

Sherman awarded NYS Water Infrastructure Improvement Act grant

By David Prenatt

editorial@westfieldrepublican.com

SHERMAN – The village of Sherman has been awarded a NYS Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA) grant in an amount not to exceed \$980,500, board of trustees members learned at their meeting on January 8.

Sherman Mayor Colleen Meeder told the board that this grant will cover 25% of the net cost of the sewer project; therefore, to date, the village has been awarded \$3,245,500 for the project. "So, we're at 52.5% of the \$6,187,000 project," Meeder said.

Meeder asked board members for approval to record in the minutes the acceptance of the wastewater treatment plant WIIA award as signed by the mayor on December 27, 2019. The board approved the acceptance of the grant.

Wastewater treatment plant chief operator, Jay Irwin reported that both the sewer and water departments are working on emergency response plans. He asked for approval to install a RAFA system at the residence of Ross Fields and Janet Loomis to monitor the DOMO direct inline pump. The RAFA uses cellular communication for data transfer, so "it would send us an email or text if the pump goes down," Irwin said. "It is a minimal cost and will give us peace of mind."

In another matter, Meeder reported that the village's 5-year-old loader is at the prime point to consider trading it in. She noted that it is a critical and expensive piece of equipment which is the item the village most often shares in the municipality share program. "There is not a day that it is not in use," she said.

See WIIA, Page A2

WIIA, From Page 1

The goal of the village is to optimize trade-in value and take advantage of lower interest rates, Meeder said. A new loader will require minimal maintenance, as well, she noted. "We have to figure out all the technicalities with the USDA Rural Development," she said. The village may refinance with the USDA and there is possible grant money, Meeder added.

Meeder also told the board that the dump truck purchased in December for \$7,000 is a 1985 Ford F 800. She said it is in excellent condition and will be used for routine village projects and can be used to haul sewer sludge.

In other business, Meeder told the board that the planning board met on December 9 and January 6. John Goldberg and John Steinmetz of Barton & Loguidice, met with board members at the December meeting, and Irwin gave a presentation on the sewer project. Sewer and water rate comparisons were reviewed at the board's January meeting.

Regarding local businesses, Meeder told board members that the official closing for the grocery store is not yet complete,

Chase Antiques is now for sale, there are concrete plans for a liquor store on Main Street and the Ox & Rooster Restaurant is closed.

Meeder also remarked that the Rick Ayers plans for establishing a poultry processing plant in Sherman may have changed. According to a recent newspaper article, Ayers recently told North Harmony town board members that he is considering opening a poultry processing plant where he would raise, grow, package and sell directly to the public up to 1,000 birds a year.

Meeder also reported on developments with the steering committee, which met on December 9. She said the committee reviewed the first draft of the first phase of the comprehensive plan. They also reviewed the first Main Street concept plan, Meeder said.

The board also received updates on the Main Street properties. John Sundquist of Barton & Loguidice completed the Phase 1 environmental review of 130 West Main Street, Meeder said. It will be necessary to determine the cost of remediation of tanks and contaminants in

the drain in the basement, she added.

Meeder also told the board that there may be local government grant opportunities to restore 130 West Main Street as a community center in a shared municipal venture. "The roof is the major cost of that building," she added.

Board members also learned that a natural gas heater was installed in the food pantry, Meeder said. The village received a \$2,000 grant from the Chautauqua region community Foundation, which will be used for rent and utilities at 123 West Main Street, she said.

In a related matter, Meeder asked for approval of a resolution to forgive the rural center's water and sewer balance of \$702 for in-kind services rendered at the Food Pantry at 123 West Main Street. "They did an immense amount of work on the food pantry," Meeder said.

Meeder said the \$702 will be expensed to building repairs, and there will be no further compensation. "This will be the final exchange between us and the rural center for that," Meeder said.

Trustee Isaac Grotto noted that the village didn't incur any cost for the \$702.

Village Clerk Jeanette Ramm reported that the village received a \$100 donation from Alan Levitt of Brooklyn, NY, who was formerly the pharmacist in Sherman. Levitt asked that the money be used toward a Village of Sherman celebration, she added.

Ramm also said she is adding a local artisan's page to the Sherman website. She said this will be offered at no cost to the village residents.

In other business, Meeder asked the board to approve a resolution to

schedule a public hearing of the community Development Block Grant project for Wednesday, February 5 at 6 pm. This will be the second public hearing of the CDBG project, which involves the drinking water and storm water infrastructure preliminary engineering study for \$52,500.

Meeder also asked for approval of a resolution to retain Trespaz & Marquardt, LLP for the purpose of bond counsel for Sherman's \$3,206,000 water system improvement project, and for the adoption of the bond resolution. Both resolutions were approved by the board.

AMAZING FOUR DAY SALE

4530 West Lake Road Route 394

Wed. January 15 10-5,

Thursday & Friday 10-5 Sat. 9-3

Quality Lee mfg. Sofa, Leather arm chair and arm chair with ottoman, Lee celery green sleeper sofa & Coordinating chair w/ottoman, Stickley Credenza, Ethan Allen Chest of drawers, Wakefield Chest of drawers, Davis 2 Dr. stand, set of 4 needlepoint cushion chairs, Pr. of queen Ann style chairs, Cane seat Rocker, Antique rocker with carved eagle, office chairs, Counter stools, Several side stand, sideboard, beautiful Duncan Phyfe style table & 6 Chairs, China Cabinet, Dry sink, pine table, Antique game table, Serpentine front Governor Winthrop desk, King bed with tufted button headboard, Cherry dresser with mirror, High boy, Flame Mahogany Chest, two drawer night stands and drop leaf single drawer night stands, Bar/Island, Pine table, Hall tree, luggage rack, benches, Art by John Leech, Jerome Chesley, Rose smith and others, Daneker Grandfathers clock, Seth Thomas steeple, Schatz Royal Marine, wood TV trays, Flat screens, Book shelves, frames, Dehumidifier, Air Conditioner, Luggage, Circulation Booster, heaters, fans (one industrial), Cup/saucers. Tea set collection. blue & white. table lamps. area rugs. Beautiful bedding.