

May 12, 2015

MINUTES OF THE FISCAL AND REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF THURMAN HELD MAY 12, 2015 AT THE TOWN HALL, 311 ATHOL ROAD, ATHOL NEW YORK, COMMENCING AT 6:30 P.M...

PRESENT: MRS. EVELYN WOOD, SUPERVISOR
MR. MICHAEL EDDY, COUNCILMAN
MR. LEON GALUSHA, COUNCILMAN
MR. DANIEL SMITH, COUNCILMAN
MRS. GAIL SEAMAN, COUNCILWOMAN

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Pam Morin, First Wilderness Corridor Promoter and Thurman Cemetery Superintendent Marc Kenyon

Recording secretary: Cynthia R. Hyde, Town Clerk

FISCAL MEETING: The Town Board reviewed all claims.

BOARD MEETING: The regular town board meeting was called to order by Evelyn Wood, Supervisor.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Discussion: Discussion ensued regarding resolutions

On a motion by **Councilman Eddy**, seconded by **Councilman Smith**, the minutes of the April 14, 2015 regular meeting were approved.

MOTION CARRIED: 4 AYES ~ WOOD, EDDY, SMITH, SEAMAN

1 ABSTAIN ~ GALUSHA,

LETTERS: Letters were read from Candi Cameron (letter 1) and Mike Eddy (letter 2)

May 12, 2015

Supervisor Wood gave a rebuttal to each letter.

REPORTS:

The supervisor filed the April 30, 2015 treasurers report, operating statement and balance sheets with the town clerk and the following officials gave their verbal reports: **Councilman Smith, Councilman Galusha, Councilwoman Seaman, Councilman Eddy** and **Supervisor Wood**.

RESOLUTION # 46: To authorize closing the credit card from Bank of America and to apply for one from Glens Falls National with the credit limit being \$1000.00.

Councilman Smith added that there could not be any fees associated with closing the Bank of America credit card.

On a motion by **Councilwoman Seaman**, seconded by **Councilman Smith** , Resolution # 46 was approved.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, EDDY, SMITH, SEAMAN

RESOLUTION # 47: To amend the wording of resolution # 46 to read that the Thurman Town Board authorizes the closing of the Bank of America credit card provided that there are no fees.

On a motion by **Councilwoman Seaman**, seconded by **Councilman Galusha**, Resolution # 47 was approved.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, EDDY, SMITH, SEAMAN

Supervisor Wood said that the board had received a draft of the family medical leave act policy and an updated ethics and disclosure policy to review before the next meeting.

Water Project: **Supervisor Wood** gave an update on the water project. Three homes impacted by salt have been hauling drinking water and requested a water cooler dispenser.

May 12, 2015

RESOLUTION # 48: To seek 3 quotes for water cooler/dispensers for three homes with salt impacted water to use only until each home has a RO system that is up and running. On a motion by **Councilman Smith**, seconded by **Councilwoman Seaman**, Resolution #48 was approved.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, EDDY, SMITH, SEAMAN

WHITE SPACE: Supervisor **Wood** said that a White Space ribbon cutting ceremony had taken place.

NEW BUSINESS:

Thurman Cemeteries:

Discussion ensued between **Cemetery Superintendent Marc Kenyon** and the town board regarding cemetery regulations. **Mr. Kenyon** said that no major changes had been made but that some regulations had been simplified.

RESOLUTION # 49A: To adopt cemetery regulations.

On a motion by **Councilman Galusha**, seconded by **Councilwoman Seaman**, Resolution # 49A was approved.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, EDDY, SMITH, SEAMAN

PRESENTATION BY PAM MORIN:

First wilderness Corridor promoter **Pam Morin** shared brochures, maps and web site info with the Thurman Town Board. She talked about funding available for special events, advertising in the Adirondack Summer Guide and a guide to ride the train and pass out tourism info. **Ms. Morin** said that there is a possibility that the Lake George Trolley might come to Thurman and she suggested a letter from the Town recognizing it (the trolley coming to Thurman) as a good idea.

RESOLUTION #49B:

A resolution naming two events (Maple Days and the Fall Farm Tour) and agreeing that the TSA be the contractual folks and who would share their financial report

May 12, 2015

with the first wilderness heritage corridor in order to pursue future funding opportunities, at no cost to the town.

On a motion by **Councilman Galusha**, seconded by **Councilwoman Seaman**, Resolution # 49B was approved.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, EDDY, SMITH, SEAMAN

RESOLUTION # 50: To authorize a letter of request to the Greater Glens Falls transit system regarding summer trolley service to Thurman.

On a motion by **Councilman Smith**, seconded by **Councilwoman Seaman**, Resolution # 50 was approved.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, EDDY, SMITH, SEAMAN

OLD BUSINESS:

To approve the following Minutes: August 12, 2014 regular meeting, August 27, 2014 special meeting, October 06, 2014 special meeting, October 14, 2014 regular meeting, December 9, 2014 regular meeting and January 06, 2015.

On a motion by **Councilman Eddy**, seconded by **Councilman Smith**, the preceding list of minutes was approved.

MOTION CARRIED:

ROLL CALL ~ EDDY-YES, SEAMAN-NO, WOOD-NO, GALUSHA-YES, SMITH-YES

PUBLIC HEARING:

RESOLUTION #51:

On a motion by **Councilman Smith**, seconded by **Councilwoman Seaman**, the town board set a public hearing regarding the Burk and Seebeck subdivisions for May 19, 2015 7:00 pm at the town hall.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, EDDY, SMITH, SEAMAN

May 12, 2015

RESOLUTION SUBJECT TO PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM:

The town board discussed whether to go to referendum or to rescind resolution # 26 and all associated resolutions. It was decided not to go to referendum. Supervisor Wood said that she would contact the town attorney to draft the resolution.

RESOLUTION # 52: To rescind Resolution # 26 2015 and all directly associated resolutions #'s 15, 16 and 17 with regard to reducing the road repair reserve, amending the 2014 budget, establishing a machinery reserve and transferring funds between the reserve and the highway dept.

On a motion by **Councilwoman Seaman**, seconded by **Councilman Galusha**, Resolution #52 was approved.

MOTION CARRIED: ROLL CALL ~ EDDY-YES, SEAMAN-YES, WOOD-YES, GALUSHA-YES, SMITH-YES

POINTS OF INTEREST:

Town Wide Sale

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

The following people spoke during privilege of the floor Barbara Farrell, Mary Eddy, Jerry Cameron and Winnie Martin

RESOLUTION #53:

Resolution Approving Advertisement

WHEREAS, the Thurman Town Board received a request from Laurie Prescott Arnheiter to advertize the town and its events in the Dining and Entertainment Guide, and

WHEREAS the Town has done so in previous years, and

WHEREAS half the cost of the ad will be reimbursed to the town as part of Warren County's First Wilderness Corridor, be it

May 12, 2015

RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes a half page ad in the amount of \$645 to be funded by Occupancy tax.

On a motion by **Councilwoman Seaman**, seconded by **Councilman Galusha**, Resolution #53 was approved.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, EDDY, SMITH, SEAMAN

RESOLUTION #54:

AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF THURMAN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WARREN COUNTY GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY PLAN AND SPECIFICALLY IN THE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PLAN AND ADDING THERETO ANY EFFICIENCY PROJECT(S), SHARED SERVICE(S) OR COOPERATION AGREEMENT(S) SET FORTH IN THIS RESOLUTION AND AUTHORIZING TOWN OF THURMAN OFFICIALS TO TAKE CERTAIN ACTIONS AND MAKE CERTAIN REPRESENTATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS

WHEREAS, local governments in New York State and specifically in Warren County either singularly, jointly or as part of a County initiative must submit and use best efforts to fully implement a Government Efficiency Plan to be submitted by June 1, 2015 as required by the State Property Tax Freeze Credit to qualify homeowners to receive a property tax credit and

WHEREAS, Warren County has proposed to submit a Government Efficiency Plan on its own behalf as well as on behalf of interested local governments in Warren County and demonstrate required savings on a plan wide basis for all participating local governments beginning in 2017,2018 and 2019 when fully implemented as allowed under the State Property Tax Freeze Plan and

WHEREAS, Warren County's Government Efficiency Plan would include 1) a cooperative purchasing plan as part of a Warren County countywide Government Efficiency Plan which would bid certain commodities on behalf of all participating Warren county local governments with the objective of achieving better pricing and administrative efficiencies; 2) an efficiency initiative by Warren County and 3) efficiency initiatives, shared services and/or cooperation agreements of other local governments participating in the County plan and

WHEREAS, the Town of Thurman desires to participate in the Warren County Government Efficiency Plan and specifically in the cooperative purchasing plan in lieu of submitting its own efficiency plan as allowed under the State Tax Freeze Credit,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED , that the Town of Thurman shall participate in the Warren County Government Efficiency Plan and specifically in the cooperative purchasing plan and be it further

RESOLVED that the Chief Executive Officer and/or Budget Officer and/or Chief Financial Officer is authorized to 1) analyze and report savings from any efficiency initiatives, shared services and/or

May 12, 2015

cooperation agreements that the Town of Thurman is undertaking or participating in; 2) represent and/or certify that the Town of Thurman agrees to undertake its best efforts to fully implement the said efficiency initiatives, shared services and/or cooperation agreements as required under the Property Tax Freeze Credit; 3) provide such documentation and other information that may be required by the County for submission of the County Government Efficiency Plan; 4) make all such certifications as may be required by New York State and 5) take any and all such other and further action and execute such documents and certifications that may be necessary or advisable to cause the Town of Thurman to be an eligible and qualified party to the Warren County Government Efficiency Plan and secure the tax credit for residents.

On a motion by **Councilwoman Seaman**, seconded by **Councilman Smith**, Resolution #54 was approved.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, EDDY, SMITH, SEAMAN

RESOLUTION #55:

Discussion: Discussion ensued regarding IT services. **Councilman Smith** said that we haven't budgeted for this. **Supervisor Wood** said that we would take it from contingency. **Smith** and **Wood** also talked about looking to shared services for IT support.

AUTHORIZING CONTRACT WITH STOREDTECH FOR IT SERVICES

WHEREAS the town of Thurman has a need for IT services, and

WHEREAS a proposal from Storedtech was received in response to the Town's request for proposals, now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes a one year contract with Storedtech to engage them as providers of IT services for the town at a fixed fee of \$1,050/month, which is a yearly cost of \$12,600, and authorizes the Supervisor to sign any necessary documents.

On a motion by **Councilwoman Seaman**, seconded by **Supervisor Wood**, Resolution #55 was approved.

MOTION CARRIED: 4 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, SMITH, SEAMAN

1 NAY ~ EDDY

May 12, 2015

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

On a motion by **Councilwoman Seaman**, seconded by **Councilman Smith**, the town board approved vouchers #'s 2015-277 thru 2015-303 for a highway and general fund grand total of \$16,612.17.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, EDDY, SMITH, SEAMAN

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by **Councilman Galusha**, seconded by **Councilman Smith**, the meeting was adjourned at 8:51pm.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, EDDY, SMITH, SEAMAN

Respectfully Submitted:

**Cynthia R. Hyde
Town clerk
05/26/2015**

Attached: EMS Report, Letters from Candi Cameron and Mike Eddy.

May 12, 2015



Stephen W. Emerson
Operations Manager

Phone ~ (518) 232-0817
Fax ~ (518) 623-3651
Email – tek910@nycap.rr.com

*Our Patients Are Our First Priority
Our Members Are Our Greatest Asset*

May 12, 2015

Thurman Town Board Members,

Attached you will find the run totals for April 2015. We handled a total of 6 calls in Thurman in April and our average response time was just over 16 minutes to arriving on-scene. Two of the calls were BLS and 3 were ALS. One call was a second out call and one of the calls was a good intent call.

Warrensburg EMS will be having our annual open house on Saturday May 16, 2015 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Please stop by and join us for some hot dogs and refreshments and see what your EMS is doing these days. We will have a bounce house for the kids and silent auctions as well as ambulance and building tours. On Monday May 18th we will be at the Warrensburg Elementary School doing ambulance tours and presentations for the children to educate them about EMS and what we do.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. I can be reached on my cell phone at 232-0817. I would like to thank the Town Board and the Thurman residents for their continued support.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephen W. Emerson

Stephen W. Emerson
Operations Manager
Warrensburg EMS, Inc.

**THURMAN CALLS HANDLED BY WARRENSBURG EMS
APRIL 2015**

DATE	PCR	PRIORITY	CHIEF COMPLAINT	DISPATCH TO ENROUTE TIME	ENROUTE TO ON SCENE TIME
3/3/2015	15-11016	BLS	BACK PAIN	7 MINUTES	17 MINUTES
8/8/2015	15-11560	BLS	GENERAL ILLNESS	5 MINUTES	32 MINUTES
12/12/2015	15-12187	ALS	DIFFICULTY BREATHING	3 MINUTES	11 MINUTES
25/2015	15-13914	ALS	MVA	3 MINUTES	9 MINUTES
27/2015	15-14014	ALS	TACHYCARDIA	6 MINUTES	15 MINUTES
30/2015	15-14467	ALS	GOOD WILL CALL	NO TIMES	NO TIMES

Warrensburg Emergency Medical Services Inc.
PO Box 157
Warrensburg, New York 12885

May 12, 2015

Thurman Town Board Members
P. O. Box 29
Athol, NY 12810

May 8, 2015

Thurman Board Members,

After the April meeting heated discussion about the town being short of money the taxpayers should be interested in grant funding due Thurman.

Thurman was awarded a state grant through the County to rebuild the River Road Bridge - see attachment.

The Grant applied for was a combination of 3 projects. Thurman - River Road Bridge - \$261,500.00 and Dippikill Road - \$14,562.00. Bolton Landing - Indian Brook Culvert Replacement - \$63,500.00. Total - \$339,062.00

Supervisor Wood has been asked at past board meetings when the money for the bridge would be reimbursed. The reply was - the state and county pay by their own time frame not ours.

See - County Resolution #165 of 2013. The County accepted and amended the budget \$324,500.00, March 15, 2013, 2 years ago. The \$324,500.00 does not include Dippikill - \$14,562.00 If you read further the County Treasurer was to advance the funds on an *as-needed basis*.

See March 4, 2015 - Economic Growth & Development Committee minutes.

Supervisor Wood updated the committee on the status of the grant award.

Last paragraph:

No administrative funds had been included in the award for the county and/or committee.

For the last 3 years they had been trying to determine what the funds were for (3 years of additional administrative fees)

And the Towns of Bolton and Thurman had been "Very Gracious" about holding onto the expenditures they incurred.

March 4, 2015 the committee graciously agreed to allocate at least half of the funding to the Towns of Bolton and Thurman.

Supervisor Wood obviously knew March 4, the amount that Thurman was going to receive before the March 10 town board meeting and presenting Resolution #26 authorizing the use of the Capital Reserve Funds - Thurman's Savings. She knew at the April 14th meeting.

Why wasn't the rest of the board, highway crew and public informed?

*Please Attach
to minutes*

*Concerned Taxpayer
Condi Conover*

Michael Eddy
Thurman Town Councilman

To: Town Board and Taxpayers

May1, 2015

The taxpayers of Thurman will have a choice, by permissive referendum, on whether the Capital Reserve Fund is returned to the General Fund for day to day operations or kept as a Savings for necessary capital improvements and emergencies.
Read Resolution #26 March 2015

During the April 14th meeting the public was told Resolution #26 Capital Reserves was for highway expenses and machinery reserve.

The highway budget has been deficient for 4 years.

The 2014 highway budget was \$101,335.68 deficient for paying November and December 2014 bills. It was also deficient in October 2014 by \$49,152.00.

January 13, 2015 town board meeting Resolution #17 was presented and approved. A total of \$115,857.17 was needed to pay 2014 November and December bills. \$14,521.49 was moved within the highway budget accounts. \$101,335.68 was to be transferred from a Road Repair Reserve. The 2014 outstanding bills were paid in January. The Supervisor/Fiscal Officer, stated during April's meeting, "the 2014 bills were paid with 2015 highway budget funds", not as designated by Resolution #17.

At the January meeting the Supervisor informed the public that the Road Repair Reserve included \$145,000.00 Chips - state reimbursement, for paving which is highway account number DA5112.2. The Supervisor, also stated, that if 2015 summer paving was done early enough, money in the budget allocated for state retirement could be used to pay for paving, apply for 2015 CHIPS reimbursement and it might be received back before the state retirement bill was due in December. Listen to the audio of the meeting.

Town Law Manual pg 53 A3 The Supervisor shall: Not permit any fund or appropriations to become overdrawn nor charge one fund or appropriation to pay a claim chargeable to another.

2015 adopted budget, page15 - As of September 30,2014 - Road Repair Reserve balance \$208,993.10

October 2014, Resolution #74 Highway Budget Adjustment - borrowing \$49,152.00 from Road Repair Reserve to be reimbursed by Multi Modal Funds for Bowen Hill Paving Project. At the January meeting it was stated that the money had not been reimbursed to date.

If Road Repair Reserve on September 30, 2014 was \$208,993.10 and \$49,152.00 was deducted in October 2014 the balance would have been \$159,841.10.

In February, Supervisor Wood said it was determined that to move money from the Reserves, the resolution needed to be written differently changing the name of the reserve from Road Repair Reserve to Capital Reserve Fund and a requirement including a permissive referendum.

If it is the same reserve (savings) how did it increase from \$159,841.10 to \$174,024.50 in that short time?

If the Road Repair Reserve was the Capital Reserve Fund - How did it include the \$145,000.00 CHIPS state reimbursement?

Constant contradictions.

May 12, 2015

"Resolutions are to be specific authorizing particular actions" (Town Law Manual).

Resolution #17 explicitly states the Road Repair Reserve was to be used to pay highway bills. Resolution #17 has not been rescinded.

Town Highway Superintendent manual from Assoc. of Towns, page 15, last paragraph - The town board may not pay from current funds, bills that have accrued from prior years unless those expenses are the result of the emergency or unforeseen circumstances.

It was also stated in April, as scare and threat tactics, that highway employees would be losing their jobs because there would not be enough money in the 2015 highway budget.

The town board, as a group of 5, never discussed or decided line #7 - Resolved, that the Thurman Town Board hereby finds that the Fund has more money in it than the Town is expected to need in the foreseeable future for the purpose it was established.

Line #13 - Further resolved that the monies currently held in the Fund in excess of such amount shall be returned to the General Fund from which it originated.

Read the December 9, 2014 board meeting minutes page 2 last 5 lines Supervisor Wood - "it's not an option to take money out of the General Fund and put it in the Highway Fund because, #1 you can never get it back and #2 that will blow our budget for next year because we're counting on using fund balance from there to offset our budget. That comment matches the audio recording."

Resolution #26 states nothing about paying 2014 highway bills or reimbursing the 2015 highway budget. Resolution #26 states nothing about creating a highway machinery reserve of \$50,000.00.

Read March 10, 2015 Resolution #26 for yourself.

This is my reasoning for a permissive referendum - let the taxpayers have their say.

Once the Savings are expended it can not be recouped.

Attach to minutes

Michael Eddy



May 12, 2015