

December 09, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF THURMAN, NEW YORK HELD DECEMBER 09, 2020 AT THE THURMAN TOWN HALL, 311 ATHOL ROAD, ATHOL, NEW YORK, COMMENCING AT 6:30 PM.....**

**PRESENTS: Mr. Ed Brown, Councilman**

**Mr. Randy Galusha, Councilman**

**Mrs. Joan Harris, Councilwoman**

**Mr. Douglas Needham, Councilman**

**Mrs. Susan Shepler, Supervisor**

**RECORDING SECRETARY: Susan E. Staples**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:**

**ROLL CALL:**

**DISCUSSION: Supervisor Shepler** noted I would like to thank everybody for coming out; it is not a pleasant evening I know, but thank you for taking the time away from your day, and (inaudible) come to a meeting. The Town of Thurman Supervisor's Report for December 09, 2020. What a year 2021 has been. Covid-19 has impacted all of us either directly or indirectly. Warren County has had an increase in reported cases. Please be aware of your surroundings, wear a mask, wash your hands frequently, and maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet. If you don't have to go out stay home and most importantly if you are ill stay home. I would like to thank Pat Wood and the Town Highway Department for getting the Christmas Tree, setting it up and putting the lights on the tree to help spread some holiday cheer. Thank you Pat. He was here. I don't know where he went to. **Debbie Runyon** noted he went to check on the guys. **Supervisor Shepler** replied oh OK and continued noting the Town of Thurman Highway Department purchased a slightly used Galion Grader in February 2020 which has been put to great use especially on our dirt roads and cutting ditches. Thank you Pat for finding such a fabulous deal. The Town of Thurman and the Town Transfer Station have both been upgraded with their security systems this year per the recommendations of the Insurance Company and the Law Enforcement. The 2021 Town of Thurman Budget was adopted on November 19, 2020. This Budget was brought forward by Councilman Galusha and passed by a majority of the Board. I have received calls regarding Whitespace and just want to remind everyone that the contract with Frontier is up on December 30, 2020. The Town has met all of the conditions of the Grant. While the Town is not allowed to use Public monies to subsidize Whitespace we have been running at a loss every year since December of 2017. This year's loss as of November 30, 2020 is \$8,663.69 with the month of December still outstanding. Going forward there are no more appropriations budgeted for the support of Whitespace. Where I have wholeheartedly supported Whitespace and done everything within my power to keep it running no provisions were made to sustain Whitespace in 2021. December's Gleaning was scheduled by the Warren-Hamilton Community Action Agency for December 14, 2020. This date change not being the first Monday of the month will occur again July and September of 2021. I would like to wish everyone a very Happy and Healthy New Year. Thank you **Pat** I acknowledged you and the Highway Department for the Christmas Tree and helping to spread some Holiday Cheer in the Town, thank you very much. Onward to Resolutions.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**Resolutions # 81**

On a motion introduced by **Councilman Brown** and seconded by **Councilman Needham**

**Resolution for Supervisor to Sign the Agreement with Warren County and the Town of**

**Thurman for Snow and Ice Removal along with Mowing of Same Roads**

**Whereas**, the Board of Supervisors for the County of Warren have authorized the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to execute the agreement between several Towns in Warren County for the removal of snow and sanding and control of ice and snow as well as sweeping on paved County roads in the Town of Thurman at the payment to Thurman of \$251,301.76. While moving and sweeping of the same County roads during the summer and upgrading of equipment related thereto will be paid at \$18,411.82. Totaling \$269,713.58 for the year.

**Be it Resolved**, that the Supervisor for the Town of Thurman will sign and return said Agreement to the County.

**Discussion: Supervisor Shepler** noted please be advised that this is the same monetary amount that it was last year, and there have been no changes to the contract what so ever. Discussion? May I have a Roll Call Vote please?

**A Roll Call Vote was called.**

**Motion Carried: Ayes~5 Brown, Galusha, Harris, Needham, Shepler, Nays~0**

**Discussion: Supervisor Shepler** noted I would like somebody to please introduce a Resolution to transfer funds. Whereas on 11-12-2020 the Town of Thurman Board approved a Resolution to pay for the security cameras and installation provided by Storedtech at the Transfer Station. We are transferring form A7310.4 – 1,500. The **Town Clerk** noted I don't seem to have that Resolution. **Supervisor Shepler** replied can we make a copy. The **Town Clerk** responded yes, please, actually 2. **Supervisor Shepler** asked is the door open. The **Town Clerk** replied no. **Supervisor Shepler** asked would you mind opening the door please. Alright so I am going to need someone to introduce the Resolution to transfer funds. She then reread the Resolution noting we are taking from A7310.4: 1,500 to A8160.4: 1,500. Be it.....**Councilwoman Harris** noted excuse me I don't find that one. Do you have it **Randy?** **Councilman Galusha** noted I don't know that I do. I thought I did. **Supervisor Shepler** noted I gave those out tonight. **Councilman Galusha** noted I thought I had it here a minute ago. The **Town Clerk** noted there was another one I think for something else. **Supervisor Shepler** responded I beg your pardon. The **Town Clerk** replied there was another one for another transfer that he might have saw. **Supervisor Shepler** noted there are two transfers in here that is correct. The **Town Clerk** replied yeah, for the Tax Collector for postage. That might have been the one that he saw. **Councilman Galusha** noted I have the Tax Collector one. The **Town Clerk** asked do you have it **Doug, Ed.** **Supervisor Shepler** asked were you able to find it. **Councilman Galusha** noted I know I saw it. The Board located copies of the Resolution. **Supervisor Shepler** noted alright does everybody have this Resolution. Can I have somebody introduce it please?

**Resolution # 82**

On a motion **introduce** by **Councilman Needham** and seconded by **Councilman Brown**

**Resolution to Transfer Funds**

**Whereas**, on 11-12-2020 the Town of Thurman Board approved a Resolution to pay for security cameras and installation provided by Stroedtech at the Transfer station

<b>From:</b>	<b>To:</b>
A7310.4 \$1500.00	A8160.4 \$1500.00
A1440.4 \$31.01	A8160.4 \$31.01

**Be it Resolved** that the Board approves the above transfers and payments of the claim

December 09, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

**Discussion: Supervisor Shepler** asked is there any discussion. **Councilman Galusha** responded this is the one to transfer funds to cover Storedtech. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yes, that is correct, and I will you that it came in under budget. **Councilman Galusha** responded I thought the Resolution that we had approved specified which funds they were supposed to be taken out of. **Supervisor Shepler** replied it did, it did. **Councilman Galusha** responded so why are we transferring this now. **Supervisor Shepler** replied because I am doing a transfer. For the payment. **Councilman Galusha** noted I'm confused. **Supervisor Shepler** replied it is housekeeping basically **Randy** is what it is. I mean in reality I could have used the other codes, but I did have a talk with the Comptroller's Office in regards to this, and they did recommend that instead of just using the codes that I had listed that we go ahead and make the transfer into the Transfer Station and take it out of there. The **Town Clerk** noted that is the way you are supposed to do it. **Councilman Galusha** noted I think this is what I brought up last time. I was concerned.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting it could have been the other way. The **Town Clerk** noted not legally. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting but this is actually cleaner. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK. **Supervisor Shepler** noted I mean if in 5 years if you are not here, and I'm not here and somebody wants to look at this and they can know exactly where it came from and went into and what it was for. So I am asking do we have any further discussion on this. No, may I please have a Roll Call.

**A Roll Call Vote was called.**

**Motion Carried: Ayes~4 Brown, Galusha, Needham, Shepler, Nays~1 Harris**

**Discussion: Supervisor Shepler** noted thank you, it passed. Alright I have another transfer here. Whereas the Town of Thurman Town Board approves the following transfer for postage for the Town of Thurman Tax Collector. We are taking it from A1010.4 to it's \$437.00 to 1330.4. We are taking it from A1220.4 \$35.00 to 1330.4 \$35.00. Can I have somebody introduce this please? **Councilman Brown** noted he didn't have the Resolution. **Supervisor Shepler** asked if the other Board Members had the Resolution. She checked **Councilman Brown's** papers then asked to have the door opened to make copies. She looked for a copy of the Budget with **Councilwoman Harris**. **Supervisor Shepler** noted it is the Town Board and it is the Supervisor. Town Board you .4, and my code is the 1220. The Supervisor's code, OK. May I please have somebody introduce this?

**Resolution # 83**

On a motion introduced by **Councilwoman Harris** and seconded by **Councilman Galusha**

**Whereas**, the Town of Thurman Town Board approves the following Transfer for Postage for the Town of Thurman Tax Collector

From:	To:
A1010.4 \$437.00	A1330.4 \$437.00
A1220.4 \$35.00	A 1330.4 \$35.00

**A Roll Call Vote was called.**

**Motion Carried: Ayes~5 Brown, Galusha, Harris, Needham, Shepler, Nays~0**

**Discussion: Supervisor Shepler** noted thank you it passed. May I please have somebody who will introduce a Resolution for retention and disposition for the New York State local government records?

**Resolution # 84**

On a motion introduced by **Councilman Galusha** and seconded by **Councilwoman Harris**

**Resolution For Retention and Disposition Schedule For New York Local Government Records**

December 09, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

**Whereas**, the Town of Thurman Town Clerk, has requested adoption of a policy for disposing of certain types of Town Records. In accordance with Article 57-A of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Law, containing legal retention periods for local government records, therefore

**Be it Resolved**, that the Town Board of the Town of Thurman, that Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1), issued pursuant to Article 57-A of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Law, and containing legal minimum retention periods for local government records, is hereby adopted for use by all officers in legally disposing of valueless records listed therein.

**Be it Further Resolved**, that in accordance with Article 57-A:

- (a) Only those records will be disposed of that are described in Resolution and Disposition Schedule for the New York Local Government Records (LGS-1), after They have met the minimum retention period described therein:
- (b) Only those records will be disposed of that do not have sufficient administrative, physical, legal, or historical value to merit retention beyond established minimum periods.

**Discussion: Supervisor Shepler** asked do I have any discussion. Hearing none can we please have a Roll Call Vote?

**A Roll Call Vote was called.**

**Motion Carried: Ayes~5 Brown, Galusha, Harris, Needham, Shepler, Nays~0**

**Discussion: Supervisor Shepler** noted passed, thank you. Can I please have somebody introduce a Resolution to appoint a Warren County Youth Board Member for 2021?

**Resolution # 85**

On a motion introduced by **Councilwoman Harris** and seconded by **Councilman Brown**

**Resolution to Appoint a Warren County Youth Board Member for 2021**

**Whereas**, The Town of Thurman Town Board, needs to appoint a member to the Warren County Youth Board for the year 2021.

**Be it Resolved** that the Town of Thurman Town Board is reappointing Susan H. Shepler, to represent the Town of Thurman, on the Warren County Youth Board

**Discussion: Supervisor Shepler** asked discussion. **Councilman Galusha** noted I'm just curious what do you do on the Board. I'm not familiar with it. **Supervisor Shepler** responded we sit and we discuss and we have meetings with different organizations to try and promote safe havens for youth in Warren County. There's discussions on um.....Children who are put out there for what is the word I want.....The **Town Clerk** noted trafficking. **Supervisor Shepler** replied thank you very much, trafficking and we are made aware of it. We discuss.....Some of the groups have summer camps, and we discuss that and the availability and so forth. I have sat on this Board for quite a few years now. I find it very enjoyable, and I would like to continue. Sitting on the Board. There's no major decisions made if that is what you are asking. **Councilman Galusha** replied no, I am not familiar with that. I just didn't really know exactly what it did. **Supervisor Shepler** replied I've sat on it both as a Community Member. I sat on it as a Thurman Town Board Member. I've sat on it as a Warren County Board Member. Do I have any other discussion? May I please have a Roll Call Vote?

**A Roll Call Vote was called.**

**Motion Carried: Ayes~5 Brown, Galusha, Harris, Needham, Shepler, Nays~1**

**Discussion: Supervisor Shepler** noted it passed, thank you. This Resolution that is being brought forth at this point in time is just to get our foot in the door if you will with Countryside. There will be a contract

December 09, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

coming, and the rates will.....They are included here, but they it will be more formalized when we get the contract in place. So I need somebody to please introduce a Resolution to accept Countryside Veterinary Medical Group.

**Resolution # 86**

On a motion introduce by **Councilman Needham** and seconded by **Councilwoman Harris**

**Resolution to Accept Countryside Veterinary Medical Group**

**Whereas**, in accordance with the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law Article 7 and Ordinance No.1 of 1994, Local Law 1 of 2011, the Town of Thurman is authorized to seize dogs within the Town of Thurman that among other things, run at large and/or cause physical harm to persons and damage to property, and

**Whereas**, the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law local ordinances states that unidentified dogs must be held for five (5) days, and

**Whereas**, the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law local ordinances states that where a dog is identified, meaning that it is wearing a town of Thurman identification tag (license), the owner must be notified either in person or in writing that the dog has been impounded, and

**Whereas**, the Glens Falls Animal Hospital has been contract with the Town of Thurman through December 31, 2020, Will no longer renew the contract.

**Therefore**, The Town of Thurman will contract with Countryside Veterinary Medical Group for all dogs seized in the Town of Thurman, as of January 1, 2020.

**Discussion: Supervisor Shepler** asked do I have any discussion. **Councilwoman Harris** noted that Countryside is the one that is on.....The **Town Clerk** noted this is by the Airport. **Supervisor Shepler** noted it is near the Airport Bridge. **Councilwoman Harris** asked where. **Supervisor Shepler** replied by the Airport. **Councilman Brown** asked what happened to the other contract. **Supervisor Shepler** responded Glens Falls Animal Hospital in discussion said that they were on the fence about continuing doing this or not, and then there was an incident that occurred, and they did not pass their Municipal Inspection Report. So they have decided instead of going forward with it they would cease doing this. And then all the Towns in the area were now looking for another one. **Councilman Brown** asked all the Towns. **Supervisor Shepler** responded it is not just Thurman no, it is not just Thurman. **Councilman Brown** replied OK, that is what I was wondering. **Supervisor Shepler** responded thank you for clarifying. **Councilman Brown** replied yeah, that is what (inaudible). **Supervisor Shepler** asked do I have any further discussion. Hearing none may I please have a Roll Call Vote? **Councilman Galusha** asked did we get a motion. The **Town Clerk** replied yeah, we did. **Doug** made the motion and seconded by **Joan**. **Supervisor Shepler** spoke over the **Town Clerk** noting we have it introduced by **Doug**, and seconded by **Joan**. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK, thank you. **Supervisor Shepler** asked may I please have a Roll Call Vote.

**A Roll Call Vote was called.**

**Motion Carried: Ayes~5 Brown, Galusha, Harris, Needham, Shepler, Nays~0**

**Discussion: Supervisor Shepler** noted it passed, thank you. Can I please have someone who will introduce a Resolution for the Town of Thurman Highway Department to purchase a new truck in 2021?

**Resolution # 87**

On a motion introduced by **Councilman Brown** and seconded by **Councilman Galusha**

**Resolution For Town of Thurman Highway Department to Purchase a New Truck in 2021**

December 09, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

**Whereas**, The Town of Thurman Highway Department would like to order a new truck for the 2021 year, under the Onondaga Contract the order has to be turned in by December 10, 2020

**Be it Resolved** that the Town of Thurman Town Board agrees to the following:

From the 2021 Highway Budget:

DA5197.2 \$100,000.00

DA5130.2 \$50,000.00

From the Highway Fund Balance \$59,799.10

Totaling \$209,799.10

**Discussion:** **Supervisor Shepler** noted everybody was given the specs. It is an International (inaudible). **Pat** is here if you have any questions in regards to this. The.....**Councilman Galusha** noted the one that I have doesn't actually have the specs. Well wait a minute no; no I don't see specs on here. **Supervisor Shepler** replied it's is contract number 8996 if you were looking for that. **Pat** noted that has got the specs on it. **Supervisor Shepler** replied right. **Councilman Galusha** noted yeah you said specs included. The only thing I've got here is it says a double plow wing and then this doesn't even say what kind of truck it is. **Supervisor Shepler** replied it's an International. Mega Star is what I was told. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK, I mean I don't have a problem with that. That is fine. I think it is good we are buying a truck, and I don't want to rain on anybody parade, but I guess I have one question. How do we spend Fund Balance that hasn't been budgeted? **Supervisor Shepler** responded the money the \$98,249.00 that was put into Reserve. I've got a call into the Comptroller's Office to see if we can use that same Budget Code to take in this case the \$59,799.10 out of it. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK, I mean, I mean here you are identifying it as Fund Balance. The excess Tax Levy is not really Fund Balance. **Supervisor Shepler** responded the \$59,249.00 was put into Reserve. Actually **Joan** can I see your.....**Councilman Galusha** noted I think we are just talking about you know (inaudible) whatever. I just don't.....I think identifying it as Fund Balance is probably not the correct way to identify it is what I am afraid of, and I think that if we do that and get audited I think that they might.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting well that is why I have a call into the Comptroller's Office. I do believe the termination or the terms should be appropriated reserves which is DA511N which was the \$98,249.00 which is available to them. I just want to make sure that that is the correct Budget Code to use. **Councilman Galusha** replied there's..... I remember seeing someplace in the Comptroller's literature about the.....How you move that DA511(inaudible) into your Budget, and what Budget Codes to use. I'm not.....I don't have it at my fingertips. I don't remember it but. **Supervisor Shepler** responded well that is what we did initially when we put it in Reserve for last year, and it was being held. **Councilman Galusha** replied right. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting this is where they told us it had to go for this purpose because we also.....It was being used to reduce the Expenditures, and then it is in the Reserves. **Councilman Galusha** responded I understand all that. I'm just I'm afraid that identifying it as Fund Balance is not the right way to do it, and I think that we could end up getting in trouble for that, but that is a minor item. **Supervisor Shepler** replied well I can assure you before we go into a payment scenario that I will have it correct information for you. As I said I have a call into the Comptroller's Office. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting they are pretty good about getting back to you. It is just not always the same day. **Councilman Galusha** replied right. **Supervisor Shepler** noted so we have to have this approved this evening because he has to have the um.....The contract has to be signed and turned in. Otherwise the quote is null and void, and the chances are that it won't go down it'll go up in price. **Pat. Pat Wood** noted I just want to say that the Fund Balance from 2020 will far exceed that amount. **Councilman Galusha** responded I understand that. I know that there is Fund Balance available. **Pat Wood** continued noting even disregarding the 98 that we are talking about. **Councilman Galusha** responded right. **Pat Wood** continued noting we will still have enough in Fund Balance to (inaudible). **Councilman Galusha** replied the problem is that is we didn't appropriate that Fund Balance in the Budget then I don't think legally we are

December 09, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

allowed to spend it. So the 98,000 obviously will cover this it is just that I think the terminology that we are using to describe it is probably something the Comptrollers will slap us for. Is all I am afraid of? **Supervisor Shepler** replied well I didn't wish to put the DA511N as in Nancy in there because I didn't know that that was correct either. In light of the fact that this had to come before the Board this evening because it has to go out tomorrow. **Councilman Galusha** responded yup, I have no problem with that. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting that is why the terminology was used. **Councilman Galusha** replied yup. **Supervisor Shepler** asked do I have any further discussion. None being heard can I please have a Roll Call Vote?

**A Roll Call Vote Was Called.**

**Motion Carried: Ayes~5 Brown, Galusha, Harris, Needham, Shepler, Nays~0**

**Discussion: Supervisor Shepler** noted it passed. Congratulations. **Pat Wood** replied thank you. **Supervisor Shepler** noted I will have it written up tomorrow for you **Pat**. **Pat Wood** replied OK. **Supervisor Shepler** noted I apologize I have somebody's copy here so I apologize. I'd like to move on to payment of claims please. **Supervisor Shepler** read the claims for the General Fund noting a total of \$6,510.26. The **Town Clerk** noted you seem to be missing a claim that I had put in there for my mileage. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yes, there is a claim missing and.....The **Town Clerk** interrupted and you have no authority to take that out on your own. We've had this discussion before. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting yes, it's.....The **Town Clerk** continued noting you are 1 of 5 Board Members. The Board approves the claims. Not you on your own. **Supervisor Shepler** responded **Susan** this claim was removed. It was never approved. As a matter of fact you were given information when you submitted the claim previously indicating to you that you need to change. The **Town Clerk** responded yes, and I told you that you were wrong, and I submitted the proof to it. And I actually attached proof to the claim that explains the mileage. **Supervisor Shepler** responded well the Town of Thurman has a policy that supersedes that. The **Town Clerk** replied no, it does not. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting and the Town of Thurman does not pay for people going from home to work, and from work to home. The **Town Clerk** responded I am not charging for that. **Supervisor Shepler** responded yes, you are. The **Town Clerk** replied no, I am charging to a change to a change in duty station. I am charging from my house to my duty station. My change of duty station to the bank, and then mileage back to here or home as the case may be. That is how mileage is charged. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting **Susan**. The **Town Clerk** continued noting it is clearly explained on the Comptroller's web page. It is clearly explained on a sheet of paper attached to it. I suggest that you call the Comptroller's Office and get an explanation of it if you can't understand it on your own. **Supervisor Shepler** spoke over her noting this will be brought before the attorney (inaudible). She continued noting it is before the Lawyer **Susan**, and it will come to the Town Board eventually, alright thank you. The **Town Clerk** responded well I will be filing a complaint tomorrow. **Supervisor Shepler** responded please. The **Town Clerk** responded this is ridiculous. You've had since this file..... Was originally filed in March to straighten this out, and you have failed to do so. This is on you. **Supervisor Shepler** replied you were given the information to make the corrections, and you were asked to please make the corrections and chose not to so I.....The **Town Clerk** interrupted noting I am not making a wrong correction. **Supervisor Shepler** replied that is fine, thank you. **Councilman Galusha** noted excuse me, can I ask a question. **Supervisor Shepler** replied certainly. **Councilman Galusha** asked next Board Meeting can we have.....the Board have all the information so that we can assess it and make a determination on it. **Supervisor Shepler** responded well it will.....The Board can look at yes, but before you make a.....Ascertain and a determination it has gone to the Lawyer because.... **Councilman Galusha** noted whatever he gives us I will (inaudible). **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting it will also be involving his recommendation at this point in time, alright. **Councilman Galusha** replied fair enough. The **Town Clerk** noted actually I could have charged more, and I didn't. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting I have made the request, and I have talked to the legal channels before, and I have talked to the Comptroller's Office before, and the Town of Thurman policy supersedes.....The **Town Clerk** noted there is no.....**Councilman Galusha** asked the Supervisor do you have something from the Comptroller that says that. **Supervisor Shepler** replied I would have to go back and look. The **Town Clerk** asked where is the Town of Thurman policy that supersedes it. I want copy

December 09, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

of that. **Supervisor Shepler** responded you have a copy of it. I have given you a copy of (inaudible). The **Town Clerk** replied you have not given me a copy of it. **Supervisor Shepler** responded well I will make sure that tomorrow you are given a copy of it. The **Town Clerk** responded I am not going to be in tomorrow. **Supervisor Shepler** replied I'll put it under your door, alright. **Councilman Galusha** noted so if the Comptroller's office has weighed in on it. If you have that I would like to see it. If not.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting I'm sure we've got it. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting if not before the next meeting could you get something from them addressing this so we have it to review. **Supervisor Shepler** replied I will most definitely speak with them, and ask them for a decision. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK, fair enough. **Supervisor Shepler** responded thank you. The **Town Clerk** noted fair enough. **Supervisor Shepler** then read the claims for the Highway Department noting a total of \$59,807.24. She then read the total of the claims for the Enterprise Fund noting a total of \$1,141.58 and a total of all claims of \$67,459.08.

**Discussion: Supervisor Shepler** asked can I please have somebody who will introduce a Resolution for the payment of claims. **Councilwoman Harris** responded let's discuss that mileage. It isn't up to you to take that bill out, and not present it. All the bills need to be presented to the Board. **Supervisor Shepler** replied thank you **Joan**. **Councilwoman Harris** replied you are welcome. **Supervisor Shepler** noted so may I please have somebody introduce the payment of claims.

#### **Resolution # 88**

On a motion introduced by **Councilman Needham** and seconded by **Councilman Brown**

#### **Payment of Claims**

Total of Abstract: 012 General Fund, December 09, 2020 \$6,510.26

Total of Abstract: 012: Highway Fund: December 09, 2020 \$59,807.24

Total of Abstract 012: Enterprise Fund: December 09, 2020 \$1,141.58

Total Claims for December 09, 2020 \$67,459.08

**A Roll Call Vote was called.**

**Motion Carried: Ayes~5 Brown, Galusha, Harris, Needham, Shepler, Nays~0**

**Discussion: Supervisor Shepler** noted it passed, thank you. **Councilman Galusha** noted before we read the whole claims thing a couple of things that I noticed. The monthly report that you gave us on the bank....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting yup, yup. **Councilman G** continued noting totals. This goes from 11-30 to 12-01. It should.....It doesn't show any amount of money expended. It should start at 11-01. It makes it appear that we didn't pay anything out for a month. **Supervisor Shepler** replied I see what you are saying. That is very interesting. **Councilman Galusha** replied there is no increases or decreases. Somebody just entered the wrong date for the beginning balance. **Supervisor Shepler** noted that is exactly correct, and I will rectify that and have it made available to you correctly. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK, the other thing I just wanted to make note of is going through the expenditures in the General Fund and the Highway Fund we've got three Budget Codes that are all.....Four Budget Codes that are all overdrawn. **Supervisor Shepler** asked which are you looking at. Are you looking at the .....**Councilman Galusha** replied so the first is A81.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting no, no are you looking at this.....**Councilman Galusha** replied General Fund Expenditures. That is the first one. **Supervisor Shepler** replied thank you. **Councilman Galusha** noted so A8160.1. Basically look at any of them that have a negative balance, and they are overdrawn. So first one is on page 5. Which is Refuse and Garbage. I am only bringing these up because I know we are not supposed to overdraw them. We should be transferring money to cover them before we expend it. **Supervisor Shepler** responded yes, and what else did you have. You said you had.....**Councilman**



**Galusha** replied A9050.8 there are two of them. **Supervisor Shepler** responded that is the Unemployment Insurance. **Councilman Galusha** replied yup. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting and if you remember correctly I told you that it was challenged. There was challenges out there, and we were expecting to hear something back from them. (Inaudible) still in the process. **Councilman Galusha** responded yup, yup, yup I understand that, but I think before we overdrawn one we I think we should be transferring money to cover it so we don't ran a negative balance and have the Auditors slap us. **Supervisor Shepler** responded this will all be taken care of at the end once we are finished with bills, and we can find out what funds we have available to transfer around to make the appropriations um.....**Councilman Galusha** noted and then right below that is the Health Insurance. That one is overdrawn. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yup. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting and then on the Highway side Brush DA5140.4 is overdrawn. **Supervisor Shepler** responded 51.....**Councilman Galusha** noted 40.4. **Supervisor Shepler** asked Brush and Weeds. **Councilman Galusha** replied yup. I mean I just bring those up, I mean I know that we have been through this before, and I've read that it is illegal for the Board to approve expenditures that overdraw a Budget Code. **Supervisor Shepler** replied but there is also..... This is the month of December. This is the 12<sup>th</sup> month, and this is the month where we make.....All of these things to make them whole. **Councilman Galusha** responded right, but that doesn't make it legal. **Supervisor Shepler** responded well that is fine. **Councilman Galusha** replied I think that we should be transferring money before we overdraw them. **Supervisor Shepler** responded we have been transferring money, and we are going to continue unfortunately. **Councilman Needham** replied yup, we are doing a lot of transferring. **Councilman Galusha** noted the only other thing I had a question on **Pat**.....**Pat** can I ask a question? I mean every month we have equipment rentals, and it is usually a excavator, and I see that we spent like 50,000 this year on equipment rentals. Is that always the same excavator or is it something else we are renting. **Pat Wood** responded no, it is the same. It is the same. I don't think it is 50. It is 2,200 something a month. (Inaudible). **Councilman Galusha** spoke over him noting I just was looking at this.....I was just looking at the amounts in here as expended so far this year. I'm not sure if I am looking at the right budget code, but DA5112.2. **Pat Wood** noted yeah, that's CHIPs. That (inaudible) Highway. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK, and it's right here we've got 59,465.31. **Pat Wood** responded no, that is not equipment rental. That is the total expenditures for CHIPs for the whole year. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK. **Pat Wood** continued noting gravel all that stuff. **Council Galusha** responded OK, where I was going with it.....My question is going to be are we spending enough in rentals that at some point does it make sense for us to look at buying something. **Pat Wood** replied I think that it does. Not a monstrous piece of equipment, but I really think that (inaudible) we've done new construction this year. We've started at the (inaudible) end of Town, and yeah I think it would. **Councilman Galusha** asked what size excavator are we talking.....**Pat Wood** replied I like the 85K. The (inaudible). It is the heaviest one you get on a rubber track. **Councilman Galusha** asked how many tons is it? **Pat Wood** replied 8,000 (inaudible) 5, 6 tons, but it has got rubber tracts which allow us to travel on the roads with it without tearing up the road (inaudible). **Councilman Galusha** noted and it is small enough you can pull it on a trailer behind.....**Pat Wood** noted it has the thumb. It has the ditching bucket. The regular tooth bucket when we are going through rock. It is tall enough to load our trucks with. **Councilman Galusha** replied yup. **Councilman Galusha** asked you got a trailer. **Pat Wood** replied I still need to haul it. We don't have a trailer. **Councilman Galusha** asked would it be good if you did. **Pat Wood** replied it would be good if we did. **Councilman Galusha** noted so a trailer and an excavator. So it makes sense that we should look at purchasing something in the future and a trailer to (inaudible). **Pat Wood** responded yeah, because we do use it a lot. We (inaudible) roads. We do the C&D with it. Taking trees down, the security cameras all that stuff. It's a really great piece of equipment. **Councilman Galusha** responded and if you have it you would use it more. **Pat Wood** responded oh yeah, yeah. It's (inaudible). **Councilman Galusha** replied OK, alright. **Supervisor Shepler** noted **Joan** I understand you have some reports you would like to share with us tonight. **Councilwoman Harris** yes, the end of the year snuck up on me so I didn't give it to you before. This is the annual report that I send in to New York State, and it says: **Councilwoman Harris** then read the following letters.

Devin R. Lander

New York State Historian

CEC 3023 Albany, New York 12230

My annual report of 2020

Mr. Lander;

Year 2020 has been a challenge to us all. Due to the disrespect to the office of Town Historian and the Historian personally, I am handing in my resignation effective January 1, 2021.

I have not had the privilege of having a key to the Historical file office since January 1, 2020 and this new Supervisor. When I need to check certain information I must have the Supervisor or her Secretary come and open the door to my files. Then I need to pull out furniture, printers and empty boxes to get to the files.

I have been Historian for many years and never have been treated in such a manner. I am also been the President of the John Thurman Historical Society for about 12 years and some of their files are in the same room and are treated the same way.

I do not get paid because I am also on the Town Board.

This year has been busy with documenting the covid situation and also I have entertained about 43 requests for genealogy information and town history. I have either traveled with searchers to 10 to 12 cemetery locations or shared information. I have also shared information from the JTHS Historical files which disbands as of December 3, 2020. I am still and will continue to gather information for four or five request still on my desk. I want to thank the Town Clerk Susan Staples who has been a great help in finding needed documentations.

Up unto this year I have enjoyed this journey and privilege.

Sincerely,



Date 12/9/2020

To the people of the Town of Thurman,

12-9-2020

With a sad heart I am informing you that no longer are the John Thurman Historical Society Active.

The voluntary dissolution of the corporation is being sought because membership has decreased to an unstainable level due to advanced age, death, or departing the area; and the Society's own managing Trustees/ Executive Board has suffered the same fate, and there are only four of us still living, and we are unable to continue administering the Society's contractual requirements.

The last 19 years have been a great journey, annual fiddler's Jamborees, Veteran's dinners, monthly meeting and slide shows, quarterlies, house tours and many more home town activities revived the love of our 200 year old Town.

In February of 2001 a small group who were inspired by the Bicentennial Bash decided to bring back the John Thurman Historical Society. The previous society group had preserved money for such a revival and graciously gave us starting funds. Thru the years our activities and especially our Quarterlies became a hit.

This past November the Warrensburg Historical Society offered to protect and store our collections and files at their facilities in Warrensburg. We met and decided on how to take their offer.

December 1<sup>st</sup> Men from Warrensburg and Thurman agreed to do the removal job. We were able to move 24 boxes of files and photos plus 12 items was given to the Warrensburg Society. Monies were divided with a portion going to the Warrensburg Central School Scholarship to be dispersed for the next 10 years to a graduate from Thurman. A sum of money was given to Operation Santa Clause program as we have donated some each year. The remainder is being given to the Warrensburg Historical Society for a thank you for preserving the History of Thurman.

Page 2

The transfer went rather smoothly except for a small bump in the road. That just gave us all a great laugh for the day.

We the Trustees thank the residents of Thurman who have supported us for 19 years and those who originally began the Society.

Remember it is best to build upon the history of your town and carry it forward, than to let people tear it down who do not know the value of living in Thurman.

One last thing- Join the Historical Society of Warrensburg, Stony Creek and Johnsburg, remember we once were all one town- Thurman. They can use your help.

Thank you.

Joan Harris

Society President

12-9-2020

Town Board Members:

This is to inform the Thurman Town Board that I am resigning as of December 9<sup>th</sup> 2020 from the position of Town Historian.

I have enjoyed the job but because of how I have been treated by the present Supervisor I feel she would like to replace me.

I have worked for the town for about 50 years and not once has any Supervisor implied that I was a liar and a thief. No other Supervisor has refused the keys to the Historical file room and was always willing to work together with the office of Historian.

The town is required to have an Historian by New York State and I will help (if needed) to transfer the information and files.

Thank you

Joan Harris

**Discussion:** Supervisor Shepler asked may I have copies of those please. Councilwoman Harris responded hum. Supervisor Shepler responded may I have copies of those please. Councilwoman Harris replied sure. Supervisor Shepler replied thank you. Councilwoman Harris noted I'll give them to you. Councilman Galusha noted I would like to thank Joan and the Members of the John Thurman Historical Society for their service and their commitment preserving Thurman's History. Thank you. Supervisor Shepler noted thank you. A round of applause was given. Randy do you have a presentation that you would like to give this evening. Councilman Galusha replied presentation. Supervisor Shepler responded I understood that you wanted to make a presentation in regards to Whitespace. Councilman Galusha replied I don't have a presentation. I just have stuff I thought that it would be helpful if we could discuss this. I think that Ed is aware of some of it. You guys are probably aware of some of it. I have been approached by a few residents with a couple of different issues. One is they are concerned

that they are going to have a lapse in service because we've all agreed that Whitespace will end as of December 31<sup>st</sup>. **Supervisor Shepler** noted 30<sup>th</sup>, I'm sorry. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting 30<sup>th</sup> OK, and SLIC may or may not be available. Then obviously time is running out kind of, and I've had conversations with representatives from SLIC and I can kind of fill you in on where all that stands, but the concern of these people is if SLIC does not become available as soon as Whitespace terminates they could have a lapse in service that could last for weeks or possibly months. We don't know. So they approached me about finding some resolution to that, and there was some ideas batted around which I will mention in a minute. The other thing is some residents are interested in having internet service provided up Sky High Road. **Supervisor Shepler** asked for what (inaudible). **Councilman Galusha** responded for internet services. **Supervisor Shepler** asked for Whitespace or for SLIC. **Councilman Galusha** replied just some form of internet service. So we are talking about the temporary service to fill in for the people who will get SLIC, but ultimately SLIC is not planning to go up Sky High Road. So the people who live on Sky High Road once Whitespace ends there is a couple of them that will no longer have any service and then the people that have approached me are interested in finding some solution for internet service up there because SLIC isn't going up Sky High Road. So when I talked to Kevin Lynch from SLIC we batted around a few ideas and one of the residents had mentioned that he had spoken to a company called Adirondack Techs. And Adirondack Techs has two things. One they have the ability to lay fiber optic cable which they do what they call last mile service. In other words they could run fiber optic cable up Sky High Road and connect into SLIC. I mentioned this to Kevin Lynch and we discussed that. Adirondack Techs also has the ability to do wireless. So they could operate the Whitespace System, and I didn't talk to them. This was a discussion with Kevin Lynch not a representative from Adirondack Techs. We didn't get into how that would happen whether we would.....The Town would transfer ownership to Adirondack Techs or somehow do it under contract or whatever or we didn't discuss money or anything like that. This was just a very preliminary discussion. We're just looking for solutions to a problem, and they are aware that the Town is in a position where we haven't budgeted anything for Whitespace, and there is no appetite to spend money on it to provide further internet service to the people up there. So we were looking for solutions that could take care of these people both the ones in the interim and the long term on Sky High Road. And just trying to.....Just trying to facilitate some of this to make it come to fruition. So one of the things that I am preparing to do is I am trying to get a list of residents up Sky High Road. One of the Residents is putting it together for me of who would be interested in Fiber Optic service whether that was provided by SLIC or it was provided by Adirondack Techs. So.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting can they not contract with Adirondack Techs? **Councilman Galusha** replied Techs t-e-c-h-s. **Supervisor Shepler** replied thank you. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting that is the way I understand. I hope that is correct. **Supervisor Shepler** asked and they contacted them directly because this is nothing that the Town can get involved with. **Councilman Galusha** replied well I am not say that the Town should get involved as far as financially or legally, but I think that it would be beneficial to the citizens if we help facilitate it and if they need and right of ways or anything like that from the Town because if we own the Road or anything like that that we could help work that out. And if there is anything that we can do with regards to Whitespace either somehow make it available to Adirondack Techs. I'm just thinking out loud here so don't jump on this as something that I am saying that we should do, but if Adirondack Tech can.....Is willing to run the Whitespace in the interim till SLIC is up and running maybe we would consider transferring the Whitespace equipment over to them. I don't know if that is a possibility or not. **Supervisor Shepler** replied no (inaudible). **Councilman Galusha** responded well I mean after January 1<sup>st</sup> Whitespace equipment is pretty useless to

use so I mean I don't know what we are going to do with it. **Supervisor Shepler** responded we could sell it. **Councilman Galusha** replied if it has some value. I mean.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting it does. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting if it does then maybe we should talk to Adirondack Techs about that and maybe (inaudible). I haven't talked to that representative from Adirondack Tech. Kevin Lynch from SLIC is familiar with Adirondack Techs. He has worked with them before. Mentioned the gentleman's name that he has worked with. At this point all I am trying to do is pull together information. Who is going to be in this gap that is going to lose service when Whitespace goes away. Who is available or who is interested on Sky High Road that wants fiber optic service and try to kind of facilitate this between them in the Town and figure out how to come up with a solution so these people don't end up with no service. And I am not making any commitments on behalf of the Town or anything like that. I'm just trying to help them you know.....I'm just trying to problem solve that is all there is. **Supervisor Shepler** noted can I just throw something out there for you. **Councilman Galusha** replied sure. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting there are 1,219 residents in the Town of Thurman per Warren County. **Councilman Galusha** responded yup. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting we have currently approximately 10 paying customers on Whitespace that certainly could not sustain us. So that means there is what 1,209 residents who have been helping to foot this bill. **Councilman Galusha** responded right. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting that we cannot legally do any longer. That is a concern. Where is the money coming from for this? **Councilman Galusha** responded I am not talking about the Town spending any money. **Supervisor Shepler** remarked because we can't even if it's a lawyer looking at the contracts and stuff. **Councilman Galusha** responded the people that I talked to are aware that the Town is not going to be financially obligated to do anything after the first of the year. So all I'm talking about is facilitating a solution that doesn't require the Town to spend money. That somehow we can SLIC and Adirondack Tech and the residents all together to make this happen. And if we can do something with our Whitespace equipment that helps them out in the interim however that is I'm not suggest.....Making any suggestions at this point until I know what their capabilities are and what their thoughts are, and I would just like to continue that conversation and try and help these people out. Because otherwise they are going to be left without internet service. **Supervisor Shepler** noted but I will say in all good honesty **Randy** this has been no deep dark secret, and as long as this Board has been in the position that we are in we, we stated that it was going to end on the 30<sup>th</sup> so I mean these folks unfortunately know this. Unfortunately SLIC has been promising that they would have us up and running a year and a half to two years ago. **Councilman Galusha** responded yup. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting they still have not even made the pad to put the box on. **Councilman Galusha** responded I had a conversation with Kevin about that. He explained to me there was a requirement to get a right of way, and they had to hire a surveyor. Have it surveyed then they had to get the Board approval.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting that was approved in September. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting I realized that that was approved back then, but he said there was a delay of 7 weeks in their planning schedule to account for the time it took for them to get a surveyor. Get it surveyed. Get the survey in front of the Town.....The County Board, and get it approved. And they have had other delays too. Their crews got called down south. They have been waiting on National Grid to get approval for poles. I know there are poles..... My road I've got 2 poles on my road that need to be replaced that haven't yet so SLIC is at National Grids mercy until they do that. **Supervisor Shepler** noted and Verizon unfortunately. **Councilman Galusha** I'm not sure the role.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting they are in the mix there too unfortunately. **Councilman Galusha** noted I don't see a problem with us helping people I mean find a solution. I mean I am not talking about us spending any

money. **Supervisor Shepler** noted I think a solution can be reached that is fine, but it cannot involve any of the property of the Town of Thurman unless we've gone to legal and found out what is involved with it, and also to find out what liabilities are attached to it. This is property of the Town of Thurman. Let's remove the Town of Thurman from the equation. Let's say it was SLIC, Verizon, Spectrum or anything else like that. They would simply say to these folks at the end of the term thank you very much, but we are ending our service. And this is predominantly what we have done. Because financially even if we talk to the lawyers it is going to cost us money. And we have budgeted nothing for this **Randy**.

**Councilwoman Harris** noted is what they are asking permission from the Town (inaudible) to be able to reach their house. Do we need something like that. That we could help them, but it doesn't cost anything. **Councilman Galusha** responded well.....It may very well not cost anything. I don't know what the.....Nobody has fleshed out which options are viable. Which one they are interested. **Councilman Needham** asked why won't SLIC go up Sky High. **Councilman Galusha** replied it is not part of their coverage area under the Broadband Program because what SLIC is doing in Town is part of a Government Grant. So that we can..... Whoever gets it can get service for (inaudible). **Councilman Needham** replied is that the only part of Town that is affected. **Councilman Galusha** replied what's that. **Councilman Needham** replied is that the only part of Town affected. **Supervisor Shepler** replied no Garnet Lake has got no service, and no lines have been laid there either. **Councilman Galusha** responded well they haven't been, but they will be. **Supervisor Shepler** replied but he doesn't know when. **Councilman Galusha** replied that is something that is going to be covered though. I mean they will be covered and it's actually coming in on two directions on Garnet Lake Road. I mean if there is another section of Town that is in the same boat as Sky High Road, and they want assistance why can't, why shouldn't we help them facilitate a solution to that. If there is something that the Town can.....A roll that the Town can play I mean I am not saying we have to spend money on this. **Supervisor Shepler** replied we can't unfortunately. **Councilman Galusha** noted we get that. **Councilman Needham** we could recommend they go to satellite. **Councilman Galusha** replied satellite sucks. **Councilman Needham** replied it is better than nothing. **Supervisor Shepler** noted it is an option that is available to them. **Councilman Needham** interrupted noting if they don't have nothing it is better than nothing at all. **Councilman Galusha** replied it sucks. I have been through it, and.....**Councilman Brown** noted I've got satellite and it is junk. **Councilman Galusha** responded yup. **Councilman Brown** noted I think SLIC is part of HughesNet . I think they are going (inaudible) I think. **Councilman Galusha** responded SLIC is part of HughesNet. **Councilman Brown** replied well I thought they were going to use that at one time. **Supervisor Shepler** noted they were, they were. **Councilman Brown** continued noting I don't know if they still.....**Councilman Galusha** interrupted noting I think what you are.....I think what you are conflating is that in the New York State Broadband Program what they did was divvy areas up, and they said OK SLIC does this part of Town. HughesNet does this part of Town. **Councilman Brown** made an inaudible comment. **Councilman Galusha** replied no question about it. I have complained about HughesNet to anybody who would listen about it, but SLIC is willing to service more than what is in their designated area if they can, and if they can make it economical, but going up Sky High Road they don't know if there.....There might not be enough residents so that is why this other company, Adirondack Tech, might be willing to do it. But the difference is they are going to be dealing directly with the homeowners, and they can charge whatever they need to charge to make it viable. Whereas SLIC is limited in what they can charge because they are under a Government Grant. **Councilman Brown** responded that is what a lot of people were saying. They would be willing to spend some of their money up front if they can get by until SLIC is there as long as it is not a fortune for them. That is what



they were saying. **Councilman Galusha** noted so the thing is if we have this Whitespace equipment we are not going to be using it after the first of the year we need to find a way to dispose of it whether we sell it surplus or however we do it we should at least consider that maybe Adirondack Techs might be able to make use of it. Maybe the residents up there that need it might chip in I don't know. **Supervisor Shepler** noted we have to find out logistically what is involved with this. **Councilman Galusha** replied that is what I am trying to do. **Supervisor Shepler** noted and also we have to find out insurance wise what is involved because the Town cannot be held liable for anything. **Councilman Galusha** replied well I think if we sold it that would absolve us of any liability. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting it certainly would. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting it would be somebody else's problem. **Councilman Brown** noted a lot of people that I talk to come in they understand that the Town is not liable. **Councilman Galusha** responded yes. **Councilman Brown** noted they understand that. They know we have no funds. No revenue. They know that, but they are trying to do something themselves. As long as it is not long term. To get them by. **Councilman Galusha** replied right. **Supervisor Shepler** noted but we don't know how long it is going to be. **Councilman Brown** replied exactly. That is what they are trying to find out. **Supervisor Shepler** spoke over him noting because it's already 2 years that it has been delayed. She continued noting but in reality **Randy** and I don't mean to be.....It could be another year and a half or two years before SLIC has got everybody up and running. **Councilman Galusha** responded SLIC told me that they are shooting to get the connections started by the end of the year. Right now all the have to do is pour the cabinet or the base for the cabinet at the Thurman Station. The way this works just so everybody knows down (inaudible) Hill Road is what they call the backbone. That is where service feeds in down to Thurman station to this cabinet. From there it feeds back out through Thurman and also across the bridge to parts of Warrensburg. And so once that cabinet goes live all the roads that have already got cable on it they can start making hookups immediately. And then the other roads that don't yet have cable they are going to continue to run cables, and as soon as the cable is there they are going to start making hookups on those roads. **Councilman Brown** noted it don't take them long to do that. **Supervisor Shepler** noted well the other thing Kevin said to me is because the Pandemic, and the very strong possibility that there are students in the Town of Thurman that are going to have to be learning from home again his goal is to hook up the homes with school age children first before anybody else gets hooked up. **Councilman Galusha** responded they have.....He told me they have a priority system. He said it is not hard and fast. He hasn't publicized what that priority system is. He doesn't want people gaming the system saying oh I've got this problem that puts me at the head of the line. So they are kind of.....It is kind of on the honor system as far as who gets what service, and so they are going to work on it, but they are still shooting for the first of the year to be hooking people up. **Supervisor Shepler** noted he said that to me too, but at that point in time there was no intent of pouring the slab. He said we will try and do it by the end of the week, but weather plays into it. Manpower plays into it. And then they have to place the box, and then they have to get the box hooked up. There is a lot involved with this I mean I don't mean to be disrespectful to Kevin Lynch whatsoever, but there has been an awful lot of lip service for the last year and a half two years. **Councilman Galusha** noted I think he has been straight up. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting and we've all been very patient waiting for the service to come into Town. **Councilman Galusha** responded I mean I don't have any reason to believe that they have delayed this anything any unnecessarily in any way because the sooner they get us hooked up the sooner they get paying customers. It is in their best interest to hook us up. Why would they delay it? **Supervisor Shepler** replied I'm not saying that they delayed it intentionally, but I don't think it was planned as well as it should have or could have been planned. Because they knew

from the beginning, the onset, they've had issues with Verizon and with National Grid, and all this should have been rectified prior to going out and making promises of people being hooked up a year ago. Two years ago. **Councilman Galusha** noted so just so you know my intention to continue to try and help these people. I am going to gather the information try and facilitate a solution between Adirondack Techs, SLIC, the residents on Sky High Road and the Whitespace users and see what we can come up with a solution. Because I think it is in their interest and as a Public Service we need to do that. So I intend to. **Supervisor Shepler** responded well again they need to look at the legal aspect of it too, and the liability. I think that is only realistic that people at least you know.....Because the Town doesn't want to get surprised. **Councilman Brown** responded people understand that. They realize that. They know that the Town can't be involved. **Supervisor Shepler** replied well we are unfortunately are going to have to get it written down, and that is going to cost the Town money. **Councilman Brown** replied oh yeah, there is no doubt about it. **Councilman Galusha** noted I've got a couple of other things I just want to ask questions on. Have you talked to the bank yet about getting check images? **Supervisor Shepler** responded I did, and I was told that that was sun setting, and that they were going to have to see if they could do it or not. The only Town that would be doing it would be the Town of Thurman and nobody else does it. So they are going to see if they can do it. And that is where that was left. **Councilman Galusha** asked who did you speak to and can I talk to them. **Supervisor Shepler** responded I spoke with **Pat Murphy**. **Councilman Galusha** responded **Pat Murphy**. **Supervisor Shepler** responded I think it is Murphy now that I've said that. Someone noted McTague. **Supervisor Shepler** replied what. Someone replied McTague. The **Town Clerk** noted no, he is talking about.....**Councilman Galusha** noted no this is at the TD Bank. **Supervisor Shepler** noted and **Randy** I will say to you what was said to me is what is the importance of the Board having those images. **Councilman Galusha** noted I already (inaudible). **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting and he also shares the same concerns about them getting out in the public. **Councilman Galusha** responded the Comptroller recommends that we have them. **Supervisor Shepler** replied the Town has them, yes. The Town has them not the Board. The Town has them. There is no need.....**Councilman Galusha** interrupted noting the Town has check images on the statements. **Supervisor Shepler** replied no, not on statements we do not, but we have them available to us. **Councilman Galusha** responded OK, the Comptroller's Office in their guidance recommend that we have them. **Supervisor Shepler** replied and they are stored so there is nothing.....I mean there is no reason for the Board to have them and this is what I was told. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK. **Supervisor Shepler** replied what is the importance of the Board having them. **Councilman Galusha** noted so that we can easily look at them where the expenditures are going, and see.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting it is all in the reports. It is all in the reports. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting immediately what they are. Sure it is, and in order to do it you have to take what is on the list of claims and then you have to go back and look at the bank statement and the bank statement doesn't necessarily say who it's made out to. **Supervisor Shepler** remarked no, but it gives you a check number and this also gives you a check number. **Councilman Galusha** replied right it just make it more work for somebody that wants to review what the Town is spending the money on, and I think it is ridiculous. **Councilwoman Harris** remarked if the Town Board asks for it, it should be done. **Councilman Galusha** noted I have one other thing that I want to bring up. Given that the numbers are starting to tick back up during the Pandemic there are certain risks that some time in the future we may not be able to have open Public Meetings. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting exactly. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting and even if we do have open Public Meetings I think that we should look at investing in some camera equipment and microphones whatever we need so that we can publicize or televise our

Meetings. **Supervisor Shepler** responded um hum. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting I just think that we should do it especially with SLIC coming we will be able to do it. Not that we can't now, but we could do it with SLIC and so I think that it is something that.....I don't know **Susan** if.....The **Town Clerk** responded I had it in my equipment actually, and you guys denied me. And I actually just made a purchase with my own money to cover it. **Supervisor Shepler** spoke over her noting it is not in the Budget. The **Town Clerk** continued noting I've got it covered. I've purchased a laptop of my own with my own money to cover this so when we get SLIC I will be able to live stream. **Councilman Galusha** responded can you put together the equipment and what we need and what the expenses are so that we can.....The **Town Clerk** interrupted noting I have already covered it. Don't worry about it. I am going to make sure that the Town Residents are covered even if the Board doesn't approve it I will cover it out of my own pocket. I have already covered it. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK. So we are going to buy that with 2021 money. The **Town Clerk** responded I have purchased it out of my own pocket to make sure that is covered. **Supervisor Shepler** spoke over the **Town Clerk** noting she already (inaudible) out of her own pocket. The **Town Clerk** responded the Board turned me down for the equipment so I purchased it on my own to make sure we have it so that the residents can see what is going on. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK. **Supervisor Shepler** asked was there anything else. **Councilwoman Harris** noted we haven't had a table of Fund Balances. Are you going to bring that back up again? **Supervisor Shepler** responded eventually yes, it has been a little busy around here. We are trying to get the Budget rectified and taken care of and a few other issues that have been going on. It will come back up oh yes. **Councilwoman Harris** replied as soon as you can get it done, OK. **Supervisor Shepler** replied it will come back on the table **Joan**. It doesn't have to come off today, but it will come off the table. Is there any other discussion? **Councilman Galusha** responded I think we have a list of policies actually that the State requires us to have. Like there are 6 or 7 of them. The **Town Clerk** noted they are supposed to be done month. There are 6 things. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting so I think next year I think January we should start looking at having.....Reviewing all those policies and getting them done. **Supervisor Shepler** responded that is done at the Organizational Meeting and the first Wednesday in January is traditionally when we would have the Organizational Meeting. We do not have any new Board Members coming on this year do you want to do it the first Wednesday in January or do you want to do it the first regularly scheduled meeting in January? **Councilman Galusha** noted might as well do it at the first regularly scheduled meeting. One of these policies was the Ethics Policy which was.....I had volunteered to draft a couple of sections because they referenced a Ethics Board, and if you recall I asked you and **Gail** to give me a copy of the Ethics Policy in Word so that I could edit it. Because all I have is the paper copy and in order to edit it I would have to retype the whole thing which is like 15 pages long. So if I can just get a Word version. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting was it the Ethics or was it the Thurman. **Councilman Galusha** replied it was the Ethics Policy. **Supervisor Shepler** made an inaudible comment. It all has to be made available for (inaudible) before that meeting so that I can post it and make copies for the Board. The **Town Clerk** noted you did not pass the Procurement Policy, a Sexual Harassment Policy, the Workplace Violence Policy. **Councilman Galusha** replied that is fine. If I just have the Word version I can redo those two sections in there easily. **Supervisor Shepler** replied I will see what I.....I don't know what I've got, but I will look for it. **Councilman Galusha** responded OK. **Supervisor Shepler** responded alright. Is there any other discussion? None, **Pat? Pat Wood** noted I have a question. Today when I was doing bills I had a bill for Unemployment Insurance. **Supervisor Shepler** responded yes. **Pat Wood** continued noting and I just don't know anyone on the Highway Department.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting come up tomorrow, and we will go

December 09, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

through it. I will show you who it is alright. I will not discuss it in public. **Pat Wood** replied OK. **Supervisor Shepler** replied OK, thank you. Are there any other questions from the Board? None being heard somebody make a motion to adjourn please.

**ADJOURNMENT:** On a motion introduced by **Councilwoman Harris** and seconded by **Councilman Needham** the meeting was adjourned at **8:28 pm**.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Susan E, Staples, Town Clerk**

**January 07, 2021**

**Attachments:**

# Town of Thurman Supervisors Report

December 9, 2020

What a year 2020 has been! COVID -19, has impacted all of us either directly or indirectly. Warren County has had a increase in reported cases. Please be aware of your surroundings, wear a mask, wash your hands frequently, and maintain social distancing of at least six feet. If you don't have to go out stay home and most importantly if you are ill please stay home!

I would like to Thank Pat Wood and the Town Highway Department for getting the Christmas Tree, setting it up and putting the lights on the Tree, to help spread some Holiday Cheer!

The Town of Thurman Highway Department purchased a slightly used Gallion Grader in February 2020, which has been put to great use especially on our dirt roads and cutting ditches. Thank you Pat for finding such a fabulous deal!

The Town of Thurman and the Town Transfer Station have both been upgraded with their security systems this year per the recommendations of the Insurance Company and Law Enforcement.

The 2021 Town of Thurman Budget was adopted on November 19, 2020. This Budget was brought forward by Councilman Galusha, and passed by a majority of the Board.

I have received calls regarding the Whitespace, and just want to remind everyone that the contract with Frontier is up on December 30, 2020. The Town has met all the conditions of the

Grant. While the Town is not allowed to use public monies to subsidize Whitespace, we have been running at a loss every year since December 2017. This year's loss as of November 30, 2020, is \$8663.69 with the month of December still outstanding. Going forward there was no appropriations budgeted for the support of Whitespace. Where I have wholeheartedly supported Whitespace and done everything within my power to keep it running, no provisions were made to sustain Whitespace in 2021.

December's Gleaning was scheduled by the Warren-Hamilton Community Action Agency for December 14, 2020. This date change not being the first Monday of the month will occur again in July and September of 2021.

I would like to wish everyone a very Happy and Healthy New Year!

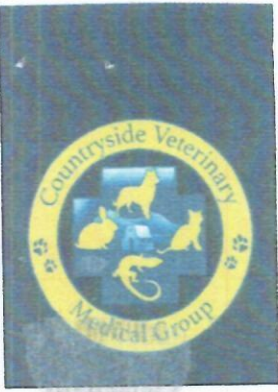
## Countryside Veterinary Medical Group

454 Queensbury Avenue

Queensbury, Ny 12804

Phone: 518-793-7083

Fax: 518-480-4973



Boarding: \$20/Day

Capstar Flea Treatment: \$5

Euthanasia: \$75

Cremation: \$50-\$130

Stray Spay/Neuter: \$40

Emergency Exam: \$50

Hospitalization (Plus Meds): \$ 15

Rabies Vaccination: \$40

NYS Rabies Testing: \$125

Euthanasia: \$

Euthanasia: \$

Thurman ACO report November 2020  
Nothing to show for November 2020