

**Village of Sherman –Regular Board Meeting**  
**Village Office-111 Mill St**  
**September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Members: Mayor Meeder Trustees: Gratto, Higginbotham, Reyda and Ayers  
 Others Present: Doug Crane, Jay Irwin, Clerk Ramm, Bill Harvey, Gary Emory, David and Deb Prenatt.

Mayor Meeder called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and lead everyone in the pledge of allegiance.

**RES 2018-09-05.1:**

Motion to accept the minutes of the Public Hearing and Regular Board Meeting minutes held on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018, and the Public Hearing and Special Board Meeting minutes held on August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

Moved: Trustee Ayers

Seconded: Trustee Reyda

AYES: 5

NAYS: 0

It was noted that the voucher is unusually high due to the following:

- Lock City invoice for \$32,746.26 for water lines and water mains, as well as streets (specifically noted on each invoice) and stormwater maintenance.
- Barton and Loguidice invoice for \$18,675 which is being paid through our NYS grant.
- The last meeting was on August 1<sup>st</sup>, so many of last months' bills are presented on this voucher.

**RES 2018-09-05.2:**

Motion to approve Voucher #4 submitted for \$73,617.80 for August 2018.

Moved: Trustee Higginbotham

Seconded: Trustee Ayers

AYES: 5

NAYS: 0

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Mr. Harvey had some questions about the village employees trimming trees around the village. Mayor Meeder explained that the village employees do trim the trees periodically and added that the sidewalks needed to be cleared in preparation for sidewalk plowing and suggested that pedestrians and runners also appreciated the removal of low hanging branches. Mr. Harvey said there was a dead tree on his property line, adding that the branches hang over the sidewalk. Mayor Meeder referred to Village Ordinance Chapter 7 from 1966 which states that trees are the responsibility of the resident; on their property and all the way up to the road. Mr. Harvey informed the board of another four hazardous trees in the village. Mr. Crane said that the village would assist as possible; i.e., help keep costs low by removing the limbs, butts, etc. He added that unfortunately the village doesn't have the equipment to take big trees down. Now that the trustees are aware of the issue we need to inform the responsible property owners, who will have to take care of the trees. It was suggested that the Village get quotes for all the hazardous trees to be felled at a reduced group rate to assist residents in keeping costs down.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT FROM CLERK-TREASURER:**

Checking Account: Balance (09/05/2018) is \$39,381.63 – Book Balance \$1,743.34  
 Special Bank Account: Balance (09/05/2018) is \$21,175.00 – Book Balance \$2,500.00  
 CD Account: Balance (09/05/2018) is \$186,624.70  
 CD Transfer: No  
 Account Adjustments: #310, #82 and #81

## **WATER AND STREETS REPORTS FROM DPW SUPERINTENDENT:**

Mr. Crane was hoping to tell the trustees that Edmund Street was done, but unfortunately there was an issue on East Street. The first thing we discovered was broken clay tile with roots inside, then old offset pipes. These old pipes were all installed at the same time and are going bad at the same time. When the original pipes were fitted, some perforated tiles were installed which is now clogged and overrun with roots. We also removed an old grate which served a purpose when the pipe ran into a ditch, but now it just acts as a collection point. Once we're finished with East Street, we'll mend any black top driveways before winter. It would be good if the sidewalks could also be done but the water system has to be our priority. Mr. Crane added that we've been waiting for almost five months for our meters, so we should order another 20 meters now for next year. That would be another \$5,000. Mayor Meeder would look into that.

There was discussion about the addition of extra lights on village property near the pavilion behind Murdock's and at the start of the trail, as well as an additional street light overlooking the softball field on Park Street. There are already poles for all three of these lights. Mayor Meeder mentioned that as part of safety discussions the Sherman Central School is going to furnish the crossing guard with a radio and the village is going to add the light overlooking the softball field. Conversation continued about improving lighting as you come into the village near the Country General, but this would need further investigation before a decision is made.

## **WASTEWATER REPORT FROM CHIEF OPERATOR:**

Mr. Irwin reported that the dechlor shed is complete and operational; we're on course for our new permit in November; and we've submitted our report to the EFC. He then revised the details of the contract with Mr. Nelson and the Domo Dip installation. The Domo Dip is coming from overseas and should arrive within the next two months. The village will install the new system, bypassing his old system without removing it, and monitor it over the next three years. It is essentially a wet well that can be installed in a basement. This is the first one in New York and is expected to prove beneficial.

## **MAYORAL ADDRESS:**

Mayor Meeder talked about the upcoming NYCOM Training. She then addressed the employee benefit reserve fund, adding that the initial balances are based on current sick leave balances, but will also include vacation and holiday. All other employee benefits cannot be accrued.

Discussion moved to account penalty forgiveness and it was noted that the Water and Sewer Rents Laws state “... failure of consumer to receive a bill promptly shall not excuse non-payment of the same.” Courtesies such as penalty removal for printing issues cannot be extended after October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

Mayor Meeder conveyed what the code enforcement officers had reported on the various properties with violations, and their recommendations. She spoke about improvements in terms of gutters and sump pumps and stated that our Sewer Rents Law (established in 1980) clearly states that we have the right to go onto properties to inspect how these things are closed up or infiltrating our collection system. Mayor Meeder then spoke about sanitary conditions and explained in detail what a property cleanup entailed. In response to a question about selling chickens and vegetables, Mayor Meeder said that residents can keep chickens and grow vegetables for their own consumption but cannot sell them from their residential property without a special permit. She also mentioned that she is still looking into the parking issue on Columbia Street with the village lawyer. Mr. Emory asked about speed limits around the school, specifically on Columbia Street. Mayor Meeder replied that it was a safety issue and she would bring it up at the next Sherman Central School safety meeting.

**RES 2018-09-05.3:** Motion to establish the Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve Fund in compliance with the New York State GASB 45 requirement and General Municipal Law; in concert with the Village Employee Handbook, accounting for sick pay accrual at the time of separation from employment; with beginning balances of \$1,107 for General, \$8,687.05 for Water, and \$3,816.43 for Sewer.

Moved: Trustee Gratto

Seconded: Trustee Reyda

AYES: 5

NAYS: 0

**RES 2018-09-05.4:** Motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Agreement between the Village of Sherman and Gary Nelson for the installation and testing of the Domo Dip, direct inline pumping system, used in place of a grinder.

Moved: Trustee Higginbotham

Seconded: Trustee Gratto

AYES: 5

NAYS: 0

**RES 2018-09-05.5:** Motion to approve the one-time penalty forgiveness for Accounts #310, #82 and #81 for the August 2018 penalties due to printing errors.

Moved: Trustee Ayers

Seconded: Trustee Gratto

AYES: 5

NAYS: 0

**RES 2018-09-05.6:** Motion to approve property cleanup of the following properties, if they have not met the code requirements by Friday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The cost will be billed to the property owner and levied on the 2019-2020 Tax Warrant if a balance remains in April 2019.

Properties: 328.10-1-64

328.10-1-52

328.06-2-42

Moved: Trustee Higginbotham

Seconded: Trustee Gratto

AYES: 5

NAYS: 0

**RES 2018-09-05.7:** Motion to approve the use of the \$5,000 Clean Energy Grant to purchase solar light(s) for the Rails to Trails (on Village property), along French Creek, to be matched with grant funds from the Our Community Walks Grant; and to purchase water meters.

Moved: Trustee Ayers

Seconded: Trustee Reyda

AYES: 5

NAYS: 0

**RES 2018-09-05.8:** Motion to approve the installation of additional LED lights by National Grid on poles number #19 on Park Street facing the field, #5 near the Pavilion, and #2A off of Franklin Street at the trail head.

Moved: Trustee Reyda

Seconded: Trustee Gratto

AYES: 5

NAYS: 0

Motion to approve moving into executive session for legal purposes at 19:18pm.

Moved: Trustee Higginbotham

Seconded: Trustee Reyda

AYES: 5

NAYS: 0

Motion to approve exiting executive session and adjourn the regular meeting at 8:31pm.

Moved: Trustee Ayers

Seconded: Trustee Gratto

AYES: 5

NAYS: 0

The next meeting will be held on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeanette Ramm  
Clerk/Treasurer