

Village of Sherman –Regular Board Meeting
Village Office-111 Mill St
May 3rd, 2017

Present: Mayor Patterson, Trustees: Gratto, Reyda, Higginbotham and Fisher
 Others: Jay Irwin, Doug Crane, Clerk Ramm, Rick Ayers, Jeremiah Raven, David & Deb Prenatt.

Mayor Patterson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

RESOLUTION #1: On motion made by Trustee Reyda and seconded by Trustee Gratto to accept the April 5th, 2017 Board meeting minutes as submitted.

AYES: All

NAYES: 0

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Clerk Ramm mentioned that Mr. Messenger had queried the purpose of having two Code Enforcement Officers as it could lead to overlaps with issuing permits and filing reports, etc. Trustee Higginbotham suggested relooking at the necessity of two CEO's. Since we have just paid for Mr. Chase's recertification it was decided to investigate the benefits further before making any decisions. Clerk Ramm is to get copies of both CEO's certification.

JAY IRWIN:

- **DIP SYSTEM:** This system will eliminate the wet well and the well station. Our current system collects everything together and has the pumps in a separate vault 20ft below the ground next to the wet well. The DIP system will line up with the main sewer line, coming from the collection system and the plant, and directly pump it into the top of the plant, removing the need for the collection of sewerage and the wet well. Currently we have to pay to clean out the pumps at least 3 times a year to prevent blockages which cause major issues. One pump of this system will handle 100% of our flow; the other pump will be for backup. These are self-cleaning pumps, with variable speeds, which work wirelessly so we wouldn't need the alarms anymore either. This system is \$63,000, excluding electrical work but we can install it ourselves. Our dehumidifier is rusting; the whole system is 40 years old and rusting. Ben Syden from Laberge Engineering told me about another grant opportunity. They can write up a supplemental report and site review, and help us apply for this grant which is due July 21st. Because our effluent is such a high quality we will probably never qualify for the hardship money. So in order to do this upgrade, we'll have to go this route. Worst case scenario we're out \$7,000, but best case scenario we get our 25% (roughly \$1,000,000) grant money. After looking at the original Engineering Report I can already cut out about \$1,000,000 if we go with this system. This system is far more superior and \$50,000 cheaper. In response to Trustee Gratto question about the DIP system's fail safe, Mr. Irwin said that it is the same as the current system. Mayor Patterson said that it sounded like putting in the DIP system was in our best interest and added that our next step would be to investigate lending \$7,000 from the CD to the sewer department for the Engineering work and grant application.

RESOLUTION #2: On motion made by Trustee Gratto and seconded by Trustee Reyda to spend up to \$7,000 with Laberge Engineering to move ahead with the supplemental Engineering Report and grant application.

AYES: 4 Gratto, Reyda, Higginbotham, Fisher

NAYES: 0

- **DECHLORINIZATION:** This will be well less than \$1,000 as the pump is going to be about \$400 and we dilute the materials which are already so minimal in terms of cost.

DOUG CRANE:

- **STREETS:** Larry is going to take care of the last few holes tomorrow. We have cleaned up and finished the Deering property on W. Main St. We were digging 12ft in a swamp in winter so it took a long time to dry, but she's happy now. We have a plan to resolve the mosquito issue on Park Street near the Pine trees where the water collects, which we want to start next. Then between NAPA and the Rural Center we need to put in the drop inlet and tube.
- **WATER:** After our year end meeting I'll know what resources we have to order more piping and then we'll decide where we'll start installing them.
- **ACCOUNTS:** All the outstanding accounts were relieved except for five which are not in the Village. Three of them are current, and two are more than three years old. It was decided that the three current accounts would need to pay a monthly amount. The Clerk will send out a letter with terms of payment and they will get monthly reminders.

RESOLUTION #3: On motion made by Trustee Higginbotham and seconded by Trustee Fisher to approve writing off the two closed accounts from 2013 that we cannot relevy.

AYES: 4 Higginbotham, Fisher, Gratto, Reyda

NAYES: 0

- **OTHER:** The contract with the County for the water lines to their new building has been signed and is now in place. Their service line is in to their building so they do have water. I'm ordering the piping with my next order as we get better pricing.

RESOLUTION #4: On motion made by Trustee Gratto and seconded by Trustee Reyda to approve Voucher #5 submitted for \$10,434.71 for May 2017.

AYES: 4 Gratto, Reyda, Higginbotham, Fisher

NAYES: 0

CLERK

Checking Account (05/03/2017) - \$91,580.38

CD Balance - \$133,535.26

- **CLERK OUT OF OFFICE:** The clerk will be away on Wednesday, May 10th, attending the Local Government Conference, and Thursday afternoon, May 11th doing the Grant Writing course.
- **TAX QUERIE:** Jim Higginbotham asked at the Public Hearing what our tax rate was and I

stated that it was 10.75%. He wanted to know why it was higher than last year's 9.13%. I looked into it and found that our tax rate last year was 9.13% and our fire tax was 2.28% which gave us a total tax rate of 11.41% and this year's total is 10.75% including the fire portion.

OLD BUSINESS:

RAVEN AGREEMENT: Mayor Patterson asked where we were with this. The Village had agreed to honor the original agreement with George Raven and we are waiting for the Raven's to come back regarding this. The clerk will send them an invoice for this year's quarters.

NEW BUSINESS:

BUDGET 2017-2018: Mayor Patterson asked if there were any changes to the budget, to which the Clerk queried assigning funds for a Deputy Clerk. The Trustees are to bring two or three recommendations for a part-time Deputy Clerk. The Trustees would discuss the budget for salaries in executive session.

ELECTIVE OFFICE TERMS: The Board of Elections is proposing lengthening our elective office terms to four years, with all terms expiring on odd years.

RESOLUTION #5: On motion made by Trustee Higginbotham and seconded by Trustee Gratto to extend the length of village office terms from two years to four years, expiring on odd years.

AYES: 4 Higginbotham, Gratto, Fisher, Reyda

NAYES: 0

OTHER:

CROSSING GUARD: Trustee Higginbotham thought it would be worth inquiring why the school crossing guard was paid by the Village and not by the school. The Clerk would contact the school.

VILLAGE BOUNDARY LINES: Mayor Patterson met with Mark Persons (Sherman Town Supervisor), Jim Caflisch (Director, Office of Real Property Tax Services) and Heather Young-Deyell (Assessor) to discuss the recently discovered inaccurate boundary lines. Both the Village and the Town lose a little and gain a little acreage so it seems unnecessary, but if we don't make the adjustments it may have other repercussions later. The corrections will be implemented in time for the next tax roll. We have a map here is anyone wants to look at it.

ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS: The Board will meet at 7pm on Wednesday, May 31st, to approve the organizational items.

RESOLUTION #6 On motion made by Trustee Higginbotham and seconded by Trustee Gratto to move into executive session to discuss a personnel issue at 8:04 PM.

AYES: 4 Higginbotham, Gratto, Reyda, Fisher

NAYES: 0

The Board was unanimous in their decision to terminate Mr. Courtney's employment.

RESOLUTION #7 On motion made by Trustee Reyda and seconded by Trustee Higginbotham to exit executive session and adjourn the meeting at 8:37 PM.

AYES: 4 Reyda, Higginbotham, Fisher, Gratto

NAYES: 0

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanette Ramm
Clerk/Treasurer