

January 17, 2020

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF THURMAN HELD JANUARY 17, 2020 AT THE TOWN HALL, 311 ATHOL ROAD, ATHOL, NEW YORK, COMMENCING AT 6:17PM...**

**PRESENT:** Mrs. Susan H. Shepler, Supervisor  
Mr. Douglas Needham, Councilman  
Mrs. Joan Harris, Councilwoman  
Mr. Edward Brown, Councilman  
Mr. Randy Galusha, Councilman

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Gail Seaman

The Meeting was called to order by **Susan H. Shepler, Supervisor**

**ROLL CALL**

**Supervisor Shepler** stated the main reason for the meeting was to review the 2019 claims and to pay them.

Discussion ensued between Board members about Town computers, the new accounting system, and access needed by the Town's IT firm to install the software onto the Town Clerks computers, and the unsuccessful attempts to date to accomplish this. Supervisor Shepler explained her conversation with the State Comptroller and his direction that the Town Clerk can manually write an abstract and hand number each so that the Board could review it, this had been explained to the Town Clerk and to date the Town Clerk has not done this.

**RESOLUTION #** \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment of Claims**

**Totals of Claims 2020**

**General Fund \$3,160.34**

**Highway Fund \$135.00**

**Pre – Audit \$577.49**

January 17, 2020

**Totals of Claims 2019**

**General Fund \$8,124.81**

**Highway Fund \$37,355.50**

On a motion by **Councilman Galusha**, seconded by **Councilwoman Harris** to table the payment of claims until next week after the Town Clerk computer issues are corrected.

**Roll Call Vote:** Supervisor Shepler ~ Nay

Councilman Needham ~ Nay

Councilwoman Harris ~ Yes

Councilman Brown ~ Nay

Councilman Galusha ~ Yes

**Motion Failed: 2 Ayes ~ Galusha, Harris**

**3 Nay ~ Shepler, Needham, Brown**

On a motion by **Council Needham**, seconded by **Supervisor Shepler**, Resolution #\_\_\_\_\_ to pay Claims was approved.

**Roll Call Vote:** Supervisor Shepler ~ Yea

Councilman Needham ~ Yea

Councilwoman Harris ~ No

Councilman Brown ~ Yes

Councilman Galusha ~ No

**Motion Carried: 3 Ayes ~ Shepler, Needham, Brown**

**2 Nay ~ Harris, Galusha**

January 17, 2020

**RESOLUTION #\_\_\_\_\_:**

**Ratify Action Taken**

**Whereas** it is important to be educated on the programs available to small municipalities, and

**Whereas** new elected officials should be given the opportunity to attend Newly Elected Officials Training

**Be it Resolved** that the Town Board approves the attendance of the Supervisor Susan Shepler, Councilman Randy Galusha, and the Town Clerk Susan Staples at the Association of Towns Training for Newly Elected Officials that took place January 15<sup>th</sup> thru 17<sup>th</sup> and approves expenses associated with this meeting.

On a motion by **Councilman Needham**, seconded by **Councilman Brown**, Resolution #\_\_\_\_\_ to Ratify Action Taken was approved.

**Roll Call Vote:** Supervisor Shepler ~ Yes

Councilman Needham ~ Yea

Councilwoman Harris ~ Abstain

Councilman Brown ~ Yes

Councilman Galusha ~ Yes

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

**1 Abstention ~ Harris**

**RESOLUTION #\_\_\_\_\_:**

**Approve Attendance in NYC Association of Towns in February**

**Whereas** it is important to be educated on programs available to small municipalities,

**Be it Resolved** that the Thurman Town Board approves attendance of the Supervisor at the Association of Towns meeting in February and approves all travel, hotel, and meal expenses associated with this meeting.

On a motion by **Councilman Needham**, seconded by **Councilman Brown**, Resolution #\_\_\_\_\_ to approve Attendance in NYC Association of Towns in February was approved.

January 17, 2020

Discussion on ensued between Board members about the differences between the newly elected officials training and the NYC training classes.

**Roll Call Vote:** Supervisor Shepler ~ Yea

Councilman Needham ~ Yea

Councilwoman Harris ~ Abstain

Councilman Brown ~ Yea

Councilman Galusha ~ Yea

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

**1 Abstention ~ Harris**

Councilwoman Harris abstained because “I don’t go along with what is being said”.

Supervisor explained to the Board the new abstracts through the Williamson Law accounting system, how they look and what it means. The board was given a copy of the 2020 budget and asked the Board to review as to where to make \$98,000 in cuts, and to have suggestions ready for the February Board meeting. Discussion ensued. Councilman Galusha and Councilwoman Harris requested the Financials for the last two years, Supervisor Shepler said that she would request them from the Town Clerk as she is the official in charge of keeping the official records of the Town.

Discussion regarding the Annual auditing of the Town offices, Councilman Brown and Councilman Needham will be doing these audits, an extension has been given to the Justice office. The offices to be audited are the Supervisor, Town Clerk, Tax Collector and the Justice office. Some discussion ensued.

**ADJOURNMENT:** On a motion by **Councilman Needham**, seconded by **Councilman Brown** the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

**MOTION CARRIED: 5 Ayes ~ Shepler, Needham, Harris, Brown, Galusha**

Respectfully Submitted:

Gail Seaman

February 17, 2020