



- **MANHOLES:** 177 manholes have already been located and the inspections have begun. Mr. Irwin said the manholes and the water pipes look good. In order to eliminate any excess water coming in through the top we may need to raise all the manhole covers and get air-tight lids. As the weather permits, wet weather testing will begin, as well as smoke testing which will help identify other leaks, especially in the clean outs.
- **DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION:** Mr. Irwin reported that the DEC has given us a good bill of health, we're passing all our permits with great results. We do have to comply with the new dechlorination regulations by November which means another building will have to be erected to house the pump to prevent it from freezing. Mr. Irwin reiterated that the Sherman wastewater plant is in good standing and we are not under an order of consent. In response to Mr. Ayers question, Mr. Irwin clarified that our sewer upgrade would not change our processes as we already use the activated sludge process, which is the highest quality of biological processing for sewer treatment.

### **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:**

- **STREETS:** Mr. Crane reported that the Town will be oiling and stoning Miller Street from the Village line out, and at that time we will complete Miller Street down to Park Street. Mr. Crane will be working on the sidewalks on Main Street but as we move East it becomes complicated because if we add a second step the law requires us to install railing. Mr. Crane will investigate this before completing this project. The price for the loader has come in at \$49K which Mr. Crane felt was not adequate. He suggested holding off until next year to trade it.
- **WATER:** Mr. Crane explained that he will be working with our engineer, Mr. Zarbo, to apply for water grants. First Mr. Crane needed to determine the scope of work still to be completed; how much we could do and what would be contracted out. In the past we've supplied all the materials to reduce costs when using a contractor.
- **ACCOUNTS:**
  - Account 41 sprung a leak while the owner was away over the winter which lead to an extremely high bill. The landowner is still responsible, and after discussion the Board agreed that the excess water should have the sewer portion reversed from the charges.
  - Account 110 is a vacant shop and the owner wants us to remove the meter so that no further bills will be incurred. The board agreed that since the water was shut off the water reserve charge could be dropped, but the sewer ready-to-serve is a fixed charge, regardless of consumption that covers infrastructure and operating expenses and will not be waived.
  - Account 199 has a faulty meter. Mr. Crane suggested reducing their bill to their average, and he would replace their meter.
  - Account 253 complained about a high bill. Mr. Crane found a leaky gasket and torn valve which he replaced. This last bill they complained again, and after investigation new tears in the valves were discovered. Mr. Crane suggested replacing this old meter and reducing their bill to their average.

**RES 2018-05-02.2:** Motion to approve Voucher #12 submitted for \$16,360.98 for April 2018.

Moved: Trustee Gratto

Seconded: Trustee Reyda

AYES: 4

NAYES: 0

**CLERK:**

Checking Account (05/02/2018) - \$22,633.34 and Book Balance – \$9,557.81

CD (04/04/2018) - \$120,624.70

Tax Levy - \$199,894

Water and Sewer Relevy - \$27,757.94

Tax Warrant (Tax Levy + W&S Relevy) = \$227,651.94

The clerk noted that the USDA loan payment of \$1,407.25 would be paid on 05/05/2018.

- **UTILITY BILLING:** The new postcard water and sewer bills have been sent and payments are being received. The online payment system will be introduced with the next bill cycle.
- **COMPUTER:** The original computer which contains all the KVS software is very slow and has been replaced. The old PC will serve as a backup for the last 10 years. Trustee Ayers suggested clearing the computer off and storing all its data on an external drive. Mayor Meeder responded that because the information is all KVS based, it would require a computer with the KVS software installed to open any of the files.
- **WEBPAGE:** Clerk Ramm told the trustees that the existing webpage would need to be renewed at the end of May and suggested creating their own page with links to community events and local shops. The current page is a single-page format shared with the Town of Sherman and administrated by South Tier West for a cost of \$300 per annum. The clerk also suggested charging the local shops a nominal charge to have a link from our webpage to their business webpage to help defray costs. The Board accepted the recommendation of a new webpage.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- **EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK:** The benefits for temporary, part-time and seasonal employees was readdressed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **CODE ENFORCEMENT:** The Board discussed making changes to the cost of our permits, at least to cover the code enforcement officer's time. This will be looked at in more detail later.
- **DOG PARK:** The flood in November did some damage to the dog park which Mr. Crane has been working to clean up, with the help of some community groups, including 4-H and FFA. Mr. Crane was very appreciative of the community help.
- **CONSERVANCY:** The Sherman Chamber of Commerce and Rose VanVolkenburg are working with the Nature Conservancy and the French Creek Conservancy to improve our part of the trail. The Nature Conservancy is organizing clean-up and a new kiosk which will include historical information and points of interest. Mr. Crane has already started clearing the area around the kiosk. Mayor Meeder added that Jim Fincher (Rails to Trails) proposed putting in reflective posts to identify the trail in all seasons, Mr. Crane will assist.

**RES 2018-05-02.3:** Motion to commitment to the Climate Smart Community Pledge.

Moved: Trustee Ayers

Seconded: Trustee Gratto

AYES: 5 Ayers, Gratto, Reyda, Higginbotham, Meeder

NAYES: 0

----- **CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY PLEDGE** -----

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Sherman believes that climate change poses a real and increasing threat to our local and global environments and is primarily due to the burning of fossil fuels; and

**WHEREAS**, the effects of climate change will endanger our infrastructure, economy and livelihoods; harm our farms, orchards, and ecological communities, including native fish and wildlife populations; spread invasive species and exotic diseases; reduce drinking water supplies and recreational opportunities; and pose health threats to our citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, we believe that our response to climate change provides us with an unprecedented opportunity to save money, and to build livable, energy-independent and secure communities, vibrant innovation economies, healthy and safe schools, and resilient infrastructures; and

**WHEREAS**, we believe the scale of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions required for climate stabilization will require sustained and substantial efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, we believe that even if emissions were dramatically reduced today, communities would still be required to adapt to the effects of climate change for decades to come,

**IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** that the Village of Sherman, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate, adopts the New York State Climate Smart Communities pledge, which comprises the following ten elements:

- 1) **Build a climate-smart community.**
- 2) **Inventory emissions, set goals, a plan for climate action.**
- 3) **Decrease energy use.**
- 4) **Shift to clean, renewable energy.**
- 5) **Use climate-smart materials management.**
- 6) **Implement climate smart land use.**
- 7) **Enhance community resilience to climate change.**
- 8) **Support a green innovation economy.**
- 9) **Inform and inspire the public.**
- 10) **Engage in an evolving process of climate action.**

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**RES 2018-05-02.4:** Motion to reduce the sewer charges on account #41 to the minimum; remove the water charge on account #110; and adjust accounts #199 and #253 to the minimum due to faulty meters.

Moved: Trustee Gratto

Seconded: Trustee Higginbotham

AYES: 4

NAYES: 0

**RES 2018-05-02.5:** Motion to approve the Governance Policy.

Moved: Trustee Gratto

Seconded: Trustee Ayers

AYES: 4

NAYES: 0

**RES 2018-05-02.6:** Motion to approve the Employee Handbook.

Moved: Trustee Ayers

Seconded: Trustee Reyda

AYES: 4

NAYES: 0

**RES 2018-05-02.7:** Motion to approve the employee hourly wage schedule for the 2018-2019 fiscal year, commencing Monday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 with a first full pay period ending Sunday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

The motion was suspended, pending executive session.

**RES 2018-05-02.8:** Motion to approve the five (5) year employment contract between Larry Meeder, Utility Worker, and the Village of Sherman, for the period beginning June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 and ending May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

The motion was suspended, pending executive session.

**CAN/BOTTLE REDEMPTION CENTER:** The Board discussed Mr. Chamber's request to open a redemption center in front of the hardware shop on Main Street. The Board agreed that as long as he follows DEC protocols, and keeps the area clean, it would be a benefit to the community. A letter accepting his request would be sent to Mr. Chambers.

**ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION:** It has been a number of years since our last Arbor Day initiative, and Mr. Crane reported how successful the last one was. Individual residents purchase trees from a selection we offer, and the Village plants them on their property and helps maintain them for the first year. Residents can purchase as many trees as they like, and the Village collects the trees and plants them in the Fall. Last time we used Johnston Evergreen Nursery since they gave us the best prices.

**RES 2018-05-02.9:** Motion to approve creating our own webpage, administrated by the Clerk.

Moved: Trustee Higginbotham

Seconded: Trustee Gratto

AYES: 4

NAYES: 0

**RES 2018-05-02.10:** Motion to move into executive session at 7:27pm to discuss personnel wages.

Moved: Trustee Reyda

Seconded: Trustee Higginbotham

AYES: 4

NAYES: 0

The regular meeting resumed at 7:46pm, and the two suspended motions were readdressed.

**RES 2018-05-02.7:** Motion to approve the employee hourly wage schedule for the 2018-2019 fiscal year, commencing Monday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 with a first full pay period ending Sunday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The 2018-2019 Hourly Wage Schedule being:

22.32 Chief Operator

23.38 DPW Superintendent

14.32 Operator, in training

19.05 Clerk-Treasurer

Moved: Trustee Gratto

Seconded: Trustee Ayers

AYES: 4 Gratto, Ayers, Reyda, Meeder

NAYES: 1 Higginbotham

**RES 2018-05-02.8:** Motion to approve the five (5) year employment contract between Larry Meeder, Utility Worker, and the Village of Sherman, for the period beginning June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 and ending May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

Moved: Trustee Gratto

Seconded: Trustee Reyda

AYES: 4 Gratto, Ayers, Reyda, Meeder

NAYES: 1 Higginbotham

Code Enforcement Officer, Lane Chase joined the meeting and updated the trustees on various concerns regarding property clean-ups, collapsed buildings, demolition and expiring permits.

**RES 2018-05-02.11:** Motion to move into executive session at 8:03pm to discuss a legal matter.

Moved: Trustee Gratto

Seconded: Trustee Ayers

AYES: 4

NAYES: 0

**RES 2018-05-02.12:** Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:11pm.

Moved: Trustee Reyda

Seconded: Trustee Ayers

AYES: 4

NAYES: 0

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeanette Ramm  
Clerk-Treasurer