

Village of Sherman –Regular Board Meeting
Village Office-111 Mill St
December 6th, 2017

Members: Mayor Meeder Trustees: Gratto, Higginbotham, Reyda and Ayers
 Others Present: Jay Irwin, Clerk Ramm, David and Deb Prenatt.

Mayor Meeder called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and congratulated re-elected Trustee Donna Lee Higginbotham and newly elected Trustee Kirk Ayers. She thanked Trustee Timothy Fisher for his service on the Board, and added how supportive the previous Mayor, John Patterson, has been, and how he wished the current Board all the best.

RESOLUTION #1: On motion made by Trustee Gratto and seconded by Trustee Higginbotham to accept the November 1st, 2017 regular board meeting minutes, and November 8th, 2017 special board meeting minutes as submitted.

AYES: 3 Gratto, Higginbotham, Meeder

NAYES: 0

Trustee Ayers abstained.

MAYOR MEEDER:

- **WWTP:** Mayor Meeder expressed appreciation for Senator Cathy Young’s letters to the NYSDEC (Department of Environmental Conservation) and the NYS Office of Homes and Community Renewal, on behalf of the Village of Sherman, supporting the funding application in preparation for the much-needed upgrade to the Waste Water Treatment Plant.
- **ENGINEERING:** Mayor Meeder explained how we’ll be working with Barton and Loguidice to develop a comprehensive plan. She expounded on the scope of the plan, the grant opportunities, and how the long-term goal is to work proactively rather than reactively.
- **RECORDS:** The mayor and clerk have been sorting out all the old records and reorganizing them. Mayor Meeder spoke to Pam Brown (Historical Society Records Retention) regarding digitizing these old documents.
- **NETWORKING:** Mayor Meeder stated that the Village has a special role in working with multiple organizations for the betterment of the community. Direct affiliations include the Stanley Hose Volunteer Fire Co., and the Sherman Historical Society, the Sherman Chamber of Commerce, Sherman Central School, Sherman Youth Foundation, the Town of Sherman, Stanley Hose Auxiliary, and many others including the Chautauqua Rails to Trails organization. Although she’s already reached out to many of these groups, Mayor Meeder plans to meet with each of these groups.
- **THE PLEDGE:** Mayor Meeder reflected on recent NFL events and how they have focused a spotlight on patriotism. She would like to introduce saying the pledge of allegiance to open meetings from the next meeting, going forward.
- **SHERMAN CHRISTMAS TUREEN DINNER:** Mayor Meeder spoke about her first public appearance on Sunday, December 3rd, which was at the Annual Sherman Christmas Tureen Dinner, organized by the Sherman Chamber of Commerce. Here she had the honor of announcing Mayor John Patterson as Sherman’s 2017 Person of the Year.

- **PAVEMENTS:** After going through the list of local ordinances for the Village of Sherman from 1966 it clearly states that “every owner or occupant of property abutting a public sidewalk shall keep the same in proper repair.” Clearly the sidewalks are not the Village’s responsibility. But Mr. Crane is looking into the best way to mend the downtown pavements until this problem can be properly resolved.
- **ZONING:** CEO, Jeff Messenger, is working on the various code violations with the roosters running loose; the trailer; and the mess. It is important to note that Sherman is an agricultural zoned area and so hopefully we won’t need to impose any new laws or ordinances if this situation works itself out after the arrest of the offender.
- **CURFEW:** There is an existing curfew for the Village of Sherman which we’ll address in the quarterly newsletter so that the Village residents will be informed. The curfew is merely an avenue for the Sheriff or State Police to question suspicious behavior, and not to prevent children from attending legitimate functions or playing outside. The Sherman Central School will partner with us on this initiative.
- **CROSSING GUARD:** Mayor Meeder is going to look into the authority and rights of the school crossing guard, as well as her uniform which should clearly identify her.
- **SCHOOL PARK:** In 1936 the Village Board voted to give the parking lot, fields, and Sheldon Park to the Sherman Central School.
- **EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK:** The mayor and trustees will have some time to go over the handbook for updating at a later date.
- **JODY MACK** is closing Mack’s Market after serving our community for over fifteen years, and supporting our organizations with generous donations. It was determined that as a previous member of the Chamber, the Village will aid in any event that the Sherman Chamber of Commerce puts together in honor of Jody.

WASTEWATER:

- **DIP SYSTEM:** Mr. Irwin stated that the Direct Inline Pumping System was delayed in France because of customs but should hopefully arrive next week. In answer to Trustee Gratto’s question, Mr. Irwin added that the old pumping system will have to be stripped and removed, and the subsequent hole filled with gravel.
- **REMOTE MONITORING SYSTEM:** The new remote monitoring system has been up and running, and is working very well. There is also a new radio frequency system which uses antennas thereby eliminating the need to dig a trench to lay cables.
- **ENGINEERING REPORT GRANT:** If the Village is awarded the grant we’ll start with the collection system by mapping every manhole, and checking the entire pipe system. The map will ultimately include the fire hydrants and curb stops. Mr. Irwin reviewed the grant’s scope and details. Mayor Meeder added that Barton and Loguidice made it very clear that we need to involve our local officials because the Environmental Facility Corporation (EFC) use smaller committees to recommend projects for funding. Mr. Irwin concluded by stating that the report has to be all-inclusive since we cannot add anything later, but we are allowed to remove items.
- **SOLAR LIGHTS:** In response to the Sherman Chamber of Commerce’s request to put lights up behind Murdock’s, Mr. Irwin reviewed the quotes he received and the Board agreed that the quote for a minimum of ten lights from Sunmaster for approximately \$600/light was by far the better quote. Discussion ensued as to where the extra lights would be best utilized.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

- **STREETS:** The recent flood required Mr. Crane to do two days of water testing and complete removal of the damaged pipe on Park Street. The serial number indicated that it belonged to the Chautauqua County, but because of the easement the County won't replace the \$4,000 pipe. They have offered to assist with equipment and services, and Mr. Crane has a pipe we can use. The big concern is how much of the ground has already eroded away, and the fact that the sides of the creek bed have started to crumble in.
- **OFFICE PARKING:** Mr. Crane has fixed the grate in the Village Office parking, but the ground will still settle and the subsequently it will need to be filled again. We also need to sort out a handicap parking, and the arrows indicating the correct direction of the village, town and court. The suggestion was made to add a "hunting" sign as well.
- **WATER:** In response to Trustee Ayers question regarding the ready-to-serve fee once we move over to monthly billing, it was decided that the cost would probably be divided over the three months. We are looking at what software we'll use since the new meters don't have a designated billing software. Trustee Ayers mentioned that we could get someone to write a program specifically for our system. Mr. Irwin suggested using part-time help over the summer to help install some more water meters.

RESOLUTION #2: On motion made by Trustee Reyda and seconded by Trustee Gratto to approve Voucher #7 submitted for \$56,950.39 for November 2017.

AYES: 4 Reyda, Gratto, Higginbotham, Ayers

NAYES: 0

CLERK

Checking Account (12/04/2017) - \$71,054.82 and Book Value - \$33,834.75

CD (10/02/2017) - \$133,624.70

OLD BUSINESS:

MEETING TIME: The Trustees discussed the benefits of making the time of the meeting earlier, still holding meetings on the first Wednesday of every month.

RESOLUTION #3: On motion made by Trustee Gratto and seconded by Trustee Ayers to approve changing the time of the regular meeting to 6pm.

AYES: 3 Gratto, Ayers, Higginbotham,

NAYES: 1 Reyda

NEW BUSINESS:

BOTTLE RECYCLING MACHINE: Caleb Laskey suggested that the Village invest in a plastic bottle recycling machine. The Clerk would look into the cost and feasibility of such a purchase, and speak to the Sherman Chamber of Commerce regarding this project.

RESOLUTION #4: On motion made by Trustee Reyda and seconded by Trustee Higginbotham to adjourn the meeting at 9:29 PM.

AYES: 4 Reyda, Higginbotham, Gratto, Ayers

NAYES: 0

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanette Ramm
Clerk/Treasurer