

**TOWN OF COVERT  
BOARD MEETING AND  
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
JANUARY 14, 2013**

The organizational and regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, January 14, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

<b>Roll Call:</b>	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Present

**Others Present:** Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Town Clerk, Colleen Freese, Highway Superintendent, Jeffrey Mac Cheyne, Reporter Aneta Glover, 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.

**Public Hearing:**

Supervisor Reynolds opened the Public hearing at 7:03.

The purpose of the Public Hearing was to hear any comments on the Town of Covert establishing a Covert Ambulance District to encompass the entire Town of Covert outside of the village of Interlaken, pursuant to New York State Town Law 209.

Town Attorney Patrick Morrell stated that because the Ambulance Service Certificate does not include the Village of Interlaken, the town needs to form an ambulance district. Should the state approve to include the Village of Interlaken into the Ambulance Service Certificate, the Town would not need a district. At this time, the Board agreed to table this matter while waiting to hear from the state on the Lawsuit.

Supervisor Reynolds closed the Public Hearing at 7:06 and opened the Organizational Meeting.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Waid moved, seconded by Bosman, that the minutes from December 27, 2012 yearend meeting be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

**ORGANIZATIONAL**

Waid moved, seconded by Bosman, that for the year 2013, the Town Board sets 50 cents per mile reimbursement as mileage allowance for personal vehicles used by Town Officers while performing official duties, other than attendance at Town Board Meetings or Town Court Proceedings.  
Motion carried unanimously.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bosman, to authorize that Community Bank, N.A., Interlaken Branch, be designated the official bank of the Town of Covert, and Town Justice William Shaw and the Supervisor be authorized to invest town monies consistent with the requirements of New York State and with appropriate consideration given to elements of safety, liquidity and yield. Motion Carried unanimously.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to authorize Highway Superintendent MacCheyne to spend up to \$500.00 per purchase to acquire equipment, tools, and implements and \$1,000.00 for repairs during 2013 without prior approval of the Town Board. Motion carried unanimously.

Waid moved, seconded by Vann, to designate the Interlaken Review as the official newspaper of the Town of Covert for the year 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

Bosman moved, seconded by Hunt, to appoint Christopher Austin as Dog Control Officer at the budgeted salary. For the year 2013, the Town of Covert agrees to lease the private kennels of Dog Control Officer for \$55.00 per month; additional \$5.00 per day fee for each dog will be charged to the owner upon redemption of impounded dog, or to the Town in the event of euthanasia. Motion carried unanimously.

Vann moved, seconded by Waid, to appoint John Poludniak as Code Enforcement Officer for 2013 at the budgeted amount and 50 cents per mile. Motion carried unanimously.

Bosman moved, seconded by Hunt, to appoint Ralph Jones as cleaner to the Town of Covert Municipal Building at the wage of \$8.50 per hour for the year 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

Vann moved, seconded by Waid, to appoint Ralph E. Jones as cleaner at the Town of Covert Highway Department, at the wage of \$8.50 per hour for the year 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

Waid moved, seconded by Vann, to appoint Charles R. Freese as maintenance man of the Town of Covert Municipal Building, at the wage of \$8.50 per hour for year 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bosman, to allow Supervisor Reynolds to file his 2012 annual report with the Town Clerk by the same date and in the same matter as Annual Report is required to be filed with the State Comptroller. Such authorization is allowed by Town Law Section 29 (10a). Motion carried unanimously.

Vann moved, seconded by Waid, to appoint Mr. Outside to mow the lawns at the Municipal Building Town Hall and Covert Cemetery for an amount not to exceed \$2,760.00 for the year 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

Waid moved, seconded by Vann, that the salaries of all elected and appointed officers shall be the amount indicated by the currently effective resolution or the amount budgeted in the 2013 budget. The Highway Superintendent shall set wages of hourly highway employees with concurrence by the Town Board within the limits of the Highway Budget. Payment of salaries and wages shall be at times and dates that are legally permissible and mutually acceptable to the Supervisor and the recipients. Motion carried unanimously.

The Town Board reviewed the Personnel Policy and Procedures Handbook for the Town of Covert. Waid moved, seconded by Bosman, to approve the Personnel Policy and Procedures for the Town of Covert. Motion Carried unanimously.

The Town Board of the Town of Covert reviewed the Internal Policies and Procedures, governing all procurement of goods and services. Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, that they will review Internal Policies and Procedures for the Town of Covert in the future to make any necessary changes. Motion Carried unanimously.

## **APPOINTMENTS BY ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Highway Superintendent MacCheyne appoints Glenn Boyes as Deputy Highway Superintendent for 2013.

Town Clerk appoints Leslie Adams-Compton as Deputy Town Clerk and Registrar of Vital Statistics, Tax Collector. Wage shall be \$8.50 per hour.

Town Justice William Shaw appoints Angela Champions Clerk to the Town Justice. Salary shall be as budgeted.

## **SUPERVISOR REYNOLDS MAKES THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS FOR 2013**

Bookkeeper and Secretary to the Supervisor -- Diane Bassette Nelson Budget

Officer -- Michael Reynolds

Deputy Supervisor -- Gary Hunt

Five Town Assessment Committee -- Duane Waid and Michael Reynolds

Historian for the Town – John Hunt

Highway Committee -- Gary G. Hunt, Chairman and Jeffrey Vann

Courts, Ordinances & Law Enforcement — Charles Bosman, Chairman and Gary Hunt

Utilities & Insurance -- Duane C. Waid, Chairman and Gary G. Hunt

Personnel -- Duane C. Waid, Chairman and Charles Bosman

Planning and Buildings -- Gary G. Hunt, Chairman and Jeffrey Vann

Fire and Ambulance -- Jeffrey Vann, Chairman, Michael G. Reynolds and Charles Bosman

Any appointment which may have been overlooked shall continue to be filled by the incumbent subject to review by the appropriate appointing authority.

### **RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING**

**Approval of Minutes:** Waid moved, seconded by Bosman, that the minutes from December 27, 2012 yearend meeting be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Petitioner to Board:**

Margaret Jastran stated that she is very concerned of the issues on Hydrofracking and clean water. The process of extracting gas by Hydrofracking is not subject to the Clean Water Act. This concerns her as to how this will affect our water sources. She said, “Please, consider putting a ban in place on Hydrofracking for now.”

Sean Dembrosky shared his concern of how Hydrofracking could affect this region. He said that we are moving into an area of potential for having the industrialized gas production scenario for our town. He does not see or hear any discussion on how we will navigate in this town if that happens. Without any answers to this, He does not see how he can have faith that the Town Board is being diligent doing the work that is required to make sure we have a safe area to live in. He is very concerned about the health and safety of the people and how the Board is going to deal with these issues.

Seth Thomas shared some points of concern on health and safety issues on Hydrofacking and how, unlike within the nuclear energy industry, it is exempt from tracking vehicles carrying radioactive waste. He stated that trucks with the simple word “Brine” on the side are assumed to have no potentially toxic contents inside. In the event of an accident, this could mean that a local police and emergency responder would not be aware of the vehicle’s contents, which increase their chances of inadvertent exposure.

Mr. Dembrosky stated that as a result of a petition circulating the Town of Covert, a majority of citizens are against hydrofracking in Covert. Mr. Dembrosky asked that the town ban Hydrofacking right now. The Supervisor responded to Mr. Dembrosky’s concern, explaining that the State already has a moratorium on hydrofracking and that the board will defer to the State to make a decision. Some petitioners see this as indecision by the Board.

Donald Kenyon shared that the Board *has* made a decision, the Board's resolution states this decision, and they see the State as the higher authority. He said that there will be lawsuits and the Governor has already said the State's highest courts will make the ultimate decision. He believes it would be a waste of time to try and "short-cut" that process.

**Town Clerk Report:** Town Clerk gave her monthly report and there was discussion on an audit for the Town Clerk's books and the Bookkeeper's books. The date was set to audit books for January 19, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.

**Tax Collector Report:** Tax Collector Freese reported she has collected about four hundred thousand dollars for the 2013 taxes so far.

Councilman Bosman reported, on the Court Audit he performed on the Court books and that the income has increased this year. He also would like to send a letter thanking all who have worked together for their corporation to improve the Court. He also reported that the Vita Tax Program starts January 23, 2013.

Councilman Vann reported he attended the Hearing for the Law Suit for the Village of Interlaken's inclusion in the Town of Covert Ambulance Service Certificate. There should be an answer in next few weeks.

Councilman Hunt stated that an enumeration for dogs should be done. There are many unlicensed dogs out there.

Councilman Waid shared that the Town is going to stay with the same Health Insurance Plan for this year and the employees were pleased with the insurance broker.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that the House number signs would cost about \$6.00 plus the cost of the post. There was some discussion on what letters should be used for road designations.

Waid moved, seconded by Hunt, that Attorney for the Town be allowed to attend NYS Association of Towns Meeting in New York City on February 17-20, 2013. The Town Board appoints him as a delegate to represent the Town of Covert. Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, that Highway Fund Vouchers #1-15, in the amount of \$83,635.92 and General Fund Vouchers #1-19, in the amount of \$125,652.81 be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye -Waid, Aye- Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Highway Superintendent, report for the month of December 2012 with the Board. Aye-Vann, Aye Waid, Aye- Hunt and Aye-Bosman

Councilman Bosman performed an audit of the Town of Covert Court records and filed the court report with the board. Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the report filed and the Audit of the Court records. Aye-Vann, Aye -Waid, Aye- Hunt, Reynolds- Aye and Aye-Bosman.

Code Enforcement Office, John Poludniak, filed his December 2012 written report. One permit was issued.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann to approve the Supervisor's revenue and expenditure report for December 2012. Aye Vann, Aye Waid, Aye-Bosman and Aye -Hunt.

Bosman moved, Seconded by Waid, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for December 2012. A total of \$246.25 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye -Bosman, Aye- Hunt, and Aye -Waid.

On the motion of Waid, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

**TOWN OF COVERT  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2013**

The organizational and regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, February 11, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

<b>Roll Call:</b>	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Absent

**Others Present:** Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Town Clerk, Colleen Freese, Highway Superintendent, Jeffrey Mac Cheyne, Reporter Aneta Glover, 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.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, that the regular meeting minutes from January 14, 2013 be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

**Petitioner to the Board:**

Carrie Holcomb stated to the board that last month she brought her daughter to the Town Board meeting to see how local government worked. She asked her daughter what she thought about the meeting, her daughter responded that the board does not listen to the residents and they are distracted doing other things. Her daughter stated the board does not respond to the public questions and asked wondered how Covert residents are supposed to speak to the board? Carrie stated that ,in November, two Town Board members and supervisor are up for election and you will not get her vote. Letter on file at Clerks Office

Melissa Maddden stated she is a new farmer in this area and chose Seneca County because it is an agriculture treasure for farming. She asked, what are you as a Town Board doing to insure that the agriculture charter of this town will be maintained? What are you going to do to engage with the residents of Covert? We are asking for an opportunity to talk to you as a board, to have a round table not taking side but to talk to each other.

Linda Blossom asked the question: If a ban is passed, can the Town be sued? She looked into the Dryden case and read the appeals. The question is whether the Home Rule, which falls under article 9 of the Constitution, will hold up or will the Department of Conservation law supersede article 9. According to Judge Rumsey, the home ruler does stand; there is a case in court now, which will make a decision on the Home Rule.

Bruce Austic stated I have lived in the town for fifty-two years; I have been a farmer all my life. I am not sure everyone here shares the same views on Fracking. If you look at information on fracking, it seems there is more good than not. I want to speak about property rights in the past; some groups have tried to control farmers and what they can do with their land. Let's be honest, is the honest in what you feel about fracking or is the honesty, in what you think should be a policy about energy in the future. We need to look in the future for natural gas.

There were residents who thanked the Town Board for sitting back and being intelligent, and not putting a moratorium in place but waiting to see what the state was going to do. The Concern Citizens would like to have a round table discussion on Fracking with the Town Board, allowing the Town Board to listen to the Concerned Citizen and answering question they have, and the Concerned Citizens, listing to the Town Board.

Councilman Bosman reported that he was very pleased with the Audit of the Town Clerk, Bookkeeper's and Supervisor's books. The books were in order and they all work together. He recommended that the Town should consider budgeting funds for an audit in 2014. He also reported that the Town of Covert's Investment and Deposit Policy and the Procurement Policy were updated and will be added to the personnel policy handbook. These policies will be reviewed each year at the organizational meeting.

Town Attorney Morrell stated he had updated the Procurement Policy and the Investment policy covered what it should so the Town Board should approve these policies.

Councilman Hunt talked about solar power and a heat pump for the municipality building. We need to look in to the cost of these items and in the long run they will save the town money.

Coun

cilman Vann shared there would be a water meeting this week in Lodi on the shared water services. He also presents a resolution to support Sheriff Stenberg and the New York State Sheriff's Association position on the NY SAFE ACT that was passed by the Governor.

Supervisor Reynolds discussed the idea of having a meeting with Bill Kappel from US Geology Services and Consulting Geologist Brayton Forster. They would come and present information on fracking to Town residents.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that the Town purchase two air conditioners and received a rebate of \$524.99 from the New York State Energy Green rebate.

### **RESOLUTION -1-2013 SUPPORT FOR NYS-CONTACT INFORMATION FOR VACANT STRUCTURES**

Resolved to support New York State regarding the proposed laws concerning contact information for vacant structures.

**WHEREAS**, vacant, abandoned and foreclosed homes and structures have proliferated throughout New York State over the last five years; and

**WHEREAS**, vacant structures that are not maintained for months at a time degrade and depreciate the value of the vacant structure as well as the value of surrounding properties; and

**WHEREAS**, lending institutions that hold mortgages on said vacant structures do not always provide the contact information of a responsible party; and

**WHEREAS**, Assembly Bill A.88 and Assembly Bill A.824, currently pending, would make it mandatory for lending institutions to provide contact information of responsible parties regarding vacant structures; and require good faith in obtaining a foreclosure; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Covert Town Board supports the passage of said Bills.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the town of Covert hereby supports the passage of said Bills and respectfully requests that the State Representatives who represents constituents in the Town of Covert support the passage of said Bills.

Motion by Councilman Hunt, Seconded by Councilman Vann. Aye-Councilman Bosman, Aye-Councilman Hunt, Aye-Councilman Vann and Supervisor Reynolds-Aye.

**RESOLUTION 2 - 13 Town of Covert- Board's Position – Governor and Legislature Set Aside and Annul the “NY SAFE ACT”**

**WHEREAS**, New York's Civil Rights Law, Article 2, Section 4, states "A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms cannot be infringed": and

**WHEREAS**, The Second Amendment to the United States Constitution states "A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms shall not be infringed": and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York Legislature passed the NY SAFE ACT without discussion with, nor input from, New York's county sheriffs or private citizens: and

**WHEREAS**, The NY SAFE ACT's reduction in the allowed magazine capacity of privately owned firearms from the industry standard ten rounds to only seven rounds, and classifying the most widely owned modern sporting rifles as "assault weapons" based merely on cosmetic features, are both arbitrary and capricious, and create a severe restriction on the ability of law abiding New York citizens to legally acquire firearms: and

**WHEREAS**, The NY SAFE ACT imposes severe restrictions on law abiding New York citizens' right of self-defense: and

**WHEREAS**, The NY SAFE ACT's limitations on the Constitutional rights of law abiding citizens will not make New York residents safer: and

**WHEREAS**, The NY SAFE ACT effectively turns countless law-abiding New York gun owners into criminals without any reason: and

**WHEREAS**, Seneca County Sheriff Jack Stenberg has issued a statement critical of these restrictions placed on New York citizens' constitutional rights by the NY SAFE ACT: and

**WHEREAS**, The NY SAFE ACT transfers the responsibility for our local school safety plans from our own Seneca County Sheriff to state agencies: and

**WHEREAS**, The Covert Town Board is in agreement with Sheriff Stenberg's statement critical of the NY SAFE ACT: and

**WHEREAS**, Due to the high priority of this issue, we direct the Covert Town Clerk to forward a copy of this resolution to all Seneca County Town Clerks, Seneca County Supervisors, Senator Michael F. Nozzolio, Assemblyman Philip A. Palmesano, Senate Republican Conference Leader Dean G. Skelos, Senate Independent Democrat Conference Leader Jeffrey A. Klein, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Assembly Minority Leader Brian M. Kolb, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and Seneca County Sheriff Jack S. Stenberg: and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the undersigned members of the Covert Town Board, call upon the New York State Legislature and Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to set aside and annul the ill-conceived and poorly drafted NY SAFE ACT, which

infringes the rights of law-abiding citizens of the State of New York, Seneca County, and the Town of Covert.

Motion made by Supervisor Reynolds, Motion seconded by Councilman Hunt  
Vote: Councilman Hunt-aye, Councilman Bosman-aye, Councilman Vann-aye  
Supervisor Reynolds-aye

### **RESOLUTION- 3 HIGHWAY FUND DB**

**WHEREAS**, an overage has occurred in the Seneca County Workers Compensation Insurance expense for the current year, and

**WHEREAS**, accounts should be balanced each month,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVE**, that \$303.69 be transferred from Account DB5112.4 Highway contractual expense and credited to DB9040.8 Workers Compensation Insurance.  
Motion made by Councilman Bosman, Motion seconded by Councilman Vann,  
Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman Aye-Reynolds, Aye-Vann

Bosman moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the up dated Town of Covert Procurement Policy and the Town of Covert Investment and Deposit Policy as is. These policies are to be included in the Towns Personnel Policy and Procedures Handbook and review each year at the organizational meeting.  
Aye- Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bosman, that the variance request application # 01-13for Frances Slovik Froot, 8553 Green Lanes Shores Interlaken to put up a 10' x14' storage shed be referred to the Planning Board. A public hearing will be held at the Municipal building March 11, 2013 at 700 p.m.  
Aye- Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman.

Bosman moved, Seconded by Vann, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for January 2013. A total of \$293.25 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye –Bosman and Aye- Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bosman, that Highway Fund Vouchers #16-32, in the amount of \$28,067.22 and General Fund Vouchers #-20-34, in the amount of \$38,089.41 be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye- Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Highway Superintendent, report for the month of January 2013. Aye-Vann, Aye- Hunt and Aye-Bosman

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Audit of the 2012 books for the Town Clerk, and Town Supervisor and Bookkeeper. Aye-Vann, Aye- Hunt, Aye-Bosman.

Bosman moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Supervisor's revenue and expenditure report for January 2013. Aye Vann, Aye-Bosman and Aye –Hunt.

Bosman moved, Seconded by Vann, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for January 2013. A total of \$293.25 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye –Bosman and Aye- Hunt.

On the motion of Hunt, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen R. Freese, Town Clerk

Michael Reynolds, Supervisor



**TOWN OF COVERT  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING  
MARCH 11, 2013**

The organizational and regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, March 11, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

<b>Roll Call:</b>	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Present

**Others Present:** Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Reporter Aneta Glover, 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.

**Approval of Minutes:** Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, that the regular meeting minutes from February 11, 2013 be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Hearing:** Supervisor Reynolds opened the public hearing at 7:03

The purpose of the Public hearing was for a variance request under Land Management Ordinances for Frances Slovik Froot, 8553 Green Lanes Shores, Interlaken to replace an existing building with a 10'x14' storage shed. The Planning Board recommends the Town Boards approve the variance request.

**Presenter:** Steve Wilke shared that he is from a company called Sustainable Energy Developments. They build residential to small commercial scale wind and solar projects. Their field of specialization is, what is called "community wind and solar". They are projects with local funds, local owner and local benefits. Solar is more cost effective than wind turbines'. He spoke on the analysis he did for the Town of Covert and what the initial cost would be to the Town. He stated that the purchase of electricity (kwh) from the town utility could be reduced by 108%. The initial cost would be around \$80,000.00 dollars minus grants that will help defray the cost. Once the initial investment is made, it would save the town money.

Joan Hendrix from the Interlaken Library stated that the Finger Lake Region suggested that the library open their charter to encompass the Town of Covert. In order to do this she had to get approval from the Village of Interlaken Board and they approved the Town of Covert to be part of the library charter. She asked that the board would consider letting the Town of Covert be included in the charter. Councilman Waid asked what would be the advantage of being included in the charter. Ms. Hendrix replied they would be able to include the population of the Town of Covert in to the charter and it could help the library be eligible for more grants.

Councilman Hunt asked to share before taking petitioners. He asked is Carrie Holcomb present? Last month she talked about bring her daughter to January Town Board Meeting. Her daughter thought the Town Board was rude to the public. "I personally want to apologize to your daughter, Ms. Holcomb, for the board's rudeness." He stated, in the boards defense that at our January meeting there was a lot to cover. The board did allow all pre-signed petitioners to speak during the petitioner section. There were other that wanted to speak and the board listened to the rest of petitioners as they were auditing bills, and

that did not work. "I apologize for that." The town board has not had this many people at a board meeting since 1980, when we had the public hearing on the Land Management Ordinance. He also stated that everyone needs to respect one another and all should have a right to their opinion without any one interrupting them. (Councilman Hunts letter on file at the Clerk's Office)

**Petitioner to the Board:** Richard Rose stated he is the Pastor of the First Baptist Church in Ithaca, and property owner here in the Town of Covert. He has lived in the area for six years and has two children. He spoke about his concern about Hydro-Fracking. He stated there is inconclusive evidence about the short and long-term effects that Fracking will have on the environment. He is concerned that it could drive down the property value resulting in a lower taxes base. He asked what will the natural gas smells do to this area and who would want to live here? "I think in the best interest of the health and safety and property values we need to make a right choice here and as far as I am concerned the right choices is to say no to Hydro-Fracking now and forever."

Maryann Vellake asked that she would be "recognized as your fellow citizen of Covert a 30 year resident, self-employed, mother, friend, and neighbor." What happened at the last board meeting was very disturbing to her, and she apologized for her own offensive outbursts. She was very frustrated with the continuing lack of response from the board and upset with the derogatory comments made to her fellow neighbors, and I felt the need to defend themyes, it is true, horizontal Hydro-Fracking brings out the worst in everybody and everything. I want to protect my own livelihood, and those of our entire town, for the well-being of all of our residents. She would rather we worked together to use our combined resources to protect our rights, our town, our Finger Lakes and our future. She is fighting no one except the gas and oil companies for invading our precious homesteads with their insidious greed and manipulation. Change has brought promise and diversity to our community and "I am very grateful for the hard work and contributions of these many inspiring individuals who have new ideas, experience and new perspectives differing opinions, but we worked together, to enrich and support our community." Covert is, even more vulnerable now, and needs all of us to work together to protect this area. It is understandable to want to be cautious, but" I fear that you are not taking seriously all of the facts". (Maryann Vellake letter is on file in clerk's office)

Linda Blossom stated that we have done research and have come together for this topic on Hydro-Fracking." What I want is a ban on Fracking and you do not, it does not matter what we want because we live in a representation democracy and the majority rules". She said our petition is to see what everyone wants. The resolution the Town Board passed was a tool that did not require public input. "How is this an appropriate tool to use in this situation"? She stated you have a Land Management Ordinance that state to improve the quality of the natural and man-made environment: and to assure the health, safety and general welfare of its resident. She requested that the Board would find a way to let all residents weigh in on this topic.

Sean Dembrosky stated that at the last meeting it felt like there was a healthy break through on having a round table discussion on Hydro-Fracking. Where are you on having a round table discussion?

Supervisor Reynolds stated he would like to get more information out there on Hydro-Fracking and then do a round table.

Councilman Bosman stated he does not feel the Town Board should sponsor any meeting. He also stated that he would not support sponsoring a round table.

Councilman Vann stated he stands on the resolution that the board passed on Hydro-Fracking.

Mariah Plumlee asked who was sponsoring the meeting on March 18, 2013 on Hydro-Fracking .She thanked Supervisor Reynolds for setting up the meeting. Mr. Kappel seems to be very knowledgeable and "I am looking forward to the presentation."

John Swanson stated that he has been a resident in Town of Covert since 1959 and has served on the Planning Board for 40 years. He has a farm here and cares about the Town of Covert. He is pro-Fracking a least not anti-Fracking. He agrees with the Board this isn't a decision they are qualified to make and he support the resolution the Town Board passed on Hydro-Fracking.

Peter Arena stated that the Town Board has the opportunity to exercise "home rule" if they have a moratorium. There was discussion on moratorium and that it could cost the town money if they there were a lawsuit against the town and why put a moratorium on top of a moratorium. The state all ready has a moratorium.

Councilman Bosman stated he was going to attend an informational meeting on moratoriums and bans and would report on it at the next Town Board meeting.

There was much concern on Hydro-Fracking and how it will affect the Town of Covert and what are the long-term health issues if Hydro-Fracking does come to Covert.

Councilman Hunt stated the Town Board been asked what is their stand on Fracking. I am personally against Fracking in the Finger Lakes Region. I am not saying I am against it in other places. However, as a representative of all the Town residents, I have to look at both sides of the issues. Some people say the resolution passed in the October meeting, which states to wait and see what New York State decides to do, is saying we are in favor of Hydro-Fracking. I am saying it is not. I believe our attorney said it would do no good to put a moratorium on top of a moratorium, what would be the point.

Attorney Morrell stated, "I would recommend to the board that they would follow the same procedures for a ban on Hydro-Fracking as the Board would do for Zoning. Zoning dictates what you can and cannot do with your land.

Councilman Hunt stated to Barry Ford, that people needed to gather all the information they can before they make a decision in on something. Mr. Ford agreed and Mr. Hunt replied that is what the Town Board is trying to do on Fracking. Mr. Ford stated he is very flustered with the board because he has spent three years studying Fracking and he can see the disconnection between the board and himself because of the lack of education. "I am way over educated when it comes to what you guys know, and I know that." Mr. Kenyon asked Mr. Ford to repeat himself. Mr. Ford said," He studied Hydro-Fracking when Trumansburg started their studied whether they would want a ban, and I have been up to speed." Therefore, when I come here and listen to some of the things that are said; it just shows me other people have not done the intensive study that has been done by others here. He stated that part of the disconnection, is that and we are waiting for you all to understand the way we feel about this issue. Mr. Bosman stated he resented the comment Mr. Ford made about being smarter than the board because he is a highly educated man.

Mr. Kenyon stated that when Mr. Ford made the remark that he knows more on Hydro-Fracking than the Board does. The folks who are not on the board are so far behind the curve on understanding government that you are out in left field. The Board is going slow because they have no other choice and you just heard if there is going to be a ban there will be zoning. Councilman Hunt went on to share about the Finger Lakes area and the 12% tax increase the school is talking about every year. How much extra can you pay in taxes to pay the farmer and keep the grass green? Farmers are struggling to have a decent life style.

Councilman Vann stated that he has worked for the DEC and they are very strict and want a safe environment. They want to make sure drilling will be safe.

Councilman Waid stated that he is 100% behind the resolution the board passed on Fracking, and he wants to have more facts and see what the state does.

Councilman Bosman reported on the Income tax program (VITA) that they have done taxes for eighty-nine people, already more than last year.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that South Seneca School is looking into a grant to help spruce up the poverty-stricken areas of Seneca County.

Supervisor Reynolds reported, he received a letter was received from the State of New York Department of Transportation to notify us that the 30 mile speed limit will be extended to include the Interlaken Fire House.

There was discussion on the Hunt's water survey and the fact that Trumansburg is drilling a well for another water source. This could affect the water source study for Lodi, Covert, and Trumansburg.

Waid moved, Seconded by Vann, to approve Councilman Bosman to attend a meeting on moratoriums and bans held in Tully, New York. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Waid moved, seconded by Hunt, that the variance request application # 01-13 for Frances Slovik Frood, 8553 Green Lanes Shores, Interlaken, to build a 10'x14' storage shed be approved. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid.

Waid moved, Seconded by Bosman, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for February 2013. A total of \$326.60 was remitted to the Town Supervisor and the Tax Collector report. Aye-Vann, Aye -Bosman, Aye -Waid and Aye- Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Highway Superintendent report for the month of February 2013, which Councilman Hunt read. Aye-Vann, Aye- Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Waid

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Supervisor's revenue and expenditure report for February 2013. Aye -Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye -Hunt.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the Cayuga Lake Triathlon bicycle event to be held on the Town of Covert Public roads on August 4, 2013. Aye-Waid, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Vann.

Hunt moved, Seconded by Vann, to approve the 2013 Interlaken Historical Society contract. Aye-Vann, Aye- Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Waid

Supervisor Reynolds moved, Seconded by Vann, to approve the 2013 Interlaken Library contract. Aye-Waid, abstain-Bosman, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Vann.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the 2013 Trumansburg Ambulance contract and the Trumansburg 2013 fire protection contract. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, that Highway Fund Vouchers #33-53, in the amount of \$28,764.97 and General Fund Vouchers #-35-55, in the amount of \$156,753.75 be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye- Hunt, Aye- Waid and Aye-Bosman.

On the motion of Hunt, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Colleen R. Freese, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF COVERT  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING  
APRIL 8, 2013**

The organizational and regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, April 8, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

<b>Roll Call:</b>	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Present

**Others Present:** Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Reporter Aneta Glover, 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.

**Approval of Minutes:** Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, that the regular meeting minutes from March 11, 2013 be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

**Petitioner to the Board:** Donald Austin shared that he lives on West Ave. in Interlaken. He stated that he had lived in Bradford County in Pennsylvania in the middle of Fracking. "I have experienced the industrial process that goes on in a town where Hydro-Fracking is being done." He said that you have twenty-four hour a day truck traffic, ruined roads, increased pollution, apartment fees increased and most workers are from other states. He stated that the people of the industry do not care for the overall stewardship of the area they are working in. "I am calling on a ban for Hydro-Fracking because I want to see that the political leadership in this community cares enough about the majority of this community and the future generation, that you will protect this area."

Eric Ott stated, "I have been a resident in the Town of Covert for 25 years. I have been coming to Board Meetings for the last six months about Hydro-Fracking. First and foremost, it should be self-evident that pure drinking water is more valuable than natural gas. Fracking requires millions of gallons of water for Fracking; where will the water come from? There will be toxants dumped, a lot of truck traffic and pollution. Tourists are less likely to visit this area if they have to tend with all the truck traffic, noise, pollution, and homes will lose value. I ask you, what do you the Supervisor and Board Members want; do you seriously want Hydro-Fracking to take place in this area and how can it not scare the life out of you?"

There was other discussion on Hydro-Fracking and the many concerns of having Fracking done in this area. There are many reports about wells beinag contaminated. There was discussion on a ban for the Town of Covert. Town Attorney Morrell stated that right now, the state has a moratorium in place and they are doing studies on Hydro-Fracking. New York State has taken authority to come up with regulation for the industry. If the town had a moratorium, the clock would be ticking on the town to do something. Right now, any action the board takes is not going to have any more affect than what the state has already done and, in the mean time, we can allow the court's process of the litigations to play out because the town will be subject to that outcome.

Town Clerk Freese reported that the Department of Agriculture and Market inspected the Dog Controller Office Shelter and they were in satisfactory condition. In addition, she shared that the

Beverly Animal Shelter's contract is up for renewal.

Code enforcement Officer John Poludniak discussed the changes he made to the Land Management Ordinance so it would be more user friendly. After much discussion, the board agreed to review the Land Management Ordinance. Town Attorney Morrell said any changes made would require a public hearing. The Board Members will meet with the Code Enforcement Officer and work on a rough draft to present to the board for review.

Councilman Bosman reported that the Vita (Income Tax Program) offered by the county has ended and this year's total was 388 participants, with 127 prepared in the south end of the county. This saved participants about \$125.00 each in fees. The County plans to continue this program again next year.

Councilman Bosman attended a meeting in Ovid for a grant on health. This is supposed to include four towns working together for a grant for the health of the community. If we are going to be involved in this grant opportunity, the town residents need to be involved. The next meeting is going to be April 29, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at South Seneca High School.

Councilman Vann reported that access is now available to all emergency personnel for Conifer Village.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that they need to consider putting a user fee for the ambulance services. If we had a user fee, all residents would pay the same fee for ambulance service. There was much discussion on how to charge and if commercial properties should be included and be charged. The board asked that Supervisor Reynolds would work on this and get the information and figures to present to the board for review.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the 2013 Tax Collectors report for the total amount of \$1,716,965.54 collected. Aye-Waid, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Vann.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for March 2013. A total of \$270.00 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Highway Superintendent report for the month of March 2013. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Waid

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the Supervisor's revenue and expenditure report for March 2013. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid to approve the Town of Covert to be included in the charter of the Interlaken Library. Aye-Waid, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Vann.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, that Highway Fund Vouchers #54-64, in the amount of \$20,232.03 and General Fund Vouchers #-56-71, for \$21,483.96, be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bosman to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen R. Freese, Town Clerk

Supervisor Michael Reynolds

**TOWN OF COVERT  
SENECA COUNTY  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING  
MAY 13, 2013**

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, May 13, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

<b>Roll Call:</b>	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Present

**Others Present:** Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Reporter Aneta Glover, and Code Enforcement Officer John Poludniak, Planning Board Member Rob Schoffel 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.

**Approval of Minutes:** Vann moved, seconded by Waid, that the regular meeting minutes from April 8, 2013 be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

**Petitioner to the Board:**

Below is Sean Dembrosky summary of the petition presentation to The Town of Covert Board.

Hello, my name is Sean Dembrosky, a farmer here in the town of Covert. I am a member of the Concerned Citizens of Covert group because I believe very strongly in keeping our water drinkable, air breathable and quality of life healthy and rewarding. As concerned citizens, our group has been attending town board meetings for some time now. We have pleaded with you to enact a ban on horizontal hydrofracking here in Covert. It appears that you, the board, have perceived us as a fringe group, a negligible minority. We decided to talk to as many of our neighbors as possible and discovered that the overwhelming majority of our and your neighbors clearly support of a ban on horizontal hydrofracking. The petition was a process that took hundreds and hundreds of hours as we patiently and respectfully gathered the opinions of Covert residents. The results are in the packets we've prepared for you.

In summary, the consistent presence of Covert residents pushing for the board to enact a ban on fracking and associated industrial activities are not a fringe group. We are representing the majority of citizens in this town. Currently, 8824 acres, 44% of the land mass in Town of Covert is leased to be drilled. This is held by 49 residents in the town (less than 3%), with 41 of it held by people who don't even call Covert home. 840 residents, 68% of people we were able to speak with support a ban on horizontal hydrofracking. You represent all the residents of this town; you are responsible for making decisions that protect our welfare. Ban fracking so we can move on with our lives and continue to enjoy the beauty and quality of life this town offers. (The petition presentation is on file in the Town Clerks Office).

Councilman Vann shared that he recognized there was a lot of time and energy spent on the petition, and presentation given to the board by the Concerned Citizens of Covert and very nicely done. He also asked if the residents knew about the resolution the Town Board has in place on hydro-fracking. Dembrosky answered that some people knew the board's stand on Hydro-fracking and, if asked, he did explain the board's stand. Councilman Vann further asked Sean Dembrosky to provided a copy of the original petition with signatures to the board and he stated he would.

Judy Kugelmass stated, things have grown, since she first came to the Board, about the issues of Hydro-fracking. She said the board had concerns about doing a ban and if it was legal and what the cost would be to the town. She also stated it has been resolved now, with the Dryden Court case, and according to Home

Rule, you can put a ban on fracking.

There was discussion on the court case being resolved in Dryden and that a ban could be put in place now. Councilman Hunt shared that the Dryden case is appealing to the Court of appeals; this may not be the final decision. There was also the concern that if a ban was put in place in the town, would it not be considered to have zoning. Town Attorney Morrell stated that if you have such a ban, you have zoning.

Councilman Waid stated again that the board has made a decision about Hydro-Fracking. They passed a resolution back on October 8, 2012 that states the board's position on Hydro-Fracking and they are waiting for the states conclusions on these studies.

Mr. Millard addressed the Board about his concern on property assessments, and that some properties' assessments are a lot lower than what the properties are selling for. With school taxes on the rise, we need to look at property assessments and be sure they are assessed properly. Councilman Waid will look into the properties presented to him and report next month on these matters.

Councilman Bosman gave a summary on the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program for 2012 income taxes. This was a very successful second season of the VITA satellite site in Interlaken, held at the Public Library. It saved many residents money and time.

Councilman Bosman also shared that he will be attending a rally in Ovid and he will be approaching Assemblyman Phil Palmesano for further monies toward the 911-address signage for Covert.

There was discussion on a dog enumeration and the process for conducting the enumeration. Supervisor Reynolds will talk with the Dog Controller Officer to see if he is interested in doing the enumeration.

Councilman Vann discussed the Land Management Ordinance and some changes the Code Enforcement Office would like to implement in order to make it easier to understand. The Board will review the changes and will discuss any concerns at the June board meeting.

Councilman Vann also suggested that the surplus equipment in the basement of the Town Municipal Building could and should be turned over to the county to be auction off verses storing it. Supervisor Reynolds will follow up on it.

Councilman Vann suggested that the Town forms used on the website could and should be turned into smart forms allowing the user to type in the information, print it, save it, and forward it thru the application process. Code Enforcement stated it would make his job a lot easier.

Councilman Hunt shared that the Highway Superintendent and highway committee is working on a road protection policy for the Town of Covert. The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday May18, 2013.

Supervisor Reynolds shared on solar programs. The town is looking into solar energy to save money. The town is not eligible for federal or state incentive programs. The board will continue to do research on solar and heat options for the town.

There was discussion on the Neighborhood Health Status Improvement grant for the Towns of Covert, Lodi, Romulus and Lodi. They are asking for a letter of support from the town boards to send with the grant application. There are many possibilities to improve the communities if the residents of the towns get involved and work together. Councilman Bosman suggested the funding for this effort would most likely stay in Ovid. Councilman Vann stated he would need to know where the funding comes from before participating.

Supervisor Reynolds reported that Randy Shepard from Banadio Accounting Firm in Rochester, New York would be meeting with him to discuss the option for an audit on town records.



**RESOLUTION: No. 4-13 Budget Amendment**

Councilman Hunt moved, THAT WHEREAS the 2013 budget does not reflect either income or expenses related to the 2013 Record Management grant, and

WHEREAS the Town of Covert has been approved for \$4,480.00 and \$2,240.00 has been received with the remainder of \$2,240.00 to be received from the grant application, and

WHEREAS Town Clerk Freese proposes to purchase the following: five sections of steel shelving to meet New York State Archives Specification and fire proof cabinet and a dehumidifier/air evacuation system with the grant funds as outlined in the application,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 2013 budget be amended to reflect \$4,480.00 added to Revenues line A 3060 State Education Grant and \$4,480.00 added to Expenses line A1460.41 Record Management Grant. Councilman Waid duly seconded the Resolution. Vote: Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Reynolds.

Hunt moved, Seconded by Waid, to support the S2AY Rural Health Network application for the Greater Rochester's Health Foundation Neighborhood Health Status Improvement Grant to serve the Towns of Ovid, Covert, Romulus and Lodi. Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Supervisor Reynolds, Nay-Vann and Nay-Bosman

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for April 8, 2013. A total of \$455.62 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the Highway Superintendent report for the month of April 2013. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Waid

Waid moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Supervisor's revenue and expenditure report for April 2013. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Waid moved, seconded by Vann, that Highway Fund Vouchers #65-79, in the amount of \$20,856.63 and General Fund Vouchers #-72-91, for \$ 34,220.50, be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen R. Freese, Town Clerk

Supervisor Michael Reynolds

**TOWN OF COVERT  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING  
JUNE 10, 2013**

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, June 10, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

<b>Roll Call:</b>	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Present

**Others Present:** Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Reporter Aneta Glover, Highway Superintendent Jeffery Mc Cheyne 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.

**Approval of Minutes:** Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, that the regular meeting minutes from May 13, 2013 be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

**Petitioner to the Board:**

Linda Blossom addressed the board with information that detailed why she has taken the stand against fracking. She shared information on contamination of water wells and water sources and the dangers it has caused. She gave the Town Board some articles on what has happened with contamination of waters.

Below is Emily Aman's Presentation to the Board.

My name is Emily Aman and I am a part of a family farm. We farm in the north-west corner of the Town of Covert. A large percentage of our land, both owned and rented, is in the town of Covert. We have lived here for 52 years. Many of the farms we have purchased came with leases for gas and oil rights. There have been leases off and on for many of those years. Our present lease (which was contracted before Hydro-Fracking was an issue), expires in 2016.

I don't believe that anyone considers the Concerned Citizens a fringe group or negligible minority. I can respect this group for their concern and effort but I do not respect the rudeness that they deem necessary to express their opinions.

It is not a question —for or against—My family is still listening and trying to educate ourselves to both sides of the discussions. But we need facts not emotional hype. We do support the Board in their delay to a make a decision on a moratorium until the state settles the issue.

Money should not be the criteria for making a decision, unless, it means a large amount of money to be paid by the taxpayers of the Town, if the moratorium is challenged. A published figure, sometime ago, stated that it had cost the town of Dryden 38,000 dollars. Though found by the court that their moratorium is legal, appeals are in the works. How much more will they spend? Is the Concerned Group willing to raise all the money necessary if the moratorium is put in place and is challenged?

Now I wish to address the typed document of listed names supporting, that which Mr. Dembrosky has submitted to the Supervisor. Has the board been given the original petition or a certified copy with original signatures? I have seen a copy of an original petition sheet that was signed with room for ten names. On that petition, it is obvious that 5 out of 10, or 50%, are forged signatures. And surprise! He has listed the Aman family, only six of us because the other three do not appear on the voter registrar list, as having signed an original petition . If there are ten on that page, then 60% of signatures are forged. If the group talked to 68% of Covert to sign and there are forged names of 50% to 60%, it is not as impressive as they have led the public to believe. If the original hand written petition is not presented to the Board, why not? How many more names have been added to the typed copy , names which may have been forged or may not even appear on an original hand written sheet. A resident or landowner in the Town of Covert may put his signature on a petition which represents the citizens of the town but no one may sign for another member of his family or sign for anyone else.

These charges make the petition null and void and questions the credibility and ethics of this group. Mr. Dembrosky or a spokesman for the group, must explain how the six names of the Aman Family, got on the "official" list. Why are they on the list?, by what right did he have to include our names? and who forged our names?

We have two options: We can file criminal charges with the Seneca County District Attorney against Mr.Dembrosky and/or the group and certainly against the one who forged our names. The Board would have the responsibility to refer to the District Attorney to investigate these charges because they have been presented with a fraudulent petition.

A second option:we could accept a written explanation and an apology to the Aman Family with a printed explanation in the media which must meet our approval.

It is our wish to hear Mr.Dembrosky's or a spokesman from the group, response, right now in front of this group but it is the Board's decision to allow or not allow a response at this time.  
Presented by Emily Aman

Councilman Vann stated we asked Mr. Dembrosky for a copy of the original signed petition and it has not been presented to the Town Board as requested and promised.

Robert Mc Gill JR. presented the board with facts about Blue-Green Algal and how some well waters, ponds, and lake waters are contaminated in areas where there is no Fracking. Who is going to protect the citizens of Covert? He also stated drinking wells should be tested twice a year for contamination. (Information is on file at clerk's office).

Robert Schoffel addressed the board about his concern for tax assessment and that he has been coming to the board meeting for years to try and raise awareness of the tax system. There are properties that have buildings on them that are not listed on the tax roll. There seems to be no system in place to keep the database updated with information about properties to ensure fair tax value.

Highway Superintendent MacCheyne gave his report. They have cleaned intersections, removed wings from grader, installed a water tank on the 10-wheeler, did ditching on Six Corners Road and Savercool Road, as well as, cold patching on roads. He also shared he has been working with the Trumansburg Fire Chief on the fire lane numbers. The numbers will go 1-18 south to north, the Highway Department will be putting up the fire lane signs.

Town Clerk Freese reported that the Americana Vineyards is applying for a permit to have a firework display on July 6, 2013.

Councilman Bosman asked where we stand on the assessor, her contract runs out September 30, 2013.

Supervisor Reynolds stated there is an assessor committee meeting with the five towns on June 13, 2013. There was much discussion on how the assessor and the committee are handling thing.

Councilman Hunt stated that the Highway committee met June 15, 2013 and looked over a couple road protection plans. They will be using one as a guideline, for a road protection plan for the Town of Coverts.

Councilman Hunt also shared that the Village now has a new police Chief, Mr. Anderson.

Councilman Vann discussed the Land Management Ordinance, and he would like to see a clean version of the Land Management Ordinance drawn up for the Board to review for any changes or approval.

Code Enforcement Officer Poludniak stated that it would be a good idea to go through the Land Management Ordinance changes item-by-item and be sure the Board agrees on the changes.

Councilman Waid shared he will get the information on the assessment of the four properties Mr. Schoffel gave him last month by the next board meeting. He also reported that the Office of Real Property Tax Services has established a tentative rate of 95.00% for the Town of Covert. This rate indicates the level at which the municipality is assessing property in relation to its full market value.

Councilman Waid also reported he attended a meeting on how the libraries could raise funds. There seems to be a common thought that libraries are not needed because of computers. This is not true because many people use the libraries for the use of computers, to do job searches and renting books; the libraries also provide services for the public.

Councilman Bosman also reported on a couple properties the County Code Enforcement is working on getting cleaned up and taken care of. There is a fine in place to enforce, when necessary, for the cleaning up of properties.

Town Attorney Morrell said that the resolution for the General Municipal Law 53, would allow a claim to be delivered to the Secretary of State as well as the designated person for the town.

Town Attorney Morrell addressed the question of a ban on Fracking. As spelled out in Home Rule Law and under General Municipal Law, you could have the ability to ban the use of land for a certain purpose. The Dryden case specifically relates to the zoning ordinance. Within the decision itself it states the municipality involved has a right to adopt a zoning ordinance. Outside of the zoning area, it is uncharged and unproven. Is it possible? yes , “but I do not have any authority to say you will not be challenged should you decide to pass a ban”.

Town Attorney Morrell shared that he reviewed the ambulance agreement and the way it is written the ambulance fee can be charged under General Fund. He recommends the town charge for ambulance service through the General Funds.

Supervisor Reynolds reported he has interviewed three different audit firms to have the Town of Covert audit on the 2013 books. They have a deadline of July 1, 2013 to give us a written proposal. He also shared that they are working on the fire lane road signs, but still need to make some decision on the numbers and which one to use. The plan is to get the road signs up soon so it will help 911 find the homes easier.

There was discussion on an energy audit to be done on the Town Municipality building. The Board asked that Hubbard's Heating and Plumbing be contacted to see what the cost would be to have an energy audit done. There was also discussion to continue to look into solar energy.

**Resolution 05-13**  
**General Municipal Law §53**

WHEREAS General Municipal Law, §53 requires towns to file a certificate with the Secretary of State designating the Secretary of State as an agent for service of a notice of - claim; and

WHEREAS, General Municipal Law, §53 requires the certificate to include the applicable time limit for filing the notice of claim and the name, post office address and electronic mail address, if available, of an officer, person, for the transmittal of notices of claim served upon the Secretary as the town's agent; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to General Municipal Law, §50-e(1)(a), the applicable time limit for the filing of a notice of claim upon a town is 90 days after the claim arises, or in the case of a wrongful death action, 90 days from the appointment of a representative of the decedent's estate;

Now therefore Be It RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Covert, County of Seneca designates Colleen Freese, in her capacity as Town Clerk, to receive notices of claims served upon the Secretary of State by mail at 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, NY 14847 and email at [covertclerk@rochester.rr.com](mailto:covertclerk@rochester.rr.com).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby directs the Town Clerk to file the required certificate with the Secretary of State informing him or her of the town's designation and applicable time limitation for filing a notice of claim with the town on or before July 14, 2013.

Motion: Vann, Seconded: Waid - Vote: Vann-Aye, Bosman-Aye, Hunt-aye and Waid-Aye.

Bosman moved, Seconded by Hunt, that the Town Supervisor and Town Clerk would work together to negotiate a contract with John Poludniak to do a dog enumeration for the Town of Covert. Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Vann.

Hunt moved, seconded Vann, that the following items be declared as surplus items and sent to Seneca County Office or other source to be auction off or disposed of, NCR cash register, Lights, 2- Windows, Usher Wood Copier-D4081, Martin Yale Paper Folder, HP Jet 3050 printer, old type writer, Hp Jet-940, Old Key boards, Fax-575, Hewlett Packard 2100 and 2200.

Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Vann.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to refer variance request application #9-13 for Matt Lincoln 9345 Route 89, Trumansburg to build a 26' x 36' garage, that does not meet 20' side lot setback be referred to the Planning Board. A public hearing will be held at the Municipal Building, July 8, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Waid.

Waid moved, Seconded by Hunt, to approve Americana Vineyards Firework permit for July 6, 2013. Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Vann.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for May 2013. A total of \$554.00 was received and \$321.12 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Highway Superintendent report for the month of May 2013. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Waid

Waid moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Supervisor's revenue and expenditure report for May 2013. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, that Highway Fund Vouchers #80-89 in the amount of \$13,610.74 and General Fund Voucher's #-92-105 for \$ 19,302.02 be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bosman to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen R. Freese, Town Clerk

Supervisor Michael Reynolds

**TOWN OF COVERT  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING  
JULY 8, 2013**

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, July 8, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

<b>Roll Call:</b>	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Present

**Others Present:** Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Reporter Aneta Glover, Highway Superintendent Jeffery MacCheyne and Code Enforcement Officer John Poludniak, Planning Board Member Robert Schoffel 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. A moment of silence was held in memory of John Sipos.

**Public Hearing:**

Supervisor Reynolds opened the public hearing at 7:06.

The purpose of the public hearing was for a variance request under the Land Management Ordinance for Matt Lincoln, 9345 Rt. 89, Trumansburg, to construct a new 26'x36' garage that does not meet the required property line set back.

No one appeared against said variance request. The Planning Board recommended the Town Board approve the variance request.

Supervisor Reynolds closed the public hearing and opened the regular meeting at 7:10.

**Approval of Minutes:** Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, that the regular meeting minutes from June 10, 2013 be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

**Presenter:**

Barbara Stewart, Water Commissioner for the Village of Interlaken, shared that they have been holding water meetings since 2010. The Hunt Engineers' reports show the number of regional possibilities for access to potable water and obtaining backup sources for existing water systems. They are looking for an interconnection between Interlaken and Lodi. Hunt Engineers' recommendation was a phase approach, because of the cost and size of the project. A public meeting with all the towns involved will be held later this fall.

**Petitioner to the Board:**

Judy Kugelmass addressed the Town Board about the Aman's name being on the anti-fracking ban petition that the Concerned Citizens presented to the board. She stated they have gone through the petition and figured out that all names beginning with the letter "A" were included on the petition. When they tried to merge two databases together, something happened that caused the names with the letter "A" to be added to the petition. Judy Kugelmass apologized to Emily Aman and her family for their names appearing on the petition.

Emily Aman stated she discussed the anti-Fracking ban petition with Judy Kugelmass and Barry Ford and they agreed on a lot of things, but there is still a misunderstanding. "Barry said this petition showed the temperature of the community; well, it might have been, but when that petition was presented to the board, they were asking the board to put a ban in place on fracking". When you are going to ask a governing body to put a ban in place, it has to be a petition with guidelines. It must have each person's signature and only registered voters on a petition presented to the board. Without these guidelines, the petition is invalid. Therefore, the Board did not act wrongly by sticking with the Resolution #12 Natural Gas Drilling Position that the Town Board has in place at this time. Emily accepted the apology from Mrs. Kugelmass on behalf of the Concerned Citizens.

Town Clerk reported that the offsite record storage company Iron Mountain has gone from a \$78.00 a year charge to a monthly fee that would cost the town \$800.00 a year. The Board agreed that the Clerk should rent a safety deposit box from the Community Bank and store the film there.

Town Clerk also shared that the dog license tags are here. There was much discussion on what to pay John Poludniak to do the enumeration.

Councilman Bosman shared some comments on the revenue and expenditure report. "I am concerned about the Court Justice fees and the municipal building fuel account as well as a couple highway accounts." His concern is to keep these accounts within the budgeted amount for 2013.

Councilman Bosman shared about the House number signs; they still need around \$12,000.00 for this project to be completed. The board decided to use reflective numbers for the signs. Each sign costs about \$15.00. The lake roads will be getting the house number signs first to make it easier for 911 to find the homes.

Supervisor Reynolds stated that Ann Morgan, the assessor for the five towns, would be retiring as of September 30, 2013.

There was discussion on the assessment of properties and how some homes may be assessed at one amount, but sell for a lot more than what they were assessed for. Supervisor Reynolds stated that you can't control what houses sell for. When a new assessor is hired, the five towns need to have more input and look into a contract, as the assessor works for the Towns.

Councilman Hunt reported he would be doing a road tour with Highway Superintendent MacCheyne July 9, 2013 to look at the conditions of the town roads.

Councilman Vann reported they are still working on a road protection plan for the Town of Covert. He also shared that Code Enforcement Officer Poludniak has made some changes to the Land Management Ordinance so it is clear to understand. Town Attorney Morrell recommends holding a public hearing next month to adopt the changes that have been made to the ordinance.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that he talked to NYSERDA about doing an energy audit on the town's municipal building and they are willing to do one. Councilman Vann shared that if we are serious about energy, the town should hire an Engineering Firm to come in to look at the municipal building and see what they suggest to do in order to save the town money.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that he received a proposal from Bonadio & Company, LLP and Ciaschi, Dietershagen, Little, Mickelson and Company, LLP and EFP Rotenberg for a 2013 audit for the Town of Covert. Supervisor Reynolds' recommendation is for Bonadio &



Company; they audit Seneca County and do a good job.

Supervisor Reynolds also shared that the Village of Interlaken and the Interlaken Village Police Department are requesting an increase from the Town of Covert Board from \$3,000.00 a year to \$5,000.00 a year. At this time, the Town Board does not see how they can increase the Shared Services line on the Town of Covert's budget.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to hold a public hearing on August 12, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. to hear comments on the proposed changes to the Land Management Ordinance. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Vann.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to appoint John Poludniak as dog enumerator, to be paid \$300.00 when the job is done plus \$1.00 for each licensed dog and \$2.00 for each unlicensed dog counted plus mileage. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to designate the Town Clerk as the designated officer to authorize fireworks permits for the Town of Covert. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Vann.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the variance request under Land Management Ordinance for Matt Lincoln, 9345 Rt. 89 Trumansburg, to construct a 26'x 36' garage. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for June 2013. A total of \$642.00 was received and \$512.71 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Waid moved, seconded by Bosman, to approve the Highway Superintendent report for the month of June 2013. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Waid

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Supervisor's revenue and expenditure report for June 2013. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Waid moved, seconded by Hunt, that Highway Fund Vouchers #90-102 in the amount of \$15,976.62 and General Fund Voucher's #106-123 for \$15,642.85 be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid and Aye-Bosman.

Waid moved, seconded by Bosman to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen R. Freese, Town Clerk

Supervisor Michael Reynolds

TOWN OF COVERT  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING  
August 12, 2013

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, August 12, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

<b>Roll Call:</b>	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Present

**Others Present:** Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Reporter Aneta Glover, Highway Superintendent Jeffery MacCheyne, Code Enforcement Officer John Poludniak and Planning Board Member Robert Schoffel 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.

Supervisor Reynolds opened the public hearing at 7:05.

**Public Hearing:** The purpose of the public hearing was to review the revision made to clarify the existing Land Management Ordinances. There was much discussion to include Phone huts, Commercial and seasonal stands that are less than one-hundred and forty feet, which would not need building permits. The minimum requirement for the address numbers is 3” high. There was some discussion about county building permits being attached to the town building permits.

Bosman moved, Seconded by Waid, to close the public hearing at 7:20. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes:** Bosman moved, seconded by Hunt, that the regular meeting minutes from July 8, 2013 be approved with the change that the Town Clerk can issues fireworks permits. Motion carried unanimously.

The Town Board received three sealed bids for the 2014 Lawn Maintenance Contract. The first bid was from Jamie Morgan (Mr. Outside) for \$2,760.00. The second bid was from Philip Stannard for \$4,300 and the third bid was from Raymond Zajac Sr. (Grease Lightning) for \$2,080.00.

**Petitioner to the Board:** Interlaken Village Police Chief Leon E. Anderson shared some information on tickets that were issued over the last few years and that tickets are up this year. They have issued 205 tickets, 92 were convictions. “I believe that we are on track for making our community a safe place to live, travel and do business. I’m asking that the board would consider this in the budget process and increase shared service to help the Village with expenses.” The full report is on file at Town Clerk’s Office.

Town Attorney Patrick Morrell shared that it is important for the board to understand that the court is not a moneymaking business for the town; it is not even a self-sustaining process. The Town is required by New York State to have a Town Court.

**Highway Report:** Highway Superintendent MacCheyne shared that on Bassett Road and Congress Street they are installing crossover pipe to divert the water. Service was done on the 10-John Deere and number 12-ford tractor. They have been cold patching roads and doing regular maintenance on all equipment. Also, Trumansburg district fire numbers on the fire lanes on the lake roads were installed.

Town Clerk Freese reported that the town received the final payment for the Record Management Grant for \$434.00. The state has asked the Town Board to send a letter of support to the Governor and Members of the Assembly of the State Senator, asking them to consider keeping the New York State Local Government Record Management Improvement Fund. This grant helps many towns with updating records and supplies for record management. The Town of Covert has been a recipient of this grant a couple of times. The clerk would like to see us support this grant program so others may also receive grant funds.

Councilman Bosman presented the house numbering progress report below: The House-numbering program for the Town of Covert was envisioned to be in three phases:

Phase # 1 - placing red number/letter signs at the top of each road. The roads on the north end of the Town of Covert have been designated by letters for a number of years by the Interlaken Fire Dept. The Town of Covert Town crew under the direction of Jeff MacCheyne have placed number designations on the roads serviced by the Trumansburg Fire Dept recently, completing this phase.

Phase # 2 - Placing number designations, in accordance with the requirements for new construction (green background - 3 inch reflective letters), on the 278 properties off the lake roads. These are the properties that fire, rescue and police have had most problems in the past finding the locations.

As a test to begin this phase, roads were selected in the north and south end of the Town of Covert. Approximately 50 such signs were erected by volunteers on Kidder Beach Rd, Bergin Beach Road and part of Interlaken Beach Road in the north (Interlaken Fire Dept area) and on Oak Harbor Lane and South Frontenac Ext. in the south (Trumansburg Fire Dept area). Through a grant from Seneca Meadows secured by Supervisor Reynolds, the signs and poles were purchased and transported to Covert by Highway Superintendent MacCheyne, bolts and screws were donated by the Trumansburg Fire Dept (Chief Jason Fulton and Jack Fulton.)

In General, every effort was made to place the post and signs after consulting with the owners as much as possible. Almost all of the owners were appreciative of our effort.

In order to complete Phase 2 and move into phase three (signs for the remainder of the Town of Covert), we have been in contact with outside agencies to obtain financial help. In our contact with Seneca County Emergency Services Office (Charlie McCann) earlier, as well as our state representatives (Senator Nozzolio, Representative Palmesano, Representative Kolb, and Congressman Reed), we were informed that there are funds for Fire Dept. equipment but there does not seem to be any grant money for signs and to get the equipment there. We have also offered individuals the option to purchase their house signs, with erection to be done by our volunteers. The Cost is \$15.00.

Several weeks ago, Supervisor Reynolds, as chair of the County Public Safety committee, held a hearing on the possibilities of obtaining grants and county funds for the project. There was support for the project from the Town Supervisors from the towns in the south end of the county (Lodi, Ovid, Romulus and Varick), those in the urban towns to the north felt that the individual towns

should tax their property (similar to the recycle tax) for a year to get the needed funds. Mr. McCann indicated he would reassess the availability of funds.

There are sufficient funds from the Seneca Meadows grant to complete about 120 house signs. After that, the board will need to make a decision if there is sufficient excess funds in the 2013 budget to complete phase 2 and if they wish to include funds in the 2014 budget to complete the project.

Councilman Hunt reported that he did a road tour to see the conditions of the town roads. Highway Superintendent MacCheyne and Councilman Hunt also went out and looked at roads and some of the problems they have. In an effort to keep the Town from taking over the Lakeview Cemetery, the Lakeview Cemetery Committee is holding a gun raffle.

Councilman Vann shared that he is reviewing some road protection plans and working on one for the Town of Covert. He also stated he would like to see some of the town's permits be put on the web site in short form so they could be filled out on line.

Councilman Waid shared that he met with the assessor and reviewed some properties and how assessments are done. The assessor shared they have a program and a tax law they are required to go by when they figure assessments.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that the assessor has put an ad for the assessor position on the state web page and will list it in papers. There was discussion on hiring a full time clerk for the Assessor's Office while in the transition period. Supervisor Reynolds shared that the Five Town Supervisor and the committee members will vote on who is hired.

John Poludniak, dog enumerator, shared some problems he is running into going door to door for the dog enumeration and asked that the board would reconsider the amount of pay. It is taking a lot more time than he figured. He stated that he did not think anyone realized what was involved to do the job. Councilman Hunt suggested that Mr. Poludniak work with the Supervisor and the Town Clerk on the time and amount of pay.

RESOLUTION – NO. 06-13  
SUPPORT TO CONTINUE THE CORNELL LOCAL ROADS PROGRAM

**WHEREAS**, since 1951 the Cornell Local Roads Program, provided by the Local Technical Assistance Program, has been providing technical assistance and training for local highway officials through Cooperative Extension; and

**WHEREAS**, the roots of the program go back into the 1930s when Cornell began collaborating with the Association of Towns, organizing and hosting the Annual School for Highway Superintendents; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1984 joint funding from the New York State Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration allowed the program to provide fifty to sixty one-day workshops on a variety of topics; direct technical assistance with on-site visits; a summer intern program to create a roadway asset management plan for individual municipalities; the annual Highway School; research on problems faced by local roads; and a work zone safety training program; and

**WHEREAS**, there is an ongoing need for training due to every two years about one-third of the leading highway officials are new to their office, as well as keeping established highway personnel up to date on the issues; and

**WHEREAS**, the income generated by the program is sufficient to pay for all of the costs of the program; and

**WHEREAS**, the location of the program, Ithaca, NY, is central to New York State and a convenient distance for attendees to travel especially for our local highway departments; and

**WHEREAS**, the focus of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences has shifted from Agricultural Engineering to Biological Engineering and thus excluding and discontinuing the Cornell Local Roads Program as a priority in the college's strategic plan;

**NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED**, that the Town of Covert Board does hereby urge the Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences to reverse her decision and continue holding the Local Technical Assistance Program / Cornell Local Roads Program at Cornell University.

Motion: Councilman Bosman, Seconded by: Councilman Hunt. Vote: Aye- Councilman Vann. Aye- Councilman Bosman, Aye- Councilman Waid, and Aye- Councilman Hunt.

Councilman Waid stated, "I asked myself what are my motives for wanting this resolution passed for the 'NY SAFE ACT'. I do a lot of hunting and wanted to make sure my motives are right." He stated other people stand up for what they believe in and he believes they are trying to take away our rights.

### **RESOLUTION No. 7-13**

Reaffirm Town of Covert- Board's Position — Governor and Legislature Set Aside and Annul the "NY SAFE ACT"

**WHEREAS**, On February 13, 2013, the Town Board of the Town of Covert unanimously passed "RESOLUTION 2 - 13 Town of Covert- Board's Position - Governor and Legislature Set Aside and annul the "NY SAFE ACT": and

**WHEREAS**, The Town Board of the Town of Covert continues to call upon the New York State Legislature and Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to set aside and annul this ill-conceived and poorly drafted law: and

**WHEREAS**, Due to the continued high priority of this issue, we direct the Covert Town Clerk to forward a copy of this resolution to all Seneca County Town Clerks, Seneca County Supervisors, Senator Michael F. Nozzolio, Assemblyman Philip A. Palmesano, Senate Republican Conference Leader Dean G. Skelos, Senate Independent Democrat Conference Leader Jeffrey A. Klein, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Assembly Minority Leader Brian M. Kolb, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and Seneca County Sheriff Jack S. Stenberg: and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the undersigned members of the Covert Town Board, call upon the New York State Legislature and Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to set aside and annul the NY SAFE ACT, which infringes the rights of law-abiding citizens of the State of New York, Seneca County, and the Town of Covert.

Motion: Councilman Waid, Seconded by Councilman Hunt.

Vote: Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

## RESOLUTION No. 8-13

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, that the Town of Covert Board be the lead agency for the Land Management Ordinance. Vote: Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye- Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Town Attorney Morrell, asked the Board Members if they could identify any possible environmental impact associated with the amendments to the Land Management Ordinance, such as plant life, wild life, water drain off, community character, traffic. Does any Board Member identify any potential environmental impacts?

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann that the adoption of amendments to the Land Management Ordinance on August 12, 2013 will not result in a potentially large or adverse environmental impact or negative declaration. Vote: Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to adopt the opposed amendments to the Land Management Ordinance on August 12,2013. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid, Aye-Bosman.

**THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED COMPREHENSIVE AMENDMENTS TO THE LAND MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE ARE FOR THE PURPOSE OF CLARIFYING THE EXISTING INTENT WITHOUT CHANGING OR REMOVING ANYTHING OF SUBSTANCE.**

**Added words** are shown in *bold italics font* in the Section and sentence in which they are added.

**Changed words** are shown in **bold underlined font** followed by the original words shown in (parenthesis).

### **SECTION TWO - A: BUILDING PERMIT REQUIREMENTS** (CONSTRUCTION AND ALTERATIONS)

A copy of the Covert Land Management Ordinance shall be *available on the website and at the office with the* (shall be attached to all) building permit applications.

### **SECTION TWO – C: PREMISE ADDRESS NUMBER SIGNS**

*This section is added* in order to insure fast and accurate response of emergency personnel:

The address sign shall be 18”x6” minimum size, reflective green painted or vinyl clad, with reflective white numbers **a minimum of 3in. (4”)** high, with a stroke width of ½”, placed on each side.

For single post installation, top of sign must be 4 **ft. (4’)** minimum height.

Contact the local Code Enforcement Officer for any application that cannot be determined from *the information provided above in this section.*

### **SECTION THREE: BUILDING SITE AND SANITARY STANDARDS**

4) Each lot shall have a minimum of 200 feet frontage along any public road. Each lake shore lot shall have a minimum of 100 feet frontage along the lake shore. Each lot without lake frontage, or not on a public road shall have a minimum **dimension (width)** of 200 feet.

9) There will be a limit of one dwelling *structure* per parcel.

## **SECTION FIVE: ENFORCEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION**

2) All applications for building permits shall be filed (**in duplicate**) with the Town Clerk *at the office*.

3) *Normal process time is* within 48 hours (except Saturday and Sunday) from the time the application is filed with the Town Clerk.

4) For any inspection required by the conditions of the permit, the Code Enforcement Officer shall perform the inspection *normally* within 48 hours of the applicant's request for inspection.

## **SECTION SEVEN: INTERPRETATION AND ENACTMENT**

6) *All proposed amendments to this Ordinance will be made available in advance as legally required to the Town for review and comment to the Town Board before they take action on them. This to be provided by public announcement of the scheduled action of the Board by making available a copy of the proposed amendments at the Town Office and on the Town website.*

7) *Upon Board approval new amendments will become immediately effective and shall be incorporated into the Land Management Ordinance. Amendments will be separately listed and recorded by approval date of the Board's action in the historical continued listing with all previous amendments kept on file at the Town Office.*

### **August 12, 2013- AMENDED LAND MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE**

## **SECTION ONE: PURPOSE**

To promote and manage the orderly growth of the Town of Covert; to improve the quality of the natural and man-made environment; and to assure the health, safety and general welfare of its residents, the Town Board of the Town of Covert has enacted the following Ordinance:

## **SECTION TWO - A: BUILDING PERMIT REQUIREMENTS**

A copy of the Covert Land Management Ordinance shall be *available on the website and at the office with the* building permit applications.

A building permit shall be approved prior to construction, erection, alteration, addition to, replacement of, or installation of any building in the Town of Covert. Exterior routine maintenance and interior renovations, except where the number of dwelling units is changed, do not require a building permit. Dog houses, calf hutches and bus stop shelters, phone huts and seasonal or commercial stands, less than 140 square feet do not require a building permit.

The application for a building permit shall include: the location, area and dimensions of the real property on which the proposed building construction or alteration will take place; location of all rights-of-way; location and dimensions of all existing buildings located thereon; location and description of all existing overhead and underground utility lines; a description of the proposed construction, erection, alteration, addition to and/or installation and the estimated cost or market value thereof; and other pertinent information requested.

## **SECTION TWO - B: DEFINITIONS**

- 1) The words used in this ordinance shall have the meaning commonly attributed to them. Doubts as to their precise meaning shall be determined by the Town Board of the Town of Covert.
- 2) Building is a structure designed and suitable for habitation or sheltering human beings and/or animals, sheltering or storing property, or for occupation and use for trade or manufacture.
- 3) The following are not to be included in the definition of building and are not governed by this Ordinance: dog houses, calf hutches, bus stop shelters, fences, docks, wharves, platforms, breakwaters, boat hoists (enclosed or not), and mooring, phone huts, and seasonal or commercial stands less than 140 square feet do not require a building permit.
- 4) Also not to be included in the definition of building under this Ordinance and therefore exempt from this Ordinance are any structures in, on or over the waters of Cayuga Lake.

## **SECTION TWO – C: PREMISE ADDRESS NUMBER SIGNS**

*This section is added* in order to insure fast and accurate response of emergency personnel: Upon receiving a building permit for any structure on new or existing premises will require that an assigned property address number sign be erected within two weeks after commencement of the work. All assigned premise address numbers must be obtained from Seneca County 911 Address Clerk (315-539-1921). The address sign shall be 18"x6" minimum size, reflective green painted or vinyl clad, with reflective white numbers a minimum of 3in high, with a stroke width of ½", placed on each side. Mailbox vertical sign installation height requires any part of the sign be installed within the height of the mailbox floor or higher. Mailbox signs can be mounted horizontally on the top of the mailbox or two separate single sides' signs on each side of the mailbox walls. For single post installation, top of sign must be 4 ft. minimum height. All signs must be visible from either direction and shall be as follows:

- 1) On premises with a mail box on the same side of the road as the structure, the sign may be attached vertically to the mail box post, horizontally to the mail box or on a separate post.
- 2) On Premises opposite side of the road from a mailbox or on premises with no mailbox, the sign shall be place in a vertical manner on a post-same side as premises.
- 3) On premises located on a marked fire road (ex. A, B, C) or a named beach road, signs shall be placed adjacent to the property on a post on the same side as the structure.
- 4) On premises located on an unmarked road, signs shall be placed at the road entrance side of the highway. If that unmarked road contains more than one legal addressed premise, a second sign shall be placed in front of the structure. Additional signs may be required at each intersection of road leading to the premises.

Contact the local Code Enforcement Officer for any application that cannot be determined from *the information provided above in this section.*

Where any type sign support method is expected to penetrate the ground, the owner/installer is required to call 811 (dig Safely N.Y.) to obtain further information with a process to identify any underground utilities (New York State Law).

## **SECTION THREE: BUILDING SITE AND SANITARY STANDARDS**

- 1) For sites requiring the installation of a new water supply or a sewage disposal system, no building permit shall be approved contingent upon the applicant has produced a valid permit for the installation from the Seneca County Health Department in accordance with the Seneca County Watershed Code.



- 2) All buildings shall be set at an elevation that will provide drainage of surface water away from the building when final grading of the site is completed. All disturbed areas shall be graded and seeded.
- 3) The minimum lot area for each dwelling unit shall be one acre.
- 4) Each lot shall have a minimum of 200 feet frontage along any public road. Each lake shore lot shall have a minimum of 100 feet frontage along the lake shore. Each lot without lake frontage, or not on a public road shall have a minimum *dimension* of 200 feet.
- 5) All buildings except seasonal roadside stands shall be set back a minimum of 50 feet from all right-of-way lines for public roads. All buildings shall be set back a minimum of 20 feet from each side and rear lot line. All fences are exempted from setback standards.
- 6) The maximum height of any residential building shall be 35 feet, as measured from average mid point of surrounding terrain where it meets the foundation of the structure.
- 7) All permanent housing units shall be securely fastened to the land.
- 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 of floor area on the first floor.
- 9) There will be a limit of one dwelling *structure* per parcel.
- 10) FLAG LOTS; A building lot shaped like a flag; the staff is a narrow strip of land, connected to a public right of way and with a minimum frontage and width of fifty (50) feet, the flag portion shall have a minimum lot area of one (1) acre for each dwelling unit. The right of way is not included in the figuring of this area. Proof must be shown of a legally designated right of way.

#### **SECTION FOUR: SAFETY AND HEALTH HAZARDS AND PUBLIC NUISANCES**

- 1) It shall be unlawful for any person to deposit or permit to be deposited any sewage, including gray water from washing machines, dishwashers, or any other appliance or machine, or gray water of any nature, in any ditch, waterway or body of water, or upon the ground within the Town.
- 2) It shall be unlawful for any person who owns or occupies any land or structure within the Town to fail to repair, correct or cease using any malfunctioning privy, sewer, drain, cistern, vault, waste water system, or septic system 24 hours after notice by the Town Board, Code Enforcement Officer, or Health Department that an unwholesome or unhealthy condition exists.

#### **SECTION FIVE: ENFORCEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION**

- 1) This Ordinance shall be enforced by a "Code Enforcement Officer" designated by the Town Board. An "Alternate Code Enforcement Officer" shall be designated by the Town Board for those occasions when the Code Enforcement Officer shall be unavailable for extended periods of time.
- 2) All applications for building permits shall be filed with the Town Clerk *at the office*.
- 3) *Normal process time is* within 48 hours (except Saturday and Sunday) from the time the application is filed with the Town Clerk. The Code Enforcement Officer shall examine the site and the application materials and approve, approve with conditions, or deny the requested permit. In the instance of permit denial, the reason will be set forth in writing to the applicant at the time of the denial. The Code Enforcement Officer may include in the permit a requirement for inspection at any point in the progress of construction or alteration.
- 4) For any inspection required by the conditions of the permit, the Code Enforcement Officer shall perform the inspection *normally* within 48 hours of the applicant's request for inspection.
- 5) The Seneca County Code Enforcement Officer shall have the responsibility of issuing a Certificate of Occupancy.
- 6) Building permits are valid for a period of one year from the date of approval.

If construction is not completed within one year the permit will be extended in writing by the Code Enforcement Officer after review. If construction is not started within one year, a new permit must be applied for.

- 7) There shall be no fees charged for building permits required by this Ordinance.
- 8) The violation of any provision of this Ordinance shall be an offense punishable by a fine not to exceed \$250 or by imprisonment of not more than fifteen days or by both such fine and imprisonment. Each day of continued violation shall constitute a separate offense.
- 9) In addition to the above penalties, the Town of Covert may also apply to any court of competent jurisdiction for an injunction to enjoin any person from a violation of this Ordinance.

## **SECTION SIX: VARIANCES AND APPEALS**

- 1) Where there are unusual or unforeseen circumstances or hardship, the Town Board may, after a public hearing, grant variances from any of the provisions of this Ordinance except those related to the Seneca County Health Department.
- 2) Requests for variances shall be in writing to the Town Board
- 3) In considering a request for a variance, the Town Board shall be guided by the circumstances of the situation and the intent of the applicant, and shall act to protect the best interests of the community.
- 4) All appeals for an interpretation or variance from this Ordinance because of a denial of a building permit shall be in writing to the Town Board within 30 days of denial of the permit.
- 5) The appeal shall be referred to the Town Planning Board by the Town Board for recommendation.
- 6) The Town Planning Board may request additional information from the applicant, if necessary for proper review, and shall make its recommendation, in writing, to the Town Board within 30 days. The Planning Board may recommend approval, approval with conditions, or denial of the appeal.
- 7) The Town Board shall render a written decision on the appeal within 30 days of receipt of the recommendation of the Town Planning Board. The Town Board may approve, approve with conditions or deny the appeal.
- 8) Any person or persons, jointly or severally aggrieved by any decision of the Town Board, or the Code Enforcement Officer or any Officer or Department of the Town of Covert concerning a request for a variance or an application for a permit, may have the decision reviewed in the manner provided by Article 78 of the Civil Practice Laws and Rules, provided the proceeding is commenced within 4 months after the decision is made.

## **SECTION SEVEN: INTERPRETATION AND ENACTMENT**

- 1) In their interpretation and application, the provisions of this Ordinance shall be held to be the minimum requirements, adopted for the promotion of the public health, safety or general welfare.
- 2) Whenever the requirements of this Ordinance are at variance with the requirements of any other lawfully adopted rules, regulations or ordinances, the most restrictive or that imposing the higher standard shall govern.
- 3) Nothing in this section or in this Ordinance shall interfere with the provisions of the Agricultural District Law as amended.
- 4) The invalidity of any section, subsection or any part of this Ordinance shall not invalidate any other section, subsection or part thereof.
- 5) This Ordinance shall become effective at the time and in the manner provided by law.

Hunt move, seconded by Vann, to send a letter of support to the Governor and Members of Assembly and State Senator that they would reconsider supporting the New York State Local Government Record Management Improvement Grant. This Grant allows local governments to operate more efficiently and improves increased access to government records. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to accept Raymond Zajac's bid for \$2,080.00 for the lawn maintenance contract for the budget year of 2014, for the following properties: Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Old Covert Town Hall, 9273 State Route 96 and Covert Cemetery, 9219 County Road 144 A. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Waid moved, seconded by Bosman, to accept the resignation of Harold Wright from the Assessment Review Board with regrets and thanking him for serving. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Vann.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for July 2013. A total of \$715.60 was received and \$321.12 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the Highway Superintendent report for the month of July 2013. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Waid

Waid moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Supervisor's revenue and expenditure report for July 2013. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Waid moved, seconded by Hunt, that Highway Fund Vouchers #103-113 in the amount of \$35,474.64 and General Fund Voucher's #126-146 for \$ 22,823.47 be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid and Aye-Bosman.

Waid moved, seconded by Bosman to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen R. Freese, Town Clerk

Supervisor Michael Reynolds

TOWN OF COVERT  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING  
September 9, 2013

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, September 9, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

<b>Roll Call:</b>	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Present

**Others Present:** Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Reporter Aneta Glover, Highway Superintendent Jeffery MacCheyne, Planning Board Member Robert Schoffel, Diane Laws 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.

**Approval of Minutes:** Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, that the regular meeting minutes from August 12, 2013 be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

**Presenter:** Diane Laws shared about the mission of the Seneca County Substance Abuse Coalition. It is to reduce the use and prevent the abuse of substance by our youth, using data collection to develop effective environmental strategies that will empower our youth to refuse the promotion of alcohol and other drugs. Some may ask does Seneca County have a underage drinking problem? Seneca County does have an underage drinking problem, with about 25% 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders and 33%, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grader drinking alcohol at home. The percentage of teens drunk or high at school is 33% of 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders and 52% of 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grader.

Seneca County passed a Local Law called the "Social Host Law to Prohibit the Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages and /or illegal Drugs. This law affects anyone age 16 and over that knowingly host, permits or allow a gathering at which the consumption of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs by any minor on such premises or fails to take corrective action shall be punishable by law. The Prevention First –NY grant that Seneca County received to help fight underage drinking is asking for the Community's to do an adult survey on underage drinking in Seneca County.

**Petitioner to the Board:** Anthony Delplato, shared I have lived here almost five year we run a bed and breakfast on West Ave. I am speaking to the Fracking issues as we all know the highest court is about to rule on the home rule. I understand that as a Board you have made a decision on Fracking to wait and see what DEC decision is on Fracking. There are many people concerned about the contaminations of the water from Fracking in this area. He presented the board with information on the contaminations of water from Fracking and asked that they would read over the information.

**Highway Report:** Highway Superintendent MacCheyne shared that they applied a double surface treatment on Halls Corner and Townline road, replaced rotten crossover pipes on Congress Street and Bassett road. Installed underground pipe in the front lawn of Town Hall, to drain water from eaves to flow through the storm sewer. Have done regular cold patching, oiled pads and regular maintenance on equipment. There was discussion on sending the 2011 Ford pick-up truck to auction were they are guarantee \$22,000.00for the truck.

**Town Clerk Report:** Reported that Lucas Vineyards has informed the Town Board that their intent is to renewed their Farm Winery License with New York State Liquor Authority. The Town Clerks Office has been busy with hunting licenses, and dog licenses have doubled with the dog Enumeration taking place.

Town Clerk gave report on dog enumeration, through August 2013, the Dog Enumerator found seventy-licensed dog and eighty-seven unlicensed dogs. About 20 people have not responded to getting their dogs licensed. These names will go to the Dog Control Officer for the next course of action.

Councilman Bosman reported that he met with Justice Court candidate, Henry Vanness and Justice William Shaw to discuss what they could consider applying for on the 2014 Justice Court Assistance Grant Application. The Court will be asking for a phone system. There was discussion about asking for insulation and paint for the courtroom.

Councilman Bosman shared he has put up the house number signs on some of the lake property. He shared that he needs help because it is hard to get to all the lake property, and who owns what house. We need to make sure the right house numbers is on the right house.

Councilman Hunt shared that Griffith Oil Company has been supplying our fuel and they will not accept state bid this year. NOCO started out in Buffalo and they are a good company and will honor the state bid.

Councilman Vann stated we received the ambulance budget. Do you know when the next Trumansburg, EMS fire and ambulance budget meeting is?

Supervisor Reynolds shared that the basement of the Municipal Building needs a dehumidifier to help keep the moisture out. The RS DE 1710A-dehumidifier with a pump will drain the water outside to help keep moisture out.

Supervisor Reynolds set the next budget workshop for September 23, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at Town of Covert, Municipal Building at 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken.

There was discussion that the fuel tanks at the Highway Barn need to have an overhang built to protect them from water. The Town did receive bids on this last year. Town Attorney Morrell shared that the job bids for this can done under the town's procurement policy.

There was discussion on a variance request for building permit, application #14-13 for Jeremy Porter, 3467 Kelly's Corners Road, Interlaken, to replace existing porch with a 14' x 42' porch which does not meet the required 50' road set back from the road right away.

There was discussion about having an energy study done on the town's municipal building. Supervisor Reynolds talked with Engineer Jason Mc Cormick about an energy study; he suggested having an energy study done by NYSERDA. Councilman Vann suggests again that they hire an engineer to do an energy study. The study will give them different option to look at and maybe even phase could be done. Councilman Hunt suggested they apply for a NYSERDA grant and also talk to Jason Mc Cormick and see what he would charge to do a study.

Supervisor Reynolds share that they have four applications for the Five Town Assessor job. The applicants only want part time and we may have to hire a clerk. There will be a meeting September 19, 2013 at 5:00.

Bosman moved, seconded by Hunt, that variance request application #14-13 for Jeremy Porter, 3467 Kelly's Corners Road, Interlaken, to replace existing porch with a 14'x 42' porch to be referred to the Planning Board. A public hearing will be held at the Municipal Building, October 14, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid and Aye-Bosman Aye-Vann.

Vann moved, Seconded by Waid for the Town Clerk to purchase, the RS DE1710 basement dehumidifier with the condensate pump and tubing. For the amount of \$1,229.90.  
Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid and Aye-Bosman Aye-Vann.

Bosman moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the 2014 Interlaken Fire Contract for the amount of \$67,213.35. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid, Aye Vann and Aye-Hunt

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to seek proposal under the Town of Coverts Procurement Policy, for an overhang on Highway Barn to cover the fuel tanks. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to declare the 2011 Ford - F250 SD XL Ext. Cab pickup as surplus and to be disposed of at the Roy Teitsworth, Inc. auction in Monroe, on October 5, 2013.  
Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Waid.

Waid moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for August 12, 2013. A total of \$ 2,715.25 was received and \$862.59 was remitted to the Town Supervisor.  
Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Vann moved, seconded by Bosman, to approve the Highway Superintendent report for the month of August 2013. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Waid

Hunt moved, seconded by Bosman, to approve the Supervisor's revenue and expenditure report for August 2013. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, that Highway Fund Vouchers #114-126 in the amount of \$56,108.31 and General Fund Voucher's #147-165 for \$ 18,635 .59 be approved for payment.  
Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen R. Freese, Town Clerk

Supervisor Michael Reynolds

TOWN OF COVERT  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING  
OCTOBER 14, 2013

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, October 14, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

<b>Roll Call:</b>	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Present

**Others Present:** Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Reporter Aneta Glover, Highway Superintendent Jeffery MacCheyne, Planning Board Member Robert Schoffel, 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.

**Public Hearing:** Supervisor Reynolds opened the public hearing at 7:05.

The purpose of the public hearing was for a variance request under the Land Management Ordinances for Jeremy Porter, 3467 Kelly's Corner Road, in regards to building a 14' x 42' enclosed porch, which does not meet the required 50' set back from the road right of way.

The Planning Board recommends the approval of the variance request. Councilman Hunt and Councilman Waid stopped to look at the porch and agree it needs replacing.

Supervisor Reynolds closed the public hearing and opened the regular meeting at 7:10.

**Approval of Minutes:** Waid moved, seconded by Vann, that the regular meeting minutes from September 9, 2013 be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

**Petitioner to the Board:**

Richard Westbrook asked Highway Superintendent MacCheyne why the stakes have not been removed from in front of his property. Highway superintendent MacCheyne stated "I told you the County Highway put them there and I cannot remove them." He suggested that Mr. Westbrook call and talk to the county about the stakes.

**Highway Report:** Highway Superintendent MacCheyne shared that the pickup truck sold at the auction for \$26,500.00. This month the Highway Department has paved Congress street extension, a section of West Covert Road and a section of Savercool Road, doing regular rounds of cold patching, mowing of roadsides and back slopes. Chip sealed Congress Street, West Covert and Savercool Roads.

**Town Clerk Report:** Town Clerk reported that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has a new license issuing agent agreement. The Town Board needs to approve this agreement if the town wants to continue selling hunting and fishing licenses. The training for the new DEC program will be in Ithaca, December 3, 2013. Sales agents are required to attend this training. Town Clerk Freese also reported that as of September 30, 2013, there are still 174 unlicensed dogs and ninety-eight dogs have been licensed from the dog enumeration.

Town Attorney Patrick Morrell stated that the Town Board needed to direct the Town Clerk to be the issuing agent in the agreement with the DEC.

Councilman Bosman shared that Congress Member Tom Reed donated an American flag that had flown over the United States Capitol to the Town of Covert. Councilman Bosman presented it to Supervisor Reynolds.

Councilman Bosman shared that two hundred and twenty six 911 signs have been installed on lake properties and Route 89. There have been some problems with house number on the lake properties. We have been putting numbers on and drilling holes ourselves to help cut the cost of the signs.

Councilman Bosman asked that the Board would approve the Town Court JCAP grant application. Justice Shaw has put in for \$2,700.00: \$2,500.00 to use for insulation, lighting upgrades, painting and refinishing floor. \$200.00 is allocated to purchase a telephone system for the Court.

Supervisor Reynolds asked the Town Board what they thought about rail spur. There was some discussion on how it could help business and it might take away some of the truck traffic. Councilman Vann stated that he felt it was the other end of the county's business and that truck traffic is going to continue.

Supervisor Reynolds and the Town Board Member shared that Joan Hendrix is moving on to a full-time job. The Town Board would like to thank Joan for the new programs, making a teen's area and making improvements to the library. She has done a great job for the Interlaken Library.

Supervisor Reynolds stated that it is time to move forward and do something to help save energy. Jason McCormick said we should go with the NYSEDA grant. It will cost \$1,600.00 to get an energy audit done. The NYSEDA grant will pay \$800.00, and the town will pay the other \$800.00. There was discussion about moving forward to see what can be done to make the Municipal building more energy efficient.

There was discussion on the overhang for the Highway Barn to cover the fuel tanks. Letters were sent out to three contractors, but no bids were received. In addition, the cap on the Highway Barn is leaking and needs repairing. There was discussion about sending out some more letters or calling other contractors to get bids for the overhang and roof repair.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the 2014 JCAP Grant application for \$2,700.00. \$2,500.00 can be used for insulation, lighting upgrades, painting and floor refinishing. \$200.00 is to purchase a phone system for the Court. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Vann.

There was discussion on the Variance request application for Carol & Paul Herendeen, 8351 Dickerson Drive, Interlaken. Councilman Vann suggests that the planning board consider the high water and low water levels and ask for a drawing on the survey map.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, that Highway Superintendent Jeffery MacCheyne order from Maguire Family Dealership a 2014 Ford F-250 super cab 4x4x4 pick-up truck for \$25,557.00 with the western plow for \$4,297.00 for a total of \$29,854.00. Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Bosman

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, that the variance request application #14-13 for Jeremy Porter, 3467 Kelly's Corner Road, Interlaken, to build a 14' x 42' enclosed porch be approved. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Vann.

Bosman moved, seconded by Hunt, that variance request application #19-13 for Carol & Paul Herendeen, 8351 Dickerson Drive, Interlaken, to build a 10' x 16' addition be referred to the Planning Board. A public hearing will be held at the Municipal Building, November 11, 2013 at 7:00p.m. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Vann.

Waid moved, seconded by Vann, to direct the Town Clerk to enter into an agreement with New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to be the License Issuing Agent and to appoint the Deputy Town Clerk as assistant license issuing agent. Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Bosman.



Bosman moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve Town Clerk Freese to attend the training program for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to be held in December 2013 in Ithaca, New York. Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Bosman

Vann moved, seconded by Waid, **THAT WHEREAS** the Town Board of the Town of Covert has review the 2014 Tentative Budget for the Town of Covert, The Trumansburg and Interlaken Fire Protection contract and the Trumansburg Ambulance. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk is duly authorized to file said budget for public inspection. Said budget shall be filed at the Town Clerks Office at 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York. The Town of Covert Board set forth: A public hearing for the Town of Covert's 2014 Preliminary Budget, including General Funds, Highway Funds, Assessment Program Funds, Trumansburg and Interlaken Fire Protection and Trumansburg Ambulance Contract on Thursday, November 7, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Waid.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bosman, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for September 2013. A total of \$ 2,598.08 was received and \$1,102.92 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Vann moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the Highway Superintendent report for the month of September 2013. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Waid.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Supervisor's revenue and expenditure report for September 2013. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, Seconded by Waid, to move forward with an energy study done on the Town of Covert Municipal building through the NYSEDA grant. The grant will pay \$800.00 for the study. Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Vann

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to go into an executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Aye- Hunt, Aye- Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye- Bosman.

Town Board went into executive session at 8:10.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bosman, to come out of executive session at 8:45. Aye- Hunt, Aye -Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, that Highway Fund Vouchers #127-144 in the amount of \$92,067.91 and General Fund Voucher's #166-185 for \$23,950.69 be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen R. Freese, Town Clerk

Supervisor Michael Reynolds

TOWN OF COVERT  
PUBLIC HEARING TOWN BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 7, 2013

Public hearing for the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Thursday, November 7, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

<b>Roll Call:</b>	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Present
<b>Others Present:</b>	Town Clerk Colleen Freese	

**Call to Order:** Supervisor Reynolds called the Public Hearing to order at 6:00 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

The purpose of the public hearing meeting was to hear comments on the proposed 2014 Budget, including General Funds, Highway Funds, Assessment Funds, Trumansburg Ambulance Fund and Trumansburg and Interlaken Fire Protection District.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that the Highway Department was not included in any of the audit proposals received by the town. He stated it would cost \$1,500,000 to have the Highway department audit. Line item A1320.41- Audit needs to be increased from \$6,500.00 to \$8,000.00. The board agreed that the highway department needed to be included in the audit.

There was also discussion on increasing the Court Clerk salary, as the town will have a new Justice and the Court Clerk will be doing extra work. The Town Board agreed to raise line Item A1 110.1A- Court Clerk from \$5,253.00 to \$6,000.00.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that he could keep the tax rate the same by making a few changes in the budget. The Health insurance came in lower than expected so there is room to make changes there.

Councilman Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the changes to the preliminary budget as discussed and adopt the budget at the November 11, 2013 Town Board Meeting with said changes. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman, Aye -Waid and Aye-Vann.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to close the public hearing at 6:45. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye -Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Councilman Hunt moved to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen Freese, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 11, 2013

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, November 11, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

<b>Roll Call:</b>	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Present

**Others Present:** Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Reporter Aneta Glover, Highway Superintendent Jeffery MacCheyne, Planning Board Member Robert Schoffel, Code Enforcement Office John Poludniak 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. A moment of silence was held to honor all veterans.

Councilman Hunt recognized and thanked all veterans that attended the meeting for their service.

**Public Hearing:** Supervisor Reynolds opened the public hearing at 7:05.

The purpose of the public hearing was for a variance request under the Land Management Ordinance for Carol & Paul Herendeen, 8351 Dickerson Drive, in regards to building a 10'x 16' addition, which does not meet the required 20' side lot set back as required.

Councilman Bosman shared the Planning Board recommends the approval of the variance request.

Supervisor Reynolds closed the public hearing and opened the regular meeting at 7:10.

**Approval of Minutes:** Vann moved, seconded by Bosman, that the regular meeting minutes from October 14, 2013, be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

**Presenter to the Board:** Joan Hendrix reported that Ksana Dragonavich, has been hired to replace her as the Interlaken Librarian. She has a Master degree in Library Science and is working in the Ovid Library. Joan also thanked the Board for their support while she was in the librarian position. She also shared about the library budget and where their funding comes from. The annual 2012 budget was \$48,200.00; total expenditures for 2012 was \$46,268.00. The summer reading program was up from 20 children last year to 45 to 68 children per week this year. Computers are updated and circulation is up. The Board thanked her for all she has done for the library.

### **Petitioner to the Board**

MaryAnn Vellake addressed the board about the campaign that took place. She thought the ads were over the edge. She asked, "Mr. Hunt do you feel I am outsider?" To her it seems like there is a double standard, that it was okay for Mrs. Aman to come in here and speak, but not for them to. Mr. Waid said he did not consider her as an outsider but that she does not want to accept the Board's decision, and because the board does not agree with her, she shouted at them; he said there are two sides to every situation and we have to look at both sides. Maryann did apologize for shouting.

Councilman Vann reminded everyone that the Board does have Meeting Rules and there is a three minute speaking rule. The Board does have a resolution in affect regarding Fracking and that is where the Board stands at this time.

Donna Levy stated that they have lived here 25 years and thanked Gary, Duane and Mike for the time they give to Covert. She thought what happened in the Covert election was a democratic process at work; citizens were encouraged to make a choice and thats the way our country is supposed to run. She said she was not sure who in Covert ran a very divisive and alienated campaign; citizens were insulted called outsiders and other names. She thought that people did not vote against the existing board, but are against Fracking. She asked the board to consider all the residents when making decisions.

Emily Aman said there are a lot of people that signed the petition against fracking and she does not think they voted with the current board because they wanted Hydro-Fracking, but they felt the board did the right thing by putting a resolution in place. She asked if they researched on the purchasing of the pay loader and why they purchased a new one. She asked if they researched why the board went with Trumansburg Ambulance Services;did they research before putting it in the paper? She said if you read the Ithaca Journal and they were quoted correctly, it stated that there will be no Hydro-Fracking in this area. She thinks the board will move when the time is right.

Don Kenyon said, "I would like to see us mend from here on in. We can keep butting heads, get nothing constructive done in this town and that is rather foolish. From here on in, I hope what has happened is behind us."

Kristina Cook stated that in the campaign ad, it said "Keep Ithaca politics out of the Town of Covert". She asked, what is the difference in Ithaca politics and the Town of Covert; can anyone answer this? Town Attorney Morrell stated this is not Town of Covert business.

**Highway Report:** For month of October the Highway Department did ditching on Frontenac road and East Covert Road, added crusher run to shoulder and driveways on Congress Street and West Covert Road, mowed roadside and hauled 1B's for winter mix, prepared all salt spreaders and plows for winter use and did regular maintenance on all equipment. Highway Superintendent MacCheyne also reported that the new highway pickup truck delivery date is December 2, 2013.

Code Enforcement Officer John Poludniak discussed the Land Management Ordinance and that it still need a few changes to make it easier to understand. The purpose was to have it handed out and posted on line without the amendments. Code Enforcement Office stated there has been a situation where buildings have been built, without a permit or before a permit was approved. Councilman Bosman asked what the procedures are if they have built without a permit.

There was discussion about trailer park models being put on properties and being considered as movable trailers, instead of permanent. There is nothing in the Land Management Ordinance to cover these situations.

Town Attorney Morrell stated that the Code Enforcement Officer does have the authority to issues tickets to appear in court. "Code Enforcement Officer would be a witness and, if need be, I would come to court".

The question was asked what is the difference between zoning and the Land Management Ordinance.

Town Attorney Morrell stated that zoning is taking the map of the Town and designating certain sections of the Town as agriculture, residential, commercial. Land Management is simple and has to do more with setbacks and sidelines of properties.

Dog Enumerator John Poludniak shared that he found over 289 dogs unlicensed and, the town needs to follow through with the next step to complete this job.

Councilman Bosman stated that there would be a meeting November 26, 2013 at 10:00. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss what grants are available to apply for in order to finish the house sign project. Charlie McCann from Seneca County Emergency Services Office Director and Fire and Mutual Aid Coordinator and Peter Brown, who writes grants, will share ideas for grants at the meeting.

Councilman Hunt asked if there were any bids on the highway garage over hang yet. At this time, no bids were received.

Councilman Hunt also stated that the telephone and internet services need to be looked into, five thousand a year is a lot of money to pay out for that service.

Supervisor Reynolds asked the board to consider running an ad for a tax assessor. The assessor Contract expired October 1, 2013 for the Five Town Assessment Group. The other towns have hired the assessor until December 31,2013. The assessor has offered to work for four towns, starting January 2014 but will not be the assessor for the Town of Covert.

Councilman Vann stated that now is the time to look at the whole assessor program, and the job description and responsibilities of the assessor. There was discussion about a part time assistant for the assessor. Mr. Vann discussed forming a group consisting of the Town Clerk, Code Enforcement Officer, two Town Board Members and two Planning Board Members to oversee the Assessor's administration duties and responsibility. Rob Schoffel stated he would like to be part of that group. Town Attorney Morrell stated it is up to the Supervisor to form the committee. The board agreed to run an ad for the assessor position.

Councilman Vann shared the board had receive a Cayuga Blue Way Trail Plan and that he had reviewed it and has questions for the Harriet Haynes Seneca County Planner to review. He asked the board members if they agreed that the questions be sent with a request to receive answer back from Seneca County Planner. The Board agreed.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 9-13**

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, **THAT** the 2014 Preliminary Budget be adopted as the final budget for 2014 and, **WHEREAS**, this Town Board met November 7, 2013 at the time and place specified in the notice of the Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget and heard all persons desiring to be heard thereon; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** The Town Board of the Town of Covert hereby adopts such Preliminary Budget, as originally compiled with modifications and amendments, as the Annual Budget of the Town of Covert, as for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2014 and that such budget, as adopted, be entered in detail into the minutes of the proceeding of the Town Board, and **Be it FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Town Clerk of the Town of Covert shall prepare and certify in duplicate copies of said Annual Budget, as adopted pursuant to Section 202, Subd.2 of the Town Law, and deliver one copy thereof to Supervisor of this Town to be presented by him to the Board of Supervisors of this County. Aye-Hunt, Aye- Bosman, Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann and Aye-Reynolds.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Village of Trumansburg Board of Trustees to assume authority as Lead Agency for the Village of Trumansburg Well and Water System Improvements Project. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann, Aye Waid and Aye-Bosman.

Vann moved, seconded by Bosman, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for October 2013. A total of \$1,642.00 was received and \$929.11 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Highway Superintendent report for the month of October 2013. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Waid.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the Supervisor's revenue and expenditure report for October 2013. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to advertise for a part-time assessor for the Town of Covert, with the qualifications and requirements set forth by Seneca County Personnel. Aye-Waid, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Vann and Aye-Hunt.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, that a committee be formed to review what the assessor qualifications and job duties are. Aye-Waid, Aye -Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, that Highway Fund Vouchers #145-159 in the amount of \$66,264.52 and General Fund Voucher's #187-204 for \$32,731.20 be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen R. Freese, Town Clerk

Supervisor Michael Reynolds

TOWN OF COVERT  
SENECA COUNTY  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

December 9, 2013

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, December 9, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

<b>Roll Call:</b> Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
Councilman Duane Waid	Present

**Others Present:** Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Reporter Aneta Glover, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Planning Board Member Robert Schoffel, Code Enforcement Officer John Poludniak 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.

**Approval of Minutes:** Bosman moved, seconded by Vann that the regular meeting minutes from November 11, 2013 and the budget public hearing minutes from November 7, 2013 be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

**Presenters:** John Hunt, the Town of Covert Historian, reported that every six months Walt Gable, the county historian, meets with the different Towns' Historians to see what the other towns are doing and share ideas. The Interlaken Historical Society would like to thank the Town of Covert Board for the support they give each year. This year we had History on the Sidewalk, children's games, a display by Pritchard's Dodge, the fire department and a Civil War reenactment. The Historical Society is funded by donations, volunteers, and grants from the Delavan Foundation.

Helen Dunlap from the Tobacco Action Coalition shared that they are a program of the American Lung Association of the Northeast, funded by the New York State Department of Health, Bureau of Tobacco Control. They would like to work with the town board to set up a smoke-free entryway policy to protect the health, welfare and safety of visitors and employees. The coalition members educate and inform community leaders and the public to reduce the harm of tobacco at the local level. They also provide a sample policy for towns and offer signage at no cost.

**Highway Superintendent Report:** For the month of December, the Highway Department did ditching on Bassette Road, installed two 40' driveways, mowed roadside and back slopes, hauled 1B's for winter mix, replaced bearings in salt spreaders and did regular maintenance on all equipment. Highway Superintendent MacCheyne also reported that the new highway pickup truck is in and they should have it by December 13, 2013.

**Town Clerk Report:** The dog enumeration is finished. There were 270 unlicensed dogs counted with 147 still unlicensed. The unlicensed list of dogs was emailed to the Dog Control Officer for the next step of action to be taken. He has been laid up and not sure when he will be able to write tickets.

Councilman Vann stated he had visited the Dog Control Officer, Chris Austin, and he is still laid up at this time. There was discussion on who could serve the tickets for the unlicensed dogs. Town Attorney Morrell said he would look into who might be able to serve them.

**Code Enforcement Officer Report:** Code Enforcement Officer John Poludniak discussed a variance request for a building permit, application #22-13 for Peter Muschamp, 9765 Savercool Road Trumansburg to build a 18'x 22' residential which does not meet the required 940 square footage requirement of the Land Management Ordinance. There was discussion about how the law came about. Mr. Kenyon shared that it came from the county and they felt anything smaller was unlivable. There were 22 building permits applications for 2013.

Councilman Bosman shared that on Tuesday, November 26, 2013, the town hosted a meeting with state, county and fire officials, as well as interested representatives from the Towns of Lodi and Ovid. They discussed the state of emergency numbers on houses in the towns. It is especially critical on the lake properties' private roads. Fire, emergency squads and police, as well as delivery services, have a hard time finding the residents. County officials, under the leadership of Mitch Rowe, County Manager, and Peter Brown, grant writer, were present at the meeting to discuss the possibility of obtaining some type of grant funding to complete the project. Members of 911 offices, James Leonard and Roxanne Kelly, were also present to add valuable information. State Representative Palmesano was represented by administrative assistant Robin Lattimer. She indicated that Representative Palmesano will do all he can to assist in finding funding.

**Supervisor Report:** Supervisor Reynolds shared that we have received four applications for the assessor's job. The Personnel committee will review the applications and set up interviews.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to appoint Christopher Vann to the Town of Covert's Assessment Review Board to fill Harold Wright's term, which expires September 30, 2017. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt. Councilman Vann recuse himself.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to have the Town Clerk advertise for the remaining opening on the Assessment Review Board. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to have Town Clerk write a letter of appreciation to Richard Robertson for serving on the Assessment Review Board. Aye-Waid, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Vann and Aye-Hunt.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, that variance request application #22-13 for Peter Muschamp, 9765 Savercool Road, Trumansburg, to build a 18'x 22' residential to be referred to the Planning Board. A public hearing will be held at the Municipal Building, January 13, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid and Aye-Bosman Aye-Vann.

Vann moved, seconded by Bosman, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for November 2013. A total of \$ 1,364.00 was received and \$502.41 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the Highway Superintendent report for the month of November 2013. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Waid.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the Supervisor's revenue and expenditure report for November 2013. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, that Highway Fund Vouchers #160-170 in the amount of \$17,982.14 and General Fund Voucher's #205-218 for \$13,464.74 be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bosman, to set the year-end meeting for December 30, 2013 at 6:00 pm. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen R. Freese, Town Clerk

Supervisor Michael Reynolds



TOWN OF COVERT  
EMERGENCY TOWN BOARD MEETING  
DECEMBER 19, 2013

The Town Board of the Town of Covert held a Special Meeting Thursday, December 19, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call: Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
Councilman: Duane Waid	Present
Councilman: Charles Bosman	Present

Councilman Waid called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to enter into executive session for interviewing prospective assessor for the Town of Covert.

Waid moved, seconded by Bosman, to close executive session at 12:15 p.m. and return to the regular meeting.

Supervisor Reynolds shared, that he met with Town Attorney Morrell, Councilman Waid and Anna Morgan to discuss appointing Anna Morgan as acting assessor on an interim basis. Supervisor Reynolds stated that Town Attorney Morrell recommend this would be of best interest to town residents, with the star program deadline being December 31, 2013 to file.

**RESOLUTION No. 10-13**

Bosman moved, WHEREAS the Five Town Assessment Group Agreement has expired;

WHEREAS the Town of Covert does not have an assessor in place to begin the year 2014;

WHEREAS the Town of Covert is actively seeking to fill the position of Assessor for the Town of Covert;

WHEREAS there are many deadlines required to be met in the assessment process within the first two months of 2014;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, the Town of Covert hereby appoints Anna M. Morgan as Acting Assessor on an interim basis, until March 2, 2014;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Anna M. Morgan will not be paid directly, but the Town of Covert will pay for incidental expenses such as office, staff, postage, etc. incurred in the service of the Town of Covert, as submitted by Anna M. Morgan on monthly vouchers;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this appointment may be terminated by the Town of Covert at any time prior to March 2, 2014.

Waid seconded the Motion.

Vote: Councilman Waid- Aye, Councilman Bosman-Aye, Supervisor Reynolds- Aye

Councilman Bosman moved, seconded by Councilman Waid, to adjourn the meeting.

TOWN OF COVERT  
 SENECA COUNTY  
 TOWN BOARD YEAREND MEETING  
 December 30, 2013

The yearend meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, December 30, 2013 at 6:00 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 Duane Waid	Present

**Others Present:** Bookkeeper Diane Bassett Nelson, Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Reporter Aneta Glover and other interested citizens.

**Call to Order:** Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes:** Waid moved, seconded by Bosman, that the regular meeting minutes from December 9, 2013 and special meeting minutes from December 19, 2013 be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Reynolds asked if there were any question on the budget transfers. There was no discussion on the transfers. Councilman Bosman stated that they could have paid for the new ford pickup truck this year.

RESOLUTION NO.10-13

**WHEREAS.** There is not sufficient amount of budgeted appropriations in some of the General Fund Budget lines to meet obligations of the Fund for the year 2013 and **WHEREAS,** in conformity with Town Law and good bookkeeping practices, accounts should not be over appropriated, be it **RESOLVED,** that the financial Officer is hereby authorized and directed to make transfers as noted below:

Motion:Vann

Second:Hunt

Vote: Aye- Reynolds, Aye -Waid, Aye- Bosman and Aye- Vann.

Fund	Debit	Credit	Comment
A1410.4 Town clerk Contractual	\$234.09		
A1110.4 Town Justice Contractual		\$234.09	
A1220.4 Supervisor Contractual	\$116.14		
A1910.4 Insurance	\$41.85		
A1320.4 Independent Auditing		\$157.99	
A1620.43 Municipal Fuel Oil	\$358.14		
A1355.4 Assessor Contractual		\$358.14	Ads for assessor

A1620.41 Town Hall Utilities	\$223.70		
A1620.42 Town Hall Maintenance		\$98.67	
A1650.4 Telephone Services		\$125.03	
A5132.43 Highway Heating Oil	\$1,741.14		
A3510.4 Dog Control Contractual		\$1,415.25	Dog Enumeration
A9030.5 Social Security		325.89	
<b>Totals for General Fund</b>	<b>\$2,715.06</b>	<b>\$2,715.06</b>	

RESOLUTION NO.11-13

**WHEREAS.** There is not sufficient amount of budgeted appropriations in some of the Highway Fund Budget lines to meet obligations of the Fund for the year 2013 and **WHEREAS,** in conformity with Town Law and good bookkeeping practices, accounts should not be over appropriated, be it **RESOLVED,** that the financial Officer is hereby authorized and directed to make transfers as noted below:

Motion:Vann

Second:Hunt

Vote: Aye- Reynolds, Aye -Waid, Aye- Bosman and Aye- Vann.

**DA Highway**

Fund	Debit	Credit	Comment
DA5120.4 Bridges Contractual	\$1,821.22		
DA5142.1 Snow Removal Pers	\$1,256.08		
DA9060.8 Health Insurance	\$2,129.77		
DA5130.4 Machinery Contractual		\$1,794.75	
DA5140.4 Brush & Weeds		\$965.35	
DA5142.4 Snow Removal Contractual		\$2,446.97	
<b>Totals DA Highway</b>	<b>\$5,207.07</b>	<b>\$5,207.07</b>	

**DB Highway**

Fund	Debit	Credit	Comment
DB5110.1 Personnel Service	\$882.20		
DB5110.4 Contractual Expense	\$2,769.32		
DB5112.4 Contractual Expense	\$885.26		
DB9010.8 State Retirement	\$1,972.33		
DB5112.1 Personnel		\$6,121.70	Summer personnel
DB9030.8 Social Security		\$387.41	Summer personnel
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$6,509.11</b>	<b>\$6,509.11</b>	

RESOLUTION No.12-13

WHEREAS the Town of Covert in preparing their 2014 budget accepted the proposal for changes in the Health Insurance Coverage for certain personnel, and

WHEREAS the new Health Insurance has a lower deductible than previous years (\$5,200 employee and spouse or \$4,400.00 employee and children/family) and

WHEREAS the Health Savings Account provided for each covered employee is equal to the current year deductible, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED** that the Town of Covert Town Board does hereby direct the Town Supervisor to deposit into the covered employees' Health Savings Account two payments equal to one-half of the deductible for their type of coverage, the first on or before the 15th of January 2014, the second on or before the 15th of July 2014.

Motion: Bosman

Second: Waid.

Vote: Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Bosman.

#### RESOLUTION No.13-13

Budget Amendment for Highway Fund CHIPs funds

**WHEREAS** the Town of Covert was advised that additional funds would be available for CHIPs funding in Spring 2013, and **WHEREAS** the Town of Covert Highway Department was able to plan for this additional funding and provide additional services to the Town of Covert residents , now therefore be it

**RESOLVED** that the Town of Covert Town Board does hereby amend the 2013 Highway Budget to increase anticipated Revenues (Account DB3501) from \$70,000.00 to \$ 94,225.00, and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the Town of Covert Town Board does hereby amend the 2013 Highway expense budget to allow for additional expenses for the above noted work, (Account DB5112.4) from \$170,000.00 to \$194,225.00.

Motion: Hunt

Second: Waid

Vote: Aye- Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye- Hunt

Councilman Bosman stated that Henry VanNess, elected Town justice, has submitted a letter stating he no longer plans to fill the Office of Covert Town Justice. He also shared that Supervisor Reynolds and himself met with Town Justice Shaw to discuss him staying on as Town Justice.

Supervisor Reynolds said he talked with the town attorney and the Board could appoint Mr. Shaw as Town Justice until December 31, 2014.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to accept the letter of resignation from Henry Van Ness as Town Justice. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

#### RESOLUTION NO.14-13

WHEREAS the elected Justice for the Town of Covert has declined to take office;  
WHEREAS the Town of Covert does not have Justice in place to begin the year 2014;  
WHEREAS the Town of Covert is actively seeking to fill the position of Justice for the Town of Covert;  
WHEREAS there are many deadlines required to be met in the Justice Court process within the first two months of 2014;  
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, the Town accepts the resignation of the elected Justice;  
AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Covert hereby appoints William Shaw as Justice for the Town of Covert, until December 31, 2014. For the salary amount of \$13,000.00. Hunt moved, Seconded by Bosman. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

There was discussion about the Tompkins County Assessor group who Supervisor Reynolds has talked to about being the assessor for the Town of Covert. Councilman Bosman asked when the personnel community could meet with them. The other board members would also like to meet with them. Supervisor Reynolds stated he would set up a meeting with Tompkins Assessor Group. Bosman moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the town clerk to issue the American Legion their Bell Jar license. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Hunt.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen R. Freese, Town Clerk