

TOWN OF COVERT
SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
JUNE 8, 2015

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, June 8, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman William Bishop	Present

Others Present: Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Reporter Aneta Glover, Dog Control Officer, Code Enforcement Officer, Planning Board Member Robert Schoffel, Bill Overbaugh, Barry moon and other interested citizens.

Call to Order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Councilman Bosman shared that Louie Rudin was a well know man, for the work he did as a Young Life Director and a Counselor at South Seneca School. Louie touched countless lives over the last forty years. He will be greatly missed for all he has done in this community and others. There was a moment of silence in his honor.

Approval of Minutes: Bosman moved, seconded by Hunt that the regular meeting minutes from May 11, 2015 be approved. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Hunt.

Presenter: Bill Overbaugh, the general manager and one of the owners of Ehrhart Energy, shared about the concept of storing LPG in underground salt caverns; this is not new. These caverns in Watkins Glen were used in 1964-1984 to store LPG. Mr. Overbaugh shared that Crestwood is working now to re-open the cavern. He shared there are literally dozens of these caverns within 50 miles of us.

Mr. Overbaugh shared about the propane storage this past winter and how having these caverns to store LPG would help to keep the prices down. He said, I can't tell you that the Finger Lakes LPG Facility is an answer to all of these infrastructure problems, but he stated that, unequivocally, it would contribute to security of supply and lowering pricing. It is important to Ehrhart and all of the propane dealers who supply Seneca County.

There were questions asked and answered. One of the main concerns is the safety for the Finger Lakes region. It is a tourism area and the community is concerned about the safety of this area and protecting our lakes in the Finger Lakes area.

Barry Moon, a director from Crestwood shared that US Salt has been mining brine and manufacturing salt along Seneca Lake since the 1890's. There were a lot of concerns brought up on the caverns and their safety. Crestwood has been replacing pipe lines and putting in double liners in the ponds to make it safer. The required DEC testing is being done as required to make sure the caverns are safe for storage. The systems are being upgraded. Crestwood is doing everything they can to be sure these caverns are safe for LPG storage.

There were many concerned about the safety of the lake and the risk of having spills and what it would do to this area. Why should we take the risk in this area to have our lake ruined? We want to protect the area we live in!

Wrexsie Bardaglio shared that she is concerned about the issues of the brine ponds. Crestwood has had major spills before and it was divesting. How can you be sure this won't happen again? There are no guaranties. Ms. Bardaglio shared much information and it is on file for view at the Town Clerk's Office.

Dog Control Officer Chris Bulmahn shared that there have been a couple of complaints about dogs on the Black Diamond Trail, being off leashes and going after other dogs and trespassing on people's properties. The Town of Covert's Dog Law does not have a leash law so we cannot enforce that dogs be on a leash. He asked the Board to consider making an amendment to the Dog Law to enforce if your dog is off your property it must be on a leash. Councilman Hunt asked the board to table the discussion of a leash law for now so they could think about what could be done.

Town Clerk Colleen Freese shared that Chris Vann and Will Millard have received their certificate of attendance for the Assessment Review Board Training. This training is required to be on the Assessment Review Board.

Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne requested that the highway department get a new mower. He got a state bid for an Alamo 88"SHD Flail mower with 8.5" offset and a coarse cut 30z knife. The state bid cost for the mower is \$6,928.65. The mower the Highway barn has now is 20 years old and worn out.

Councilman Bosman shared that the House Sign Project is coming to an end. He wrote a letter to the Greater Rochester Health Grant to request that any funds remaining may be divided between Interlaken and Trumansburg Fire Departments for overseeing that the house signs remain up and new houses get signs.

Town Attorney Morrell stated that there needs to be in writing an agreement with the Interlaken and Trumansburg Fire Departments and the Town of Covert regarding what will be done to maintain the house signs for the money to be given to each fire department.

Councilman Bosman also stated that a public hearing needs to be held next month so the Land Management Ordinance can be amended to replace the current, section two-c premises address numbers signs with the new amendment that will state that all residences in the Town of Covert will be required to have a fire department sign conforming with their 911 numbers.

Councilman Vann shared about the Land Management Ordinance and that he would like to delete section 3 line #8, "All permanent housing units shall have a minimum of 940 square feet of floor area. Buildings two stories high shall have a minimum of 600 square feet on the first floor," and replace it with, "all new permanent housing shall meet the minimum square footages of floor area and habitable space as required by the NYS Building Code and enforced thru the Seneca County Department of Building and Fire Code Enforcement and have a minimum width of 24 feet."

Councilman Bosman shared that he has been working on a website to see what is available out there and that the cost is very low. Councilman Bishop said we need to have clear goals for what needs to be on the Town website. A committee was formed of Councilman Bosman, Councilman Hunt and Town Clerk Colleen Freese to work together on a plan for the website.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that the tax break for shared services has been submitted to the State, the Town qualified for this with shared services with Tompkins Assessors and Trumansburg School. He also shared that he met with the State auditors and they shared that the Town needs to have a policy for online banking, data breach and a few other thing. Now it's waiting to hear back from the auditors if they are done or do their superiors want to do more auditing.

Town Attorney Morr1ell reported that the Historical Society and Library agreements are approved, and the assessor agreement with the change that each party has six months' notice to cancel the agreement allowing the town time to find a replacement.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Supervisor's revenue and expenditure report for May 2015. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of May 2015. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Bishop.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for May 2015. A total of \$721.00 was received and \$460.94 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bosman, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's report for the Month of May 2015. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Vann and Aye-Hunt.

Bosman moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Dog Control Officer's Report for the month of May 2015. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Bishop.

Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Joint Services Agreement for Appraisal Services, Exemption Services and Assessment Services by the County of Tompkins. The cost of providing this service shall be: \$5,000.00 for July 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015 and \$7.50 / parcel for January 1, 2016 to June 30, 2016 (based upon the total parcel count of the presiding assessment roll). For the 2017 Assessment year, the cost will be \$15.30/parcel. For the 2018 Assessment year, the cost will be \$15.61 per parcel. For the 2019 Assessment year, the cost will be \$15.92 per parcel. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Vann.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bosman, to set two public hearings under the Town of Covert's Land Management Ordinance on July 13, 2015 at 7:00 pm. The purpose of first hearing is to hear the regulations for house number signs. The purpose of the second one is for house sizes according to New York State regulations. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

RESOLUTION 7 - 15 House Number Grant Amendments

WHEREAS The Town of Covert received a grant through the Greater Rochester Health Foundation for funds to complete the House Numbering Project OUTSIDE THE Village of Interlaken, and

WHEREAS at the time the 2015 budget was created and passed it appeared there would be approximately \$7,000.00 left in the grant fund budget line, that figure was used for both income (fund balance) and expense lines in the 2015 budget and

WHEREAS the actual fund balance on December 31, 2014 was \$2,410.28, NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Town of Covert Town Board does hereby amend the 2015 General Fund B budget to change the appropriated fund balance/grant funding lines to \$2,410.28, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Covert Town Board does again thank Councilman Bosman for his efforts on the house numbering project for the safety of all the Town Residents.

Moved by: Hunt Seconded by: Bosman Vote: Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

RESOLUTION 8 -15 Seneca Meadow Grant Budget Line Amendments

WHEREAS Supervisor Mike Reynolds submitted a secondary grant application to Seneca Meadows for a second pedestrian crossing sign at the school zone and

WHEREAS that grant was approved and funds totaling \$245.00 were received,

NOW THERE FORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Covert Board accept this grant and authorize the spending of the funds noted in the grant and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Covert Board authorizes the following budget amendments to the 2015 budget: Increase A2270 from \$1,903.00 to \$2,148.00 Increase A1989.4 Special Items miscellaneous from \$510.00 to \$755.00 for the school crossing signs, \$377.71 for the first sign with the balance of the original grant plus the new funds to complete payment on a second sign. Moved by: Bosman Seconded By: Hunt Vote: Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Americana Vineyards & Winery fireworks permit for July 4, 2015, the rain date is July 5, 2015. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve Justice Schmidt and Court Clerk Jennie Ewing to attend continuing Education Program for Justice and Court Clerks at Sunny Potsdam on July 22 & 23, 2015 to include cost of hotel room, meals not covered by the training, and mileage. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Vann moved, seconded by Bosman, to approve the Highway Superintendent MacCheyne to order from State Bid an Alamo 88" SDH Flail Mower with 8.5 offset and course cut 30z knives for the amount of \$6,928.65. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bosman, that the Town of Covert Town Board supports the County Finance Committee, to look into sharing the Tax revenue from Logo Resort and Casino. There are 52 counties outside of New York city, in New York State and 42 share their sales tax receipts in one form or another. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Bosman. Nay-Vann

Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Town Clerk to order the Business Automation Services as the Backup system for the Town Clerk records and to order the vitals modules add-on for birth, death and Burial records for a total amount of \$765.00. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Bosman. Nay-Vann

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the 2015 Interlaken Public Library agreement for the amount of \$1,400.00. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Bosman.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the 2015 Historical Society agreement for the amount of \$1,400.00. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Bosman.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, that Highway Fund Vouchers #76-85 in the amount of \$3,850.18 and General Fund Vouchers #103-121 in the amount of \$38,348.10 be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Bosman.

Bishop moved, seconded by Bosman, to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen R. Freese, Town Clerk