the Resolution that we need to bring the different accounts into balance for the end of the year. Can I please have somebody introduce a Resolution to do Budget Transfers for the end of the year?

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution # 21

On a motion introduced by **Councilman Brown** and seconded by **Councilman Galusha**

Discussion: Supervisor Shepler noted now I don't know that we haven't done them before. **Councilman Galusha** responded I don't recall doing this last year. **Supervisor Shepler** replied we didn't. We didn't because we couldn't it was a mess, but this year because everything is in order, and we are trying to close out the year in preparation of the AUD we have to pass our Budget Codes to bring them to at least zero. **Councilman Galusha** responded so and I've got a couple of questions just so that I understand.....I mean I thought that we were going to get this ahead of time so that we had time to review.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting no I told you I wasn't going to email anybody anything to do with financials. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK. I disagree with that, but I disagree that you take that approach because I mean these are budget codes what is anybody going to do with them. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting that is fine. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting with that being said so if I understand this correctly this abstract of General Fund Town wide detailed expenditures.....**Supervisor Shepler** noted from December. **Councilman Galusha** noted the end of December. **Supervisor Shepler** noted well you got this from your December meeting, yes. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK, but the ones that are overdrawn in here, show a negative balance, is what we are addressing here tonight. **Supervisor Shepler** responded plus you also have in your packet claim number 13, claim number 14 and claim number 15. And let me explain to you a little bit about how this works. The **Town Clerk** noted I don't have any of that in my packet. All you gave me was the Resolution, and

again you don't give me a full packet which I am required to have by law. I should have the same packet the rest of the Board has. **Supervisor Shepler** responded well if you would like of copy of these **Susan** you can copy these. The **Town Clerk** responded well it's been a year into the meetings now, and I don't know why I have to keep telling you this. I should have the same packet that the Board has. **Supervisor Shepler** responded no there are certain things that (inaudible). The **Town Clerk** interrupted noting no you are wrong, and there are some times that I have stuff that the Board Members don't have. That is the confidential stuff, but I should have a complete record of everything that happens at the meeting which I don't have. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting anyhow if I could continue please. **Councilman Galusha** responded well we need to get her.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting I offered her if she'd like to take my copies and make a copy. She can take your copies whatever. **Councilman Galusha** asked which things don't you have. The **Town Clerk** responded I don't have any of this. All I have is the Resolution. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting she doesn't have 13, 14, 15 and December. She's got the Resolution. The **Town Clerk** noted I've got no financials. The Town has no record of anything from last year. **Councilman Galusha** noted OK lets wait until she gets back. **Supervisor Shepler** replied that is fine. **Councilman Brown** noted (inaudible) of what we went through last meeting. **Supervisor Shepler** responded the December one, the large one, yes. This is what we went through. Then when she.....When **Susan** comes back I'll go through the rest of it so that it is one time. If we have questions you can ask them at that point in time together (inaudible). **Councilman Galusha** noted so before we start I have on other question. Just so I want to make sure I understand. **Supervisor Shepler** replied sure. **Councilman Galusha** replied so this detail of expenditures from December. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yes. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting that is what shows the balance in each of the Budget Codes through December 31st. **Supervisor Shepler** replied no. That is not true. That is through our December meeting. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK. **Supervisor Shepler** noted and then this is what I am going to explain to you now. After that meeting we also did, and the Board approved except for the pre.....Well they approved those too. We had number 13, number 14 and number 15 Abstracts, alright. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK. **Supervisor Shepler** noted and they are here, alright. So the top one is going to be your General Fund. Your second one, your second page.....**Councilman Galusha** asked which document are you looking at when you are saying that. **Supervisor Shepler** replied I am looking at number 13. **Councilman Galusha** noted number 13, OK. **Supervisor Shepler** noted so your first page is your General Fund. Second page is your Highway Fund, and your third page is your Enterprise Fund in number 13. **Councilman Galusha** responded so those are expenditures.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting that have occurred. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting that have occurred since then. In the end of December and in January of this year. **Supervisor Shepler** replied no, no just December. This is.....**Councilman Galusha** interrupted noting so do we have other expenditures coming in in January. **Supervisor Shepler** replied no. At tis point in time we have to close the books. This is the 27th of December, and this is really late. We have to close the books before the end of December. Before the 30th of December. **Councilman Galusha** asked so how are.....So bills that come in in January of this year.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting they (inaudible). **Councilman Galusha** continued noting that are for things that occurred in 2020 how are they reflected. **Supervisor Shepler** replied that is in these right here because we have taken them to Abstract number 15. Alright, they are including the bills that have come in. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK. **Supervisor Shepler** noted up until this point, and then as of the end of the month anything that comes in for 2020 is automatically paid out of 2021. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK. **Supervisor Shepler** noted and that is the same as it was last year. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK, I understand. **Supervisor**

Shepler noted I don't know how to.....I, I.....How do I say this without being rude? You've got to cut them off somewhere **Randy**. **Councilman Galusha** noted I get that, and I am just trying to understand the process. **Supervisor Shepler** responded OK, so these are all Decembers. I mean these are all 2020's. OK, these 3 additional Abstracts that we have here. **Councilman Galusha** responded OK, so where I was heading with my question, what I was trying to come up with so this that we have for December that shows the balance in each Budget Code shouldn't we have that for.....Including all these that shows the entirety of 2020. **Supervisor Shepler** responded no because these were Abstracts that were done after this. What you have to do now and what I had to do is you take this one the General Fund Town Wide Detail of Expenditures, and then you have to go to your Budget code over here. Let's say on page.....Abstract number 13, this is purely for discussion sake. **Councilman Galusha** replied right. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting the first one on here is National Grid. 8160.4. **Councilman Galusha** responded right. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting so you've got to go find 8160.4.....OK, and we can see 8160.4 is already in the negative. **Councilman Galusha** responded so.....**Supervisor Shepler** replied so we have to add another 95 forty to that negative amount. That was on Abstract 13. **Councilman Galusha** responded so where do we get to see what the final balances are for each budget code. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting balances not before.....She continued noting what we have to do is we have to do these adjustments, and once these adjustments are all done and entered into the system then once the year is closed out then you will get your trial.....You will get your Budget you know what is leftover at the end of the year, but until I can close out the Budget Codes. **Councilman Galusha** responded so basically all of the Budget Codes that are on the right, the right column.....**Supervisor Shepler** responded I am taking money from. **Councilman Galusha** responded the ones you are taking it from is the left column. **Supervisor Shepler** replied I am sorry. **Councilman Galusha** replied you are taking it from the ones in the left column. **Supervisor Shepler** responded the left column that is correct. **Councilman Galusha** responded the ones in the right column are presently all overdrawn. **Supervisor Shepler** replied that is correct. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK. **Supervisor Shepler** noted and there is nothing overdrawn in the Highway Department. It is only the General Fund and the Enterprise Fund. And this is to make them whole. **Councilman Galusha** noted so this is going to zero out the balance on every one of the ones that are overdrawn. **Supervisor Shepler** replied the ones that are overdrawn, yes. **Councilman Galusha** replied that OK, I understand that. **Supervisor Shepler** replied OK. And what I was referencing when I said you've got the Budget Codes you've got them here in your Detailed of Expenditure Report. So you really didn't need..... **Councilman Galusha** noted I see that now. **Supervisor Shepler** responded that is absolutely fine. The Town Board Personnel Services is not in the negative. I forgot what happened there, but Williamson Law is making the adjustment to that. It was an error on their part, and they zeroed it out. So when you are going forward that does not need to have any attention to it. The only Budget Codes that need addressing are the ones going to. **Councilman Galusha** noted yup, I understood that. The **Town Clerk** noted do you want to go ahead and read the Resolution **Susan** you haven't done that yet. **Supervisor Shepler** replied well it was introduced by **Ed** seconded by **Doug**. It is a Resolution to do budget transfers for end of year, 2020. They are doing math I don't know if they want me to. The **Town Clerk** replied you have to say the codes. You have to read the Resolution. **Supervisor Shepler** replied alright, well I am going to read the Resolution folks.

She then read the Resolution. She then noted those are all the transfers that we need to do. Can I.....Is there any discussion? **Councilwoman Harris** noted what are all the Es, and where are they.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting Enterprise. **Councilwoman Harris** noted OK, Enterprise, but the numbers are 8989.4. **Supervisor Shepler** replied right, and that is the.....That is also part of.....You've got Detail of Expenditures for your Enterprise Fund **Joan**, and it shows what was Budgeted. What was expended, and the (inaudible) the balance. And then it shows in here in these Abstracts additional funds that had to be withdrawn. Did I answer your question? **Councilwoman Harris** responded yeah, I just can't find it on the page. **Supervisor Shepler** responded it is the Enterprise Fund. It's not.....It's not in the 2021 Budget because we didn't budget anything for this year. **Councilwoman Harris** noted in the Enterprise we don't have a budget. Because I know why. Now where you are taking the money from is what they have left over from (inaudible). **Supervisor Shepler** noted it is coming from the A Fund into the E Fund to zero it out. **Councilwoman Harris** noted the amount.....I mean the money is the same for instance \$2,300.00 is coming out of the Justice, and that is something they had leftover from last year? **Supervisor Shepler** replied yes, that is moneys they had leftover, and not expended. If you are referencing.....Are you referencing the 10, 10, 20? **Councilwoman Harris** replied the moving of the money is all I am asking. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting right you can look.....**Councilwoman Harris** continued noting so the Justice knows that she is not going to have this money this year. **Supervisor Shepler** replied this year.....This is 2020. It is done. There is no more money in 2020. This is not the 2021 Budget. **Councilwoman Harris** noted so she is got the 2309. Say for instance 2309. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yeah. **Councilwoman Harris** noted so she had that left over from last year. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yes she did. **Councilwoman Harris** continued noting 19 or last year 20. **Supervisor Shepler** replied 20. 20. **Councilwoman Harris** noted she had that leftover from 20. **Supervisor Shepler** responded she did, yup, and it is right in here. **Councilwoman Harris** noted and she.....And we don't transfer it to this year. **Supervisor Shepler** replied no. **Councilman Galusha** noted it goes into Fund Balance. **Supervisor Shepler** noted it's a Fund Balance, but the Fund Balance isn't developed until after you have zeroed out all of your Budget Codes for this year, and have closed out the year. Then you have your Fund Balance. Not until. But this money doesn't carry over from one year to another year to another year. **Councilman Brown** noted the 8160 most of that is (inaudible) refuse, right. Garbage. **Supervisor Shepler** replied 8160. **Councilman Brown** noted .4 and .1. **Supervisor Shepler** replied hold on. 8160.4 is your Refuse yup and your .1 is your personel, your payroll. **Councilman Brown** replied we were in the negative that much. **Supervisor Shepler** responded yes we were. **Councilman Brown** replied that is not good. **Supervisor Shepler** replied I know, oh I know. **Councilman Brown** noted I think we will see a big difference now. You know over the year I think we'll be (inaudible) our increases. **Supervisor Shepler** replied but what we bring in doesn't affect the Budget. **Councilman Brown** replied no I know, but I just kind of surprised (inaudible). **Supervisor Shepler** asked **Randy** do you have any discussion. **Councilman Galusha** noted I will have. Just let me do a few more things. **Supervisor Shepler** replied that is fine. **Councilwoman Harris** noted a lot of them we are paying off garbage. How come they came up so short on Garbage? Did we take care of that? On our budget for 21. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting in 20.....Well in 21 as I discussed at one of the previous meetings has presented a new set of problems because the County did not open bids until I believe it was December 18th from the different carting companies, and we had already at that point in time completed and turned in our Budget so the bids that were opened are impacting everybody's budget significantly this year. **Councilwoman Harris** noted so the Garbage is the garbage truck that goes down. Not the garbage that is collected up there. **Supervisor Shepler** replied it's, it's the garbage that is taken down. It is what we have

for recycling. It is what we have for electronics at E Lot, and there prices have gone up for the most part everybody's. And hauling cost have gone up significantly. Where we have the saving grace is that we have a garbage truck, and we can collect our garbage. The tonnage has gone up slightly. **Councilwoman Harris** noted until it falls apart again. **Supervisor Shepler** replied let's hope and pray it doesn't because I am going to tell you it is cheaper to run a garbage truck than it is to have the hauling charges. **Councilwoman Harris** noted (inaudible) the tires are falling off. I don't know how many times they had to stop and put them back on, truthfully. **Councilman Brown** noted I think **Joan** with the price increases that we've had you know, and this should have been done. I'm not bad mouthing anyone, but this should have been done quite a few years ago to keep up with the changing times. The cost. For years we never charged for electronics so that is astronomical. That is expensive. **Councilwoman Harris** made an inaudible comment. **Councilman Brown** continued I believe this year won't be bad. I believe this year will be better. I'll watch it a lot closer see how we do. **Councilwoman Harris** noted the last few years about 2 years or 1 year back or so people were bringing garbage up from all over and not paying for what they were supposed to be paying. **Councilman Brown** responded oh yeah. **Supervisor Shepler** noted that has.....**Councilman Brown** noted that doesn't happen anymore. I can guarantee you that doesn't happen. **Councilwoman Harris** replied but that is why I say it (inaudible). **Supervisor Shepler** noted and that is also why **Joan** why I would like to look into some kind of a grant to get a scale. Because I think a scale would be.....**Councilwoman Harris** responded it is appropriate in Warrensburg, but do we get as much as Warrensburg were it would pay for the scale. **Supervisor Shepler** replied if we get a grant we would be in good shape, and that is what I would like to look for. We cannot afford to outright buy a scale at this point in time. So I think if we could look into a grant to see what is available to us that would be the best way to go about it. I also think if by having a scale and weighing the garbage that is.....How do I use proper English here? That would be more fair to all of the people bringing garbage in so that you are charged just for what you (inaudible) not for.....You know not.....**Councilman Galusha** noted some people bring say a 13 gallon bag in and it is pretty light. And the next person might bring one in that weighs 30 pounds. You can hardly pick it up so they would be paying their fair share of it to the taxpayers. The **Town Clerk** noted they are paying for tonnage as opposed to volume then. **Councilman Brown** replied yeah, and that does make a difference. I'd like to do that. **Councilman Galusha** noted so I....Sorry to interrupt. **Councilman Brown** replied oh no. Go ahead you're good. (Inaudible). **Councilman Galusha** noted so there just....There are really 2 things that I have questions about. We are transferring from Buildings Personnel Services 1620.1 \$3,375.71. buildings Contractual expense. What did we go over in Building Contractual Expenses? What cause us to go over 3 thous.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting hold on. **Councilman Galusha** noted it is the second item. **Supervisor Shepler** responded buildings that is um.....Well we were.....**Councilman Galusha** noted I think I know the answer to this. **Supervisor Shepler** good here, and then.....Did you go through and check out what the different codes were for the.....**Councilman Galusha** replied yup, it is going from Building Personnel Services to Buildings Contractual Expense. **Supervisor Shepler** noted yup .4. **Councilman Galusha** continued I believe, and correct me if I am wrong this is probably directly attributable to Stored Tech. **Supervisor Shepler** replied no. No because if you will notice we've got additional bills here. It is not all Stored Tech. **Councilman Galusha** responded no I realize it is not, but Stored Tech was something that was not budgeted for in this budget, and we took on an expense that is probably in the neighborhood of 12,000. 11 to \$12,000.00 a year. **Supervisor Shepler** responded alright. **Councilman Galusha** responded so we are pushing \$1,000.00 a month in our expenses and that was not budgeted for. **Supervisor Shepler** replied last year. That is correct, and we tried to budget for it this year, and you reduced it by

\$10,000.00. **Councilman Galusha** responded yup because I think Stored Tech is.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting then we also had the um.....We also had the cleaning company that wasn't planned on. We had a cleaner. **Councilman Galusha** responded yup. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting but we ended up having to go out to the cleaning company, and then you have all these additional expenses here. **Councilman Galusha** responded yeah, I understand the other expenses. I mean I sat through the Abstracts and we did all those together. I just want to go on the Record as saying that you know I believe that is why we exceeded the Budget on that specifically. It was because of Stored Tech which was an unbudgeted expense that we did not (inaudible). **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting it was last year. You are absolutely right. **Councilman Galusha** noted my next question is on page 2 fifth item down we are transferring 4,769.61 from Employee Retirement to Employee Benefits Insurance Medical and Hospital Insurance. Why did we exceed that code by almost \$5,000.00? **Supervisor Shepler** replied the rates went up. **Councilman Galusha** replied there is another reason. **Supervisor Shepler** responded it is not just because of **Gail**. **Councilman Galusha** asked how much is an individual's insurance costing us. **Supervisor Shepler** replied that I can't answer. I would have to go back and look at the.....**Councilman Galusha** interrupted noting OK. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting prices. **Councilman Galusha** noted that issue needs to be addressed. **Supervisor Shepler** replied that is absolutely fine and I told you I was working on it, and I am. I've got a call into the Labor Department currently. So that should hopefully end this discussion, but we did have an increase in rates. **Councilman Galusha** asked how many month did we pay for her insurance. **Supervisor Shepler** responded 12 months. **Councilman Galusha** responded how many. **Supervisor Shepler** replied 12 months. She started in January. I do believe it started in January. Either January or February I would have to go back and look at it, but I do believe it was January. I'm not going to swear to it. **Councilman Galusha** responded so just for the record at our January 8th Organizational Meeting we discussed this very subject, and you in the minutes said that you would bring it back in front of the Board if you were going to offer her any benefits, and you did not do that. **Supervisor Shepler** replied that is fine. **Councilman Galusha** noted and now we have exceeded this budget item code, and you've paid her 12 months of**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting I am not going to swear to 12 months **Randy**. I said it was either January or February. Please don't quote me. I would have to go back and look at it. **Councilwoman Harris** asked how are you going to correct it. **Supervisor Shepler** replied by doing a budget transfer. **Councilman Galusha** noted no that simply gets it wiped clean and paid and it's clean on the books. **Supervisor Shepler** replied right. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting it is still an illegal gift of Public Funds. **Supervisor Shepler** responded **Randy** I have a call into the Labor Department. She works 30 hours a week which I have been told is the legal amount of hours to work to receive full time benefits. **Councilwoman Harris** noted no it isn't. Not according to our policy. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting we are not here to discuss that. We are here to discuss the Budget Transfers. **Councilman Galusha** noted but you want us to transfer money to cover your mistake. **Supervisor Shepler** responded not my mistake **Randy**. **Councilman Galusha** replied yes it is. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting not my mistake, and I am not going to discuss insurance for anybody at this point in time. **Councilman Galusha** responded fine so be it, but.....**Supervisor Shepler** noted this in not.....This is what we are here to do. Is to transfer funds to close out the year. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK. **Supervisor Shepler** noted like it or not. **Councilwoman Harris** noted so it can't get started in January because it's under.....We are commenting on it, and it might be a problem and it might be (inaudible) so we cannot do it in January. That money cannot be transferred to her in January. **Supervisor Shepler** replied I did not transfer any money to her **Joan**. **Councilwoman Harris** replied while she can't get the benefit. Let's put it that way. **Supervisor Shepler** that is your opinion. **Councilwoman**

Harris responded then she should pay back what she.....What was spent. **Supervisor Shepler** replied that is your opinion and you are welcome to it. **Councilwoman Harris** replied thank you very much for that. That was (inaudible). **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting I am glad you like it. **Councilwoman Harris** responded I appreciate that I have to get that credit from you. **Supervisor Shepler** responded I'm glad that you liked it. So do we have any further discussion in regards to these Budget transfers? Hearing none can we please have a Roll Call Vote?

A Roll Call Vote was called.

Resolution to Do Budget Transfers for End of Year 2020

<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>
A1620.1 \$7.75	A5010.2 \$7.75
A1620.1 \$3,375.71	A1620.4 \$3,375.71
A1440.4 \$560.23	A1330.4 \$560.23
A7550.4 \$50.00	A8160.4 \$50.00
A8810.4 \$1,900.40	A8160.4 \$1,900.40
A1220.4 \$28.19	A8160.4 \$28.19
A1355.4 \$769.27	A8160.4 \$769.27
A7510.4 \$50.00	A8160.1 \$50.00
A1110.12 \$2,309.29	A8160.1 \$2309.29
A1110.2 \$829.03	A8160.1 \$829.03
From:	To:
A4025.4 \$93.05	A1420.4 \$93.05
A3510.4 \$490.95	A1420.4 \$490.95
A9010.8 \$4,769.61	A9060.8 \$4769.61
A9030.8 \$2,984.79	A9050.8 \$2,984.79
A3510.4 \$406.40	A8160.4 \$406.40
Enterprise Fund	
A1110.2 \$591.67	E8989.4 \$591.67
A1110.4 \$56.76	E8989.4 \$58.76

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A1410.12	\$2,669.55	E8989.4	\$2,669.55
A1410.4	\$202.59	E8989.4	\$202.59
A1440.4	\$1,213.76	E8989.4	\$1,213.76
A1620.1	\$3199.59	E8989.4	\$3199.59
A3510.4	\$105.05	E8989.4	\$105.05
A4025.4	\$93.05	E8989.4	\$93.05
A5132.4	\$1,830.03	E8989.4	\$1,830.03

Motion Failed: Ayes~2 Brown, Shepler, Nays~1 Harris, Abstain~1 Galusha

Discussion: Supervisor Shepler noted well it is a tie, and I want the Board to be fully aware.....Councilman Galusha noted it is not a tie. Supervisor Shepler replied well you abstained. Councilman Galusha responded you have to have 3 votes regardless of how many people are here in order to pass a Resolution. Supervisor Shepler replied I understand that, but you are abstaining. Doug is absent. Joan is voting no. Please be advised that we cannot close the books by the end of January, and the AUD will not be done in time. Councilwoman Harris noted and it is not our fault. Councilman Galusha noted add it to the other 2. Supervisor Shepler responded I don't care about the other 2 at this point in time Randy. The important thing is to get this one completed. And you are obstructing us from doing that at this point in time. Councilman Galusha replied so be it. Supervisor Shepler noted do I have a motion to adjourn the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion introduced by Councilman Brown and seconded by Councilwoman Harris the meeting was adjourned at **6:41 pm.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan E. Staples, Town Clerk

February 09, 2021