

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF THURMAN, NEW YORK HELD MAY 12, 2021 AT THE THURMAN TOWN HALL, 311 ATHOL ROAD, ATHOL, NEW YORK, COMMENCING AT 6:30 PM .....**

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

**Mr. Randy Galusha, Councilman**

**Mr. Douglas Needham, Councilman**

**Mrs. Susan Shepler, Supervisor**

**ABSENT: Mrs. Joan Harris, Councilwoman**

**RECORDING SECRETARY: Susan E Staples**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:**

**ROLL CALL:**

The meeting started with a review of the claims at **6:30 pm**. The meeting was called to order at **6:55 pm**.

**Discussion: Supervisor Shepler** noted the Town of Thurman Supervisor's Report. Tonight is the second Town Board Meeting open to the Public this year. Please be advised that we are still limited to the number of residents that can attend as we still have to follow the six foot distancing. So the total number in here that we are allowed is 12. Everyone must wear a mask for the entire meeting even if you have had your vaccinations. Everyone is asked to sign in on the visitor's log listing phone number and answering the two questions, and recording your temperature. I am pleased to share with the Residents of the Town of Thurman that the Highway Department has placed an order for two new Dump/Plow Trucks for the Town with expected arrival this fall. This is a huge step forward to replace an aging and failing fleet. These trucks will replace two of the oldest trucks. Congratulations to the Highway Department and the Residents of the Town of Thurman. Just a reminder that Gleaning will be June 7, and for the month of July, and this is important for everyone to understand, for the month of July Gleaning will be the second Monday of the month, July 12, 2021. It has been a while since I have had to the need to address the Thurman Keyboard Warriors. May I remind you again that you are doing a

disservice to the residents of the Town of Thurman by sharing false and downright inaccurate information. I realize it is an election year, but correct information is always the upper road. Please be advised that the Resolutions for the month's meeting are on the Town's web page the Friday before the Board Meeting. Any questions please call my office, and the Town Board will be discussing a procedure for those applying for Occupancy Tax Reimbursement Grants at the June Meeting. Thank you. At this time I would like to make a motion to go into **Executive Session** to discuss **Union** matters. Do I have a second? **Councilman Needham** noted I'll second it. **Supervisor Shepler** noted um we can ..... Go upstairs. The **Town Clerk** noted don't you have to take a vote to go. **Councilman Galusha** responded what's that. **Supervisor Shepler** replied I beg your pardon. The **Town Clerk** responded don't you have to take a vote. **Supervisor Shepler** responded oh all in favor.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** On a motion introduced by **Supervisor Shepler** and seconded by **Councilman Needham** the Board entered into **Executive Session** at **6:59 pm**.

**Motion Carried: Ayes-4 Brown, Galusha, Needham, Shepler, Nays-0**

**Discussion:** Supervisor Shepler noted can I have a motion to come back into regular session please. Councilman Galusha noted I'll make it. Supervisor Shepler responded thank you. Do I have a second? Councilman Brown replied I'll do it. Supervisor Shepler responded all in favor. No decision was reached.

On a motion introduced by Councilman Galusha and seconded by Councilman Brown the Board returned from Executive Session at 7:27 pm.

**Motion carried: Ayes~4 Brown, Galusha, Needham, Shepler, Nay~'0**

**Discussion:** Supervisor Shepler noted what. I'm sorry did someone say something? Alright we are going on to Resolutions. Councilman Galusha responded excuse me. Supervisor Shepler responded yes. Councilman Galusha replied we passed a Resolution recently that said that the privilege of the floor would occur before Resolutions. I know that we have it this way on your Agenda, but that is the Resolution passed. Supervisor Shepler replied it really doesn't matter, but fine go ahead. We will move into Privilege of the Floor. Do I have anyone from the floor who wishes to speak?

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:** The following Residents spoke on the following topics. Mary Eddy asked about Occupancy Tax money in the Fall of 2020. What month was it received, was it before the new year. What is it about the 2021 funds? Was budget code is the Garbage Truck coming out of? Do you supply something in writing as requested by Councilman Brown. Why is Occupancy Tax money being used for the truck? She also noted the condition of the Town Hall after it was worked on by the Highway Department. Wini Martin asked about Occupancy Tax Funding. Are no applications being taken prior to that. We have been unable to get information about applying. Kathy Templeton inquired about the septic inspection, and if it was in the Budget. Was there any funds in case work needed to be done? Legal liability in case of an issue being uncovered. Joyce Eddy asked how many residents use the Landfill. Opening the septic could be a can of worms. Wes Ramsey asked about AUDs being submitted. What is the job description of the Confidential Secretary/Bookkeeper? Who completes the books? Has she passed a Civil Service exam? Kathy Templeton asked if the Confidential Secretary was still receiving Health Insurance. Supervisor Shepler replied a letter was sent to her, and she is being terminated at the end of the month. Kathy Templeton asked who signed the enrollment form. She noted Stimulus Funds were slated to arrive, and if a Citizens Advisory Committee could be formed to discuss spending of funds.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**Resolution # 43**

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

**Resolution to Turn Gas off and Drain Systems at Harris House**

**Whereas,** the Harris House is not in need of Heat until possibly the Fall of 2021, and the water is not in use

**Be it Resolved,** that the Town of Thurman Board, here by request that the gas at the Harris House be turned off and no deliveries be made until further notice, and

**Be it Further Resolved,** that the Water Systems be drained.

**Discussion:** Supervisor Shepler noted everybody has been in receipt of this Resolution. Do I have any discussion? Hearing no discussion I am going to call for a Roll Call Vote please.

A Roll Call Vote was called.

**Motion Carried:** Ayes~4 Brown, Galusha, Needham, Shepler, Nays-0

**Discussion:** Supervisor Shepler noted Resolution passed. The next Resolution we have on the table ..... I need an introduction for Resolution to purchase a HV607 SBA Garbage Truck for the Town of Thurman. Is somebody willing to introduce that please?

**Resolution**

On a motion introduced by Councilman Galusha and seconded by Councilman Needham

**Resolution to Purchase a New HV607 SBA Garbage Truck For Town of Thurman**

**Whereas,** The Town of Thurman is in need of a new Garbage Truck

**Be it Resolved,** That the Town of Thurman is able to purchase a New HV607 SBA Garbage Truck at the following lease to own price:

Total Equipment Cost: \$150,970.14

Lease amount for 3 yearly payments of \$55,354.45, including

Interest of \$15,093.21

One Time Documentation Fee of \$500.00 must accompany the Documents at signing.

**Discussion:** Supervisor Shepler noted you have been in receipt of this Resolution. Do we have any discussion on it? Councilman Galusha responded as I mentioned earlier today I think the Resolution requires that we identify a Budget Code that this is going to be paid out of. Supervisor Shepler responded fine, I also ..... Did you bring a budget? Councilman Galusha replied no. I actually probably have one, but it will take me a half an hour to find it. Supervisor Shepler continued noting this is a Town expense. Not a Highway expense, and I will tell you straight up front that there is not a lot of money available to make this purchase from the current budget, and I would like the Board to entertain taking it from the Fund Balance. In your paperwork that you received today from the closing of April we did not receive our Sales Tax money from the County until the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> of May. The reason I was given from the County was the State didn't send the money to them. So they can't send money out until they receive it.

That was 88,000 plus dollars that came in to the Town, and we are anticipating last year for our .....Last, (inaudible) the last quarter or last quarter we got 145,000. This year we would anticipate at least between 88 and \$98,000.00 coming in. There is money in the Fund Balance to do this. I would like to suggest that we seriously consider utilizing Fund Balance to do this because as everybody here knows the truck is in serious condition. Councilman Galusha noted I support the fact that we need a truck. I understand the condition of our truck in bad. If we are going to use Fund Balance we are going to need to know how much money is in the Fund Balance. Last month you provided the Trial Balance for the General Fund ..... Supervisor Shepler interrupted noting um hum. Councilman Galusha continued noting which indicated what the Fund Balance was. However it didn't indicate what was appropriated and what wasn't, and we don't have the Trial Balance for this month so we don't know what the current

fund balance is. We also never found out what the Fund Balance was for the Highway Department because the Trial Balance you gave us last month was only for the General Fund. We didn't get one for them. **Supervisor Shepler** responded you could also ascertain from these reports what's in there. I do believe that there is approximately ..... **Councilman Galusha** noted I know **Ed** is going to hate me for saying this I think until we have a hard number on ..... If we are going to use Fund Balance until we have a hard number on is not appropriated and what is available for us to use I don't think that we should pass this. **Supervisor Shepler** responded I do believe it is \$197,813.00. The monies that we got in was \$87,088.99. **Councilman Galusha** asked that represents what. **Supervisor Shepler** responded the Occupancy Tax that we just received. I'm sorry not Occupancy the Sales Tax that we just received. **Councilman Galusha** responded OK, but the Sales Tax that we just received is part of our Budget. It is not part of the Fund Balance. **Supervisor Shepler** noted no it goes into the Fund Balance. It doesn't go into the Budget. **Councilman Galusha** responded no. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yes. **Councilman Galusha** noted that is not right. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yes it doesn't go into the (inaudible). **Councilman Galusha** noted Fund Balance is leftover money that hasn't been spent from previous years. **Supervisor Shepler** responded right, but the money that come in goes into that because it doesn't go in to a Budget Code. There is no Budget Code that goes in to. **Councilman Galusha** responded for Sales Tax. **Supervisor Shepler** responded we have a Non Property Tax Distribution. **Councilman Galusha** responded that is Sales Tax. **Supervisor Shepler** replied as I said to you we got in \$87,088.99. **Councilman Galusha** responded right that is money that is budgeted that we are going to use for other expenses so we can't use that... .. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting it is revenues is all it is. It is not ..... It's revenues you can utilize it for this. **Councilman Galusha** replied you have to take it out of a Budget Code. **Supervisor Shepler** responded you can take Fund Balance and put it into a Budget Code. **Councilman Galusha** replied yes you can, but that is not what we are doing. **Supervisor Shepler** replied but that is what I am asking you to consider doing is taking it from the Fund Balance, and putting it into the Budget Code so therefore we will have a Budget Code to take the money out of. **Councilman Galusha** responded I am not opposed to doing that. What I am saying is if we are going to do that we need to know what our Fund Balance is, how much of that Fund Balance is not appropriated for other things, and..... **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting I have not appropriated any of the Fund Balance for anything. **Councilman Galusha** responded no, not that you have. It has been.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting nor has the Board. **Councilman Galusha** replied no it has just because of the nature of what it is. **Councilman Brown** replied right. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting because I can tell you that last month when you gave us the Trial Balance it showed that none of the Fund Balance for the General Fund was appropriated which I know is not correct because there was Occupancy Tax that we received last year that would become part of this year's Fund Balance, and that is actually appropriated because you can't use it for..... **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting the current year. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting no not the current year. You can only use it for specific purposes. So there are going to be other things. In the Highway Department there is going to be leftover CHIPs money or things like that, and that would be appropriated. You can't use it for anything. You have to use it for a specific thing so..... **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting there is \$197,813.00 in the current A120 Non Property Tax Distribution. **Councilman Galusha** responded OK. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting out of that we had budgeted 375,000. **Councilman Galusha** replied but that is not Fund Balance. OK this is the Trial Balance that you gave us last month for the General Fund if you go to page 2 of it, it specifically ..... **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting I don't have it in front of me. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting OK I do you can look at it if you want, but trust me I will read it to you it indicates for

the General Fund the Fund Balance, and there are 4 items. The first is reserved for encumbrances which is listed as 0. Then Reserve Fund Balance which is listed as 0. And then Capital Reserves which is listed at 0, and then it says Unassigned Fund Balance is \$358,091.16. So that is our General Fund, Fund Balance as of the end of March. **Supervisor Shepler** responded hold on. **Councilman Galusha** noted but I question .....

**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting 300 and what. I'm sorry 300 and ..... **Councilman Galusha** responded \$358,091.16. But that is what it says our total Fund Balance is for the General Fund, but the problem I have is I'm certain that part of that money comes from sources in the past that means it's earmarked for specific uses Occupancy Tax (inaudible). **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting no, no, no nothing has been earmarked for any of that money what so ever. **Councilman Galusha** replied not that we did it. It is earmarked based on the nature of where the money comes from. The source of the money. It can only be used for certain things so .....

**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting are you aware something between last year and this year that has been earmarked for that I am unaware of. **Councilman Galusha** responded some of this Fund Balance could be carried over from years ago. It is hard to say when it came in. **Supervisor Shepler** responded and it is a Fund Balance. F-U-N-D balance. **Councilman Galusha** responded OK we agree on that. We are making progress. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting but there is nothing left over that hasn't been paid from previous years. **Councilman Galusha** responded it is not a question of what has been paid. It is the money that is left over from previous Budgets, and just the nature of the source of the money means there is specific things it has to be used for. **Supervisor Shepler** responded well there is nothing in there from except the \$30,000.00 that we currently have. There has been no other Occupancy Tax money because we have not been in receipt of Occupancy Tax money to my knowledge for years. **Councilman Galusha** replied I think ..... Yeah we receive every year, and there has been some left over. **Supervisor Shepler** responded you guys got it, but we didn't get anything back. **Councilman Galusha** responded and I just use that as an example there could be other things in here, and I question whether this Fund Balance is totally unassigned. **Supervisor Shepler** responded it is unassigned. **Councilman Galusha** replied then that means we are wealthy. We have \$358,000.00 to go splurge. I mean .....

**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting don't forget out of that money we have to take 75,000 excuse me \$74,796.00 out of there for last year for this year's Budget. So that. ... You deduct that and it is 200 and some (inaudible) at that point in time. **Councilman Galusha** responded that should have already been taken out. **Supervisor Shepler** responded it was taken out. There is more than enough money that has not been earmarked for anything in there. The only monies ..... **Councilman Galusha** interrupted noting that might very well be true. **Supervisor Shepler** replied I beg your pardon. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting I said that very well may be true ..... **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting it is Randy. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting but we don't know that from what we are looking at. **Supervisor Shepler** responded the other thing I am going to tell you is if we miss the opportunity to order this truck at this point in time the pricing is going to change and so is the lease amount. That I can tell you. **Councilman Galusha** noted I want to vote for this ..... **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting as of. .... Wait a minute. As of January 01, 2021 the Fund Balance was what did you say \$358,091.16. **Councilman Galusha** replied that is based on the Trial Balance that you provided us. **Supervisor Shepler** responded that is correct, but you've got to remove from that the \$74,796.00 which gives you 283,295. **Councilman Galusha** asked why it that being taken out now. Why wasn't that taken out the beginning of the year when the Budget was put in place? **Supervisor Shepler** responded I can't answer, it's the accounting system that we've got. It was, it's just that it is earmarked in different places, and we know that this exist. We also know that there is 200 (inaudible) 200 and ninety five dollars and that was prior to the 88,000, what did I say it was, 88,000

whatever it was. 88,000 plus that we just got in for the Sales Tax. **Councilman Galusha** responded that does not go into Fund Balance. **Councilman Brown** replied no. **Supervisor Shepler** noted so with all of this being said is the Board willing to use the Fund Balance that the Town currently has to make a once a year payment of \$55,354.45 for this year. **Councilman Galusha** responded I want to vote for this Resolution, but until I know where the money is coming from and what the balance is, if we are using Fund Balance, I can't in good conscience vote for it. I want to. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting \$283,295.00 is what's in there now. **Councilman Brown** noted I've got a question. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yeah. **Councilman Brown** continued noting when you talked to (inaudible) about the finance they wouldn't defer the payments until the following Budget. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting no. **Councilman Brown** continued noting there was talk about that when we talked to him at one time that they may do that. Which we could ..... **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting no. Yes, no he was not willing to do that. **Councilman Brown** replied huh. **Supervisor Shepler** responded he was not willing to do that. **Councilman Brown** asked did he say why. **Supervisor Shepler** replied no he didn't offer a reason, and I didn't push it. **Councilman Brown** responded that would be a very easy solution if we could do that. Roll it into next year's Budget. **Supervisor Shepler** responded so then you will have 2 yearly budget to pay next year. **Councilman Brown** responded you they can defer the payment until the following budget. I don't know that is what I talked to them about. **Supervisor Shepler** replied there is also a onetime document ..... **Councilman Brown** interrupted noting how long ..... How long will it take to go through that figure to find out where we stand. What is what? **Supervisor Shepler** responded so what would you like to have a Special Meeting. **Councilman Brown** responded (inaudible) I mean could we figure out how ..... **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting not this evening with what the information that we have here. I am telling you 283 295, but if you would like we could have a special meeting coming up (inaudible). **Councilman Brown** interrupted noting that is what I was going to ask. **Supervisor Shepler** responded that is fine. **Councilman Brown** continued noting have a Special Meeting. Go over these fund balances, and find out exactly where they are at so that there is no question. **Councilman Galusha** replied I have no problem with that. Didn't we agree that the last Dump Truck that we are purchasing that that annual payment is coming out of Fund Balance so that is another 56,000. **Supervisor Shepler** noted that is out of Highway. Yeah that is out of Highway. Those 2 trucks are Highway. This is General Fund so there is a difference. **Councilman Brown** noted Highway, Highway. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting your right. So what is today, Wednesday, can we have a Special Board Meeting on Friday evening. **Councilman Galusha** responded I would suggest that you see how soon your Bookkeeper can come up with the numbers then call the meeting. **Supervisor Shepler** responded well I need to call a meeting in advance because everybody needs to know about it. Technically there is supposed to be 2 days' notice. The **Town Clerk** noted 3 days. 72 hours. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting so then would you be willing to meet on Friday. The **Town Clerk** noted you don't have enough time to call the meeting on Friday. **Supervisor Shepler** noted we are running out of time for this. We are going to end up losing it. **Councilman Galusha** responded I realize, but we can't create a crisis because we are not doing our homework, and it's not... .... **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting (inaudible) been done. If you go through the paperwork I provide every single night you know what we've got. Every single month you are provided with this paperwork, and not the Trial Balance that is something different. **Councilman Galusha** responded but that is what we need. We need the Trial Balance with the Fund Balance broken down so we can make an informed decision. That is all I am asking for. **Supervisor Shepler** asked can we meet on Monday evening. That is more than 3 days. **Councilman Galusha** asked do you believe she can get the numbers. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted

noting yes I do. **Councilman Galusha** responded and will she share them with us before the actual meeting. **Supervisor Shepler** responded if you want to come in and get it that is fine. I am not putting anything out on the internet. **Councilman Galusha** replied I wasn't asking that. **Supervisor Shepler** responded I'm just... .. You know that is standard. Do we have a date for Monday? Do you know what the date is? **Councilman Galusha** replied the 17<sup>th</sup>. **Supervisor Shepler** responded the 17<sup>th</sup>. The **Town Clerk** asked 6 o'clock. **Supervisor Shepler** responded 6 o'clock. The **Town Clerk** asked and are you taking a vote to table this Resolution. **Supervisor Shepler** replied in just a moment we will. So you are asking me for **Randy** exactly what is it you want so that I can go at it exactly in the method in which you are looking for. **Councilman Galusha** responded I wa..... If we are going to use Fund Balance I want to know how much our non-appropriated Fund Balance is in the General Fund. **Supervisor Shepler** responded alright so you want to know how much non appropriated Fund Balance is in the Fund Balance is what you just said correct. **Councilman Galusha** replied yes, yes. **Supervisor Shepler** responded fine so then I am going to ask for a motion to table this particular Resolution until Monday May 17<sup>th</sup>. **Councilman Brown** noted can I ask one more question before we do that. **Supervisor Shepler** replied sure, sure. **Councilman Brown** continued noting on our annual lease payments is that the only one they came up with or you just decided on that .....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting I decided .....**Councilman Brown** interrupted continued noting (inaudible) or the alternate I mean would it be easier on our Budget. Or it is up to the Board. **Supervisor Shepler** responded we could do 3 years, 5 years or 7 years. I put down the 5 years. **Councilman Brown** asked what is the difference between the 5, between the 3 and the 5. **Supervisor Shepler** replied I don't have my calculator on me, but it is significant. **Councilman Galusha** noted let me see what I can tell you. **Councilman Brown** noted I am just throwing out options so that we don't lose this truck. **Supervisor Shepler** replied for the 3 years the interest is 15,093 twenty one. **Councilman Brown** noted I see that. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting honestly if we could afford to buy it out right I would love to do it, but that is not in the cards right now. And I will say that we have gotten an incredible price for this truck. I just don't want to lose it. **Councilman Brown** noted I don't either. **Councilman Galusha** noted OK so if we do it for 3 years as I think that is what the Resolution states. **Councilman Brown** and **Supervisor Shepler** both agreed. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting the total purchase price is going to be \$166,063.35. If we do it over five years it will be \$168,941.20 and if we do it over 7 years it is 173,348.70. So the annual payment for 3 years is 55,354 forty five. **Supervisor Shepler** replied that is correct. **Councilman Galusha** noted the annual payment for 5 years is 33,788 twenty four, and for 7 years the annual payment is 24,764 ten. **Supervisor Shepler** replied that is correct. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting by going from 3 years to 5 years we would drop our annual payment approximately \$22,000.00, and the total cost of the vehicle would go up almost \$3,000.00. **Councilman Brown** noted that is quite a bit for a yearly payment don't you think **Randy**. **Councilman Galusha** responded yeah I mean you've got \$22,000.00 less in annual payment, but it extends it out 5 years. **Councilman Brown** noted it is not like it is going to be on the road like it was before constantly. Probably twice a month. **Councilman Galusha** noted so we can actually decide that when we know what the Fund Balance is ....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting can I ask the Board for..... If you are contemplating changing the years and increasing the years to 5 years. Shall I come with a 5 year Resolution also? I did that with the truck. I came with 2 Resolutions for the truck. **Councilman Galusha** replied yeah it doesn't hurt to have both Resolutions for us to consider. **Supervisor Shepler** noted do we have any further discussion on this before we take a vote to table. **Doug? Randy, Ed** no? Can I please have a Roll Call Vote to table? The **Town Clerk** noted someone has got to make a motion, and then you've got to get a second. **Councilman Galusha** noted I'll make a motion to table it.

**Supervisor Shepler** noted I thought I did, but that is fine. The **Town Clerk** replied no you didn't. **Supervisor Shepler** asked can I have a second. **Councilman Needham** noted I will. **Supervisor Shepler** asked can I have a Roll Call Vote please.

**A Roll Call Vote was called on the motion to table the Resolution.**

**Motion Carried: Ayes~4 Brown, Galusha, Needham, Shepler, Nays-0**

**Discussion: Supervisor Shepler** noted fine this is tabled until Monday evening May 17th at 6 o'clock. Now before I ask for somebody to introduce this I am going to read it, and then I am going to ask that we amend it. She then read the Resolution.

**Resolution # 44**

On a motion introduced by **Supervisor Shepler** and seconded by **Councilman Brown**

**Resolution to Have the Thurman Town Hall Septic System Evaluation Done Whereas,**

The Town of Thurman is in need of having the Town Hall Septic System Evaluated and Drawings done since there are none in existence.

**Whereas,** The Town of Thurman desires to comply with all DOH resolutions and to make the Town Hall available for public events.

**Therefore Be it Resolved,** that the Town Board agrees that the Supervisor will have Cedar wood Engineering complete the work as outlined in their proposal using Budget Code A1620.4.

**Discussion: Supervisor Shepler** noted I wanted this last sentence this being an expectable use of Economic Development Funds. I'd like to strike that, and therefore be it resolved that the Town Board will have Cedar wood Engineering complete the work as outlined in their proposal. Can I have a motion to accept this Resolution with this strike, with the struck sentence. **Councilman Galusha** noted so before we ..... Just so we are clear in the whereas clause you are striking the entire second sentence that says this being an expectable use of Economic Development Funds. **Supervisor Shepler** responded I am. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK if we are going to do that how are we proposing to pay for it. **Supervisor Shepler** replied I am proposing to take (inaudible) out of the buildings, and with the monies that are expected to come forth from the stimulus package. One of the strings was for septic and sewerage. We do not have sewerage here in the Town. We do have septic so this would be an expectable use of that money and we could reimburse the budget for that with that money. **Councilman Galusha** responded so can we put that code into this Resolution. **Supervisor Shepler** responded we can. The **Town Clerk** noted we should actually get it introduced and seconded before we start discussion. **Councilman Galusha** replied thank you. Sorry about that. **Supervisor Shepler** responded alright so do I have someone who will introduce the Resolution to have the Thurman Town Hall septic evaluation done. **Councilman Brown** noted I will. **Supervisor Shepler** replied Ed do I have a second. **Councilman Needham** replied I will. **Supervisor Shepler** noted alright now the discussion. I am going to strike this being an expectable use of Economic Development Funds. It is an expectable use. Capital projects are an expectable use. I am not going to do this as a fight because it is something that has to



get done and it has to get fixed. So therefore I am going to take it out of Buildings Fund, and look to reimburse the Building Fund with the stimulus money that comes forward. And that would be A1620.4. At the end so we will put therefore be it resolved that the Town Board agrees that the Supervisor will have Cedar wood Engineering complete the work as outlined in their proposal using Budget Code A1620.4. **Councilman Brown** noted A1620.4. **Supervisor Shepler** replied A1620.4 that is the buildings. The **Town Clerk** noted so you are making a motion to amend this Resolution. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yes. **Councilman Brown** noted I have a question it says they agree to complete the work as outlined. Shouldn't we just them inspect it.. ..... **Supervisor Shepler** responded in their ..... It's their proposal. That is their proposal. If there is any work that need to be done we will be notified of any and all work that need to be done, and then that would be above and beyond. I have also gotten a commitment from the Highway Department that they will do in kind work as far as the digging is concerned if necessary. **Councilman Galusha** noted could I ask that I be notified when they actually come to do the inspection so I can observe it. **Supervisor Shepler** replied sure. **Councilman Galusha** replied thank you. **Supervisor Shepler** responded sure, sure let me just put that down here. **Councilman Brown** noted that is a good idea. **Councilman Galusha** replied thanks. **Supervisor Shepler** alright so can I have a made a (inaudible) and I have a second. Do we need to vote on it now **Susan**. The **Town Clerk** responded you have got to get a second for your motion to amend then you will vote on the amended Resolution. **Supervisor Shepler** noted I have an introduction by **Ed** and a second by **Doug**. The **Town Clerk** responded right, but now you are making a motion to amend it that changes the whole ..... It doesn't matter that changes it. So you need a second on your amendment. **Councilman Galusha** noted I will second the amendment. The **Town Clerk** noted so now the vote you are taking is on the amended Resolution where you struck the sentence, the last sentence in the second paragraph, and you added using Budget Code A1620.4. That is what you are voting on. **Supervisor Shepler** asked do we have any discussion about this at this point in time? Can I have a Roll Call Vote on it please?

A Roll Call Vote was called.

**Motion Carried: Ayes~4 Brown, Galusha, Needham, Shepler, Nays~0**

**Discussion:** **Supervisor Shepler** noted it passed thank you very much. I will be calling them (inaudible). I will let you know when they are planning on (inaudible). **Councilman Galusha** replied thank you. **Supervisor Shepler** noted we had tabled this Resolution from last month, and I am bringing it back up on the floor again. Resolution to compensate the non-union Landfill attendant. Do I have someone who will introduce this please. **Councilman Needham** noted I will. **Supervisor Shepler** responded **Doug**. Thank you do I have a second? I'll second it.

#### **Resolution**

On a motion introduced by **Councilman Needham** and seconded by **Supervisor Shepler**

#### **Resolution to Compensate Non Union Hourly Landfill Attendant**

Whereas, The non union landfill worker is part time hourly, working every weekend and Wednesday, And

Whereas, A few Holidays fall on those days, thus closing the landfill

Be it Resolved, That the Town Board wishes to compensate the non union hourly worker for those holidays

**Discussion:** **Supervisor Shepler** noted there has been nothing changed here. The Landfill folks are hourly employees. They work Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays. This year we've got a few holidays that are going to fall on either Saturday, Sunday or Wednesday, and I am just asking that they get paid for this time. It's not any fault of theirs that those holidays are falling on these days and therefore they are not receiving any pay. Do I have any discussion? **Councilman Brown** noted yeah I've got a question. You've got something. **Councilman Galusha** replied go ahead **Ed. Councilman Brown** continued noting I talked to the individual, and instead of doing this if the Board would consider the other ..... We have work up there that needs to be done where he could make up the additional hours over the course of the year. Like our tree problem down where we filled in. There are plenty of trees. There about 40 of them 2 foot tall that need to be cut before they pop our liner on it. Once it pops then you are talking big money. It's just an idea I am throwing out. He said he would be willing to do it. He is the lowest paid laborer we have. So he would go along with just give him extra hours to take care of the field down there. **Supervisor Shepler** responded to total. .... To total no more than the hours he would have been paid. **Councilman Brown** responded it won't total anymore than the hours in the vacation. As long as he does it. It is just an idea that I am throwing out there because this has to be done. It has been neglected, and I just want everybody to know that. If that liner ruptures and they get in there and check them wells, and I think there is a town around that is already having trouble with some of the caps. **Supervisor Shepler** noted I think so too. **Councilman Brown** continued noting we don't really need that. We would never be able to afford it. It's just a thought. I'll leave it up to the Board. **Supervisor Shepler** asked does the Board wish to have any discussion on this suggestion. It is not a bad idea. This is something that needs to be done. I don't know that we need a Resolution to agree do what is being brought before us. And instead of paying overtime it would certainly ..... **Councilman Brown** noted it would be straight. **Supervisor Shepler** it would be just... .. It would handle the issue and the problem at hand. **Councilman Galusha** noted I have no problem with that. **Supervisor Shepler** responded so then no Resolution is required at this point in time, and the Board agrees that I'll total up the days and the hours he would have **Councilman Brown** responded I'll have him monitored. He punches in. **Supervisor Shepler** replied that is fine. I know that, I know that, but what I am saying is we can let him and let you know the total number of hours he can work to do this. **Councilman Brown** replied exactly alright yes. It is only three ..... Two Saturdays and 3 holidays this year. The **Town Clerk** noted OK so we are having a motion to table this Resolution then. **Supervisor Shepler** responded I beg your pardon. The **Town Clerk** asked are you going to make a motion to table this Resolution. **Supervisor Shepler** responded no we are not going to table it we are going to um..... The **Town Clerk** responded you have already introduced it, and you have already seconded it so..... **Councilman Galusha** interrupted noting so basically we are tabling it indefinitely. The **Town Clerk** noted you either are tabling it or you are voting on it. Those are your options. **Councilman Galusha** responded so we table it. **Supervisor Shepler** noted table it

(inaudible). **Councilman Galusha** noted I make a motion to table it. **Councilman Needham** noted I'll second it. **Councilman Brown** noted **Randy and Doug**. The **Town Clerk** asked and all in favor.

**Motion to table the Resolution.** On a motion introduced by **Councilman Galusha** and seconded by **Councilman Needham** a vote was taken to table the Resolution.

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

**Discussion: Supervisor Shepler** noted no action. The next Resolution before us is being brought late, and reason for that is I have been working with Stored Tech to get the bottom line reduced, and I was successful in doing that. It is a Resolution to add security appliances to new internet with licensing. She then read the Resolution noting the total of this one is going to be 1,371 21 The yearly charge is for their licensing which is 225 70. Speaking with **SLIC**, I spoke with both Kevin and Jeff. They do not offer a security portion on their business package, and being we use our internet for banking etc., and taking into light these two unwanted intrusions. One of the (inaudible) and one of the (inaudible) I think we need to be aware that this is going on, and it could happen to us. It has already happened to other area school districts and other area towns. We cannot afford to be hacked. We've been hacked in the past. We didn't lose anything on that. And this will prevent us and help to keep us safe. So can I have somebody who is willing to introduce this please.

**Resolution # 45**

On a motion introduced by **Councilman Needham** and seconded by **Supervisor Shepler**

**Resolution to Ad Security Appliance to New Internet with Licensing**

**Whereas**, the Town of Thurman will need to have secure Internet System to protect it from unwanted intrusions, as **SUE** does not offer a security package for its Business package

**Be it Resolved**, that the Town of Thurman will have Storedtech install a security system to protect the Towns internet system. This will be a one time charge with the exception of the licensing Subscription which will be on a yearly basis.

**Discussion: Supervisor Shepler** asked is there any discussion. **Councilman Galusha** replied I am just going to say it right now. I am going to abstain from voting on this purely because I spoke to Kevin with **SLIC** a couple of weeks ago. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yes. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting and I asked him about this, and he specifically told me that all of their modem/routers include a firewall, and that we didn't need anything. So I don't know why he told me that, and now he is telling you that we need something else. **Supervisor Shepler** responded **Randy** I can't answer that because when I spoke to him he said that the 2 of you did not discuss security aspects for the package for the Town of Thurman. **Councilman Galusha** responded we did. I asked him specifically. Cause you had told me there was a router or modem issue, and I asked him specifically about it, and he said no all of our routers come with a built- in firewall. He specifically told me that. Maybe he doesn't recall, but that is what he told me, and that is what ..... in fact it is in the meeting minutes of the last meeting because I brought it up so. **Supervisor Shepler** noted but I did speak to him after you had that meeting, and he did indicate that that was not discussed. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK. **Supervisor Shepler** noted that is neither here nor there, but when I came right out and ask him about the security aspects he suggested that we

continue to do this, and we look into doing it. And I spoke with the person who is doing the installation for us from SLIC also, and he said that he highly recommends this. He said it is an excellent program. **Councilman Galusha** responded OK I won't go against it. I am going to abstain. **Supervisor Shepler** responded you are going to abstain very good. And **Joan** is absent. Do I have any further discussion? **Councilman Brown** asked is this a yearly bill. **Supervisor Shepler** replied no, no, no. This is a ..... The total amount is a onetime bill. What you see under one year licensing, enterprise licensing, the \$225.70 that is the only thing that is done yearly. You have to renew ..... We could have had it for 4 years it would have brought us up to \$200.00 and they reduced it down to one year to get the initial expenses down for us, but as things stand that is the only thing to renew 225 70 a year. The other equipment is installed and is a onetime charge. **Councilman Brown** responded how long does it take before we get this. **Supervisor Shepler** responded I have ..... **Councilman Brown** noted you said in June, late June. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting I have a installation date with SLIC for June 30<sup>th</sup>, and the Stored Tech folks will be able to accommodate that also. They are going to work in conjuncture with installing it. So the 485 51 and the 6 60 are a lifetime charge. **Councilman Brown** noted then we will probably have SLIC right. **Supervisor Shepler** responded I beg your pardon. **Councilman Brown** responded then we will be set. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yes we will, and I am looking forward to it. We have just to deviate slightly we had the Highway Department had their (inaudible) class in here the other ..... 2 weeks ago I guess it was. One week ago this past Friday, and the presenter as on the internet, and it was 0.36 is all he could get up for speed so it was a little disheartening. So do you have any other discussion? **Ed** any other discussion. **Randy** do you have anything else you would like to ..... Can I please have a Roll Call Vote?

**A Roll Call Vote was called.**

**Motion Carried:Ayes~3 Brown, Needham, Shepler, Nays~0, Abstained~1 Galusha**

**Discussion:** **Councilman Brown** asked you abstained **Randy**. **Councilman Galusha** responded I abstained. **Supervisor Shepler** responded he did and **Joan** is absent. **Councilman Galusha** noted was there something else that you were going to bring up in Resolutions before the payment of claims. The **Town Clerk** noted and I don't have the payment of claims sheet. **Supervisor Shepler** responded you didn't. I thought I gave you one. Would you like me to make a copy? The **Town Clerk** replied 2 please. **Supervisor Shepler** asked is the door unlocked. The **Town Clerk** replied probably not. **Councilman Galusha** noted before we do the payment of claims do you mind if I mention this letter that you have gotten from TD Bank. I would just like to thank. **Supervisor Shepler** replied thank you. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting just so everybody here knows this is from Barbara Durr with TD Bank, and she is confirming that **Susan** requested that copies of all cancelled checks (inaudible), and that cancelled checks, add images of cancelled checks to our statements. And it will begin with our next statement cycle May 20, May of this year. Thank you for doing this. **Supervisor Shepler** responded you're welcome. You've got the first few sets. They are being sent, and **Randy** don't get upset, but they are not in any particular order. Just so you know. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting how I am getting them is how I am giving them to you. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK, thank you. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting I apologize for that, but you are getting them. Alright so we are going to go on to payment of claims. She then read the claims for the General Fund noting a total of \$10,108.26 for this abstract. She then read the claims to for the Highway Fund noting a total of \$20,205.22. Then she read the claim for the Enterprise fund noting a total of \$50.00. She then noted a total of for all claims \$30,363.48.

**Resolution #46**

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

**Payment of Claims**

Total of Abstract 005: General Fund May 12, 2021 \$10,108.26

Total of Abstract 005: Highway Fund May 12, 2021 \$20,205.22

Total of Abstract 005: Enterprise Fund, May 12, 2021 \$50.00

Total Claims for Abstract 005: for May 12, 2021 \$30,363.48

**A Roll Call Vote was called.**

**Motion Carried: Ayes~4 Brown, Galusha, Needham, Shepler, Nays~0**

**Discussion: Supervisor Shepler** noted it passed thank you. Do I have any reports from the Board? **Councilman Brown** responded yup, I've got a question. **Supervisor Shepler** replied sure. **Councilman Brown** continued noting I got an email from a small group of people who would like to start using the Town Hall (inaudible). (Inaudible) quilting. I don't see why we couldn't start opening the building for small groups as long as it is being monitored. I am bringing it to the Board. I did get an email. They told me they have all had their shots, and they would keep it clean before they leave. Any comments **Randy**? **Councilman Galusha** responded I don't see any problem (inaudible) with small groups shouldn't be a problem. I don't think we should be hosting big parties or anything **but**, **Supervisor Shepler** noted the only thing that I am going to ask is that they literally disinfect the counters and the tables when they leave. **Councilman Brown** replied they said they would. **Supervisor Shepler** responded oh I know they will. We are all in agreement. **Councilman Brown** noted I know they will. **Councilman Galusha** noted do we need to limit it to 10 or should we limit it to the same number we have when the Board is here. **Councilman Brown** noted they told me that there was 8 in the group. **Councilman Galusha** noted OK 10 is fine. **Supervisor Shepler** noted you want to limit it to 10. **Councilman Brown** noted that is a good thing. You made my night. **Councilman Needham** noted my mom will be happy. My dad will be happy. They have been meeting at the house. **Supervisor Shepler** noted so then I know they meet on Monday nights, and they meet pretty much every Monday night. **Councilman Brown** noted do you want to send them an email or do you want me to. **Supervisor Shepler** responded I'll call thank you. They have been in touch with me too. Alright is there any other Board Reports? **Councilman Brown** noted no we pretty much. Go ahead. **Councilman Galusha** responded no I was just saying I don't have anything. **Councilman Brown** noted we pretty much discussed about the field up there. It is very important to do that. We can't let it slack. **Supervisor Shepler** replied no I understand completely, and I appreciate **Charlie's** ..... ! appreciate **Charlie's** offer. **Councilman Brown** responded I'll take some pictures of it before and after so we (inaudible), OK. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting no we should have those **Ed**. We should have those. **Councilman Brown** replied yup I will. **Supervisor Shepler** noted the next thing on the Agenda for discussion is the Snow Phone. **Councilman Galusha** noted no, no I was just going to ask a question. Go ahead. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting the Snow Phone it has been a part of Thurman for an eternity, and the reason it was installed and made available to the public at any time of the day or night was because we didn't have cell service in the area and especially during the snow season should anybody have a breakdown or an issue they knew the phone was here for

emergency purpose. The snow phone has not utilized in a manner in which it has been intended for quite some time. Unfortunately we did have a situation where some folks were using it for a personal phone, and that got down immediately. **Councilman Galusha** noted could you explain to me because this is new to me. I didn't know we had a snow phone. **Supervisor Shepler** responded oh really **Randy**. I can't believe that. The **Town Clerk** noted let me explain something. I don't think anyone understands the actual full aspect of this. It is a line 623-4050. It's the phone in the entrance way which is considered the snow phone. It is that phone right there behind **Randy**. It is the cordless phone outside of my office, and it is also the fax line in my office. **Supervisor Shepler** replied OK. **Councilman Needham** noted it was originally for the Snowmobile Club. We had an answering machine on it (inaudible). **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting I think that it had been utilized at a point in time by them, yes. **Councilman Needham** continued noting first was initiated was for the snowmobile club. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting but it was there for emergencies also. **Councilman Galusha** asked so what was the purpose of it. What was ..... **Supervisor Shepler** responded it was there in case you were in an accident. If somebody had an accident. If somebody needed to call an ambulance or Fire Department or whatever it was open to the public. It was there. **Councilman Needham** noted really we had an answering machine on it with updated trail status. (Inaudible). **Councilman Galusha** continued noting OK so now with everybody having cell phones nobody ..... **Supervisor Shepler** noted nobody is utilizing it. The number is utilized in the **Town Clerk's** office for her fax machine, and it is utilized for this phone and the phone in the hallway. My suggestion is that we might want to disconnect the phone in the vestibule so that it is not used again improperly. The **Town Clerk** noted we need to keep the line. This week the Highway Department's phone was out, and they had to use the cordless to make calls. **Supervisor Shepler** replied the phone line would remain open. We would just remove the phone. The **Town Clerk** replied I am just making sure that you know. **Councilman Needham** made an inaudible comment. **Councilman Galusha** noted if you are asking me I won't miss it because I didn't know it was there. **Supervisor Shepler** noted but I mean this has got to be a Board decision. **Councilman Needham** noted don't discontinue the line just unplug that phone out there. **Supervisor Shepler** replied just unplug the phone OK. Someone noted yeah I agree. **Supervisor Shepler** responded OK we had talked about... .. The **Town Clerk** noted we'll be back Monday. **Councilman Galusha** replied yeah. (Inaudible). **Councilman Brown** noted I have a question. When they do hook up our SLIC you can hook up the phone line with that. **Supervisor Shepler** replied you can be hooked up with a phone line. I do know that there have been some issues. **Councilman Brown** noted I know mine is a lot cheaper. **Councilman Galusha** noted the basic phone plan is \$20.00 a month. I don't know what they would charge us. **Supervisor Shepler** noted I don't know what they would charge for business either and, I don't know that they ..... ! will ask Jeff when I speak with him tomorrow what is being offered. If they are offering it for businesses. **Councilman Brown** noted I don't know why they wouldn't. We might be able to save some money there. It's just a thought. The **Town Clerk** noted it would be better service too. **Councilman Brown** replied what. The **Town Clerk** replied it would be better service. **Councilman Brown** replied oh yeah. I like ours. I'm surprised. You actually use it without stops. **Supervisor Shepler** noted **Randy** can you recall what it was you wanted to bring up. **Councilman Galusha** replied no. **Supervisor Shepler** responded then can I ask for a motion to adjourn. **Councilman Galusha** noted that is **Doug's** domain.

**ADJOURNMENT:** On a motion introduced by **Councilman Needham** and seconded by **Councilman Brown** the meeting was adjourned at **8:47 pm**.

**Motion Carried: Ayes-4 Brown, Galusha, Needham, Shepler, Nays-0**

May 12, 2021 Regular Board  
Meeting

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan E. Staples, Town Clerk

May 23, 2021

Attachments

# Town of Thurman Supervisors Report May

12, 2021

Tonight is the second Town Board meeting open to the public this year. Please be advised that we are still limited to the number of residents that can attend as we still have to follow the six foot distancing. Everyone must wear a mask for the entire meeting even if you have had your vaccinations'.

Everyone is asked to sign in on the Visitors Log, listing your phone number and answering the two questions and recording your temperature.

I am pleased to share with the Residents of the Town of Thurman that the Highway Department has placed an order for two new Dump/Plow Trucks for the Town with expected arrival this Fall. This is a huge step forward to replace an aging and failing fleet. These trucks will replace two of the oldest trucks. Congratulations to the Highway Department and the Residents of Thurman.

Just a reminder that Gleaning will be June **7, 2021** and for the month of July it will be the second Monday of the month, July 12, 2021.

It has been a while since I have had the need to address the Thurman Keyboard Warriors, may I remind you again that you are doing a disservice to the residents of the Town of Thurman by sharing false and downright inaccurate information. I realize it is an election year but correct information is always the upper road.



Please be advised that the Resolutions for the months meeting are on the Towns web page the Friday before the Board meeting any questions please call my office. The Town Board will be discussing a procedure for those applying for Occupancy Tax Reimbursement Grants at the June meeting.

Thurman ACO report April 2021

04/20/21

Received a call from Judge Flanagan stating that the court case for [REDACTED] was adjourned to 05/04/2021. Judge Flanagan stated that [REDACTED] and her Neighbor became hostile with each other so she adjourned the court date because I could not be present on 04/20/2021. Judge Flanagan asked that I be present on 05/04/2021 to which I agreed. Judge Flanagan also requested that I check on animals belonging to [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] High st.

04/21/2021

Per request of Judge Flanagan I went to [REDACTED] High st. to check on animals belonging to [REDACTED]. Upon arrival I was unable to make contact with [REDACTED]. I noticed 2 loose goats and 2 cows in a pen that did not appear to be very secure however the cows were inside the pen.

04/27/2021

I returned to [REDACTED] High st. I was again unable to make contact with [REDACTED]. Conditions for animals were the same as on 04/21/2021

# Harris House Summary Report

**Date:** May 5, 2021

**Project:** 21-045 Harris House Evaluation

**Property Address:** Athol Road, PO Box 29, Athol, New York 12810

**Owner:** Town of Thurman  
Athol, New York 12810

**Prepared By:** Cedarwood Engineering Services, PLLC  
3903 Main Street  
Warrensburg, New York 12885  
Telephone: 518-623-5500

## Special Board Meeting:

On May 5<sup>th</sup> the Town Supervisor, Town Board attendees, and Cedarwood Engineering conducted a walkthrough of the Harris House to conduct a preliminary assessment of potential structural and code related issues. After the walkthrough, discussion of the property was continued when the Board Meeting reconvened at Thurman Town Hall.

## Summary:

The Harris House was constructed around 1890 and is not on the National or New York State Register of Historic Places. This wood frame structure has 2 stories with a field stone basement and is currently designated as Residential Occupancy. In order for the Town to use this building for any non-residential function, a Change in Occupancy permit would be required, and the building must comply with all current building and energy codes. After our initial visual inspection of the Harris House, we advise that the building will require major reconstruction to meet current structural load requirements. Current code requirements will also affect the existing room layout of the building, which will include but not be limited to, reconfiguring the stairs leading up to the second floor, adding a separate room to house mechanical equipment/electrical service panels, and adding at least one ADA restroom (and possibly more depending on occupant load). These required changes will involve constructing new walls which will reduce the size of the existing rooms.

Interior ceilings, interior walls, and exterior walls will require exposure for installation of new electrical wiring, plumbing, and mechanical ductwork. All exterior walls and the second-floor ceiling will require installation of proper R-value insulation in order to be compliant with the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC).

We noted that there were some areas of the stone foundation that have displaced stones which indicate that portions of the foundation have shifted. This condition is not only structurally unsound but also allows water and rodents to enter and cause damage. The exterior shell of the building is in generally poor condition, with fascia, soffit, windows, doors, and siding showing advanced deterioration from exposure to weathering. Under ideal conditions, slate roofs have a life expectancy between 75-200 years; however, this roof shows signs that it is near the end of its service life and is allowing water to enter the building. We are concerned that the weight of this slate roof is causing a strain on the already deficient roof and building structure. The metal roofs above the building addition and porch have already exceeded their life expectancy. The water runoff from these roofs is a major factor in the building exterior and foundation damage as there is no way to direct water away from the building. The porch structure is undersized, and we noted the framing pulling apart due to frost heave from the shallow piers that do not extend to the local frost depth.

A Hazardous Materials Report will also be required before any work is performed. Material samples from the building must be tested and any designated hazardous materials found must be properly removed and disposed of in a New York State approved land fill site.

## **Options Discussed:**

- Option One: Repair, renovate, and correct the existing building deficiencies to meet current building/energy codes. This will include but not be limited to removing the porch structure, lifting the building for construction of a new concrete foundation, correcting structural deficiencies, installing a new roof, replacing all deteriorated trim/siding, installing new windows/doors, reconstructing the interior layout to provide a new staircase/ADA compliant restroom/utility room, constructing a new porch, and installing new utilities and septic system. Construction cost to perform this option is estimated to be between \$900,000.00 - \$1,250,000.00.
- Option Two: Demolition of the entire building while saving some of the decorative trim and some interior trim work to install in a new building. The following attributes of the Harris House could be incorporated into a new building:
  - Same roof slope and roof lines
  - Asphalt or composite roof shingles with slate appearance

- Gingerbread trim in gables
- Wooden soffits and fascia
- Cedar clapboard siding
- Wooden porch
- Wooden entry doors
- Energy efficient windows with wooden trim
- Solid wood flooring (reuse and match existing wood flooring)
- Coat internal walls to give appearance of lath and plaster
- Match existing interior door and window wood trim
- All wooden windows and entry doors listed above can be substituted with fiberglass units to reduce maintenance.
- All wood trim and siding listed above can be substituted with a fiber cement product to reduce maintenance.

This new building option will essentially replicate the existing building with a slightly larger footprint to meet the requirements of the Town's intended use. This new building will meet all current building/energy codes and have a maintenance free exterior shell. Construction cost to perform this option based on an 1,800 square foot building will be \$660,000.00. This estimate includes demolition of the existing building, construction of a new septic system, and all mechanical, plumbing, and electrical work.

- Option 3: not discussed at this meeting, is to demolish the entire building with no replacement. Cost to perform this option is estimated to be between \$28,000.00 - \$34,000.00.

**Short Term Recommendation:**

In our opinion this building site should be secured and posted with "KEEP OUT" signs and tape at all entry points onto the porch and in to the building. The Harris House is a potential liability to the town until it is properly renovated, replaced, or removed.

Occupancy Tax Fact Sheet 2021  
Town of Thurman

Question: Can the OT funds be used for town infrastructure? Tourists use our roads and bridges. They use the bathroom at the Town Hall.

Answer: No. If OT funds are used for a capital project, the primary benefit of the project has to be the promotion of tourist activities. A project that only incidentally furthers tourism and primarily benefits residents is a violation of the rules.

Question: Some think using OT funds to pay for the town hall's septic system investigation is acceptable and others don't. Is there any way to get a clear answer?

Answer: Yes. According to the Assistant County Attorney, "the Town can pose a question or seek approval from the Occupancy Tax Committee of the County Board of Supervisors as to whether the expenditure sought is eligible."

Question: Is there a downside to ignoring the guidelines and using OT funds to take care of the Town's septic system?

Answer: Yes. When the Occupancy Tax was first imposed, the hotel owners were strongly opposed to this additional charge to their guests. It was extra work and they thought that they would lose business because of it. They were assured the money would only be used to attract more tourists which would not cause them to lose business but to get more business. Now, and for quite a while, the hotel owners in Lake George have been very adamant about getting all the OT money, because they point out that the smaller Towns are not spending it appropriately. So, they are looking for any excuse to cut us off from getting any OT money at all. It's important that we **don't just hand them an excuse to cut us off by violating the guidelines.**

## Confirmation

Durr, Barbara

Fri 5/7/2021 2:21 PM

To: Susan Shepler <supervisor@townofthurmanny.com>

Good afternoon Susan,

I am writing to confirm the request to add images of cancelled checks has been implemented and I expect these cancelled images to be available at the next statement cycle – May 2021 month end.

I am also writing to confirm I have requested copies all the cancelled checks for the Town. This project is not complete yet and will be finished shortly.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Barbara Durr | Vice President | Government Banking  
TD Bank America's Most Convenient Bank

Internal



543 Queensbury Ave., Suite 5, Queensbury, NY 12804  
 t. 518-793-1111 f. 518-670-0120

# QUOTE

**Number** STSQ13831

**Date** Apr 8, 2021

### Sold To

**Town of Thurman**  
 Susan Shepler  
 Thurman Town Hall  
 P.O. BOX 29 311 Athol Road  
 Athol, NY 12810  
 United States

**Phone** 518-623-9649  
**Fax**

### Your Sales Rep



**Ashley Underwood**  
**Customer Success Rep**  
 543 Queensbury Ave. Ste 5  
 Queensbury, NY 12804  
 United States  
 518-793-1111 x1106  
 quote@storedtech.com

Here is the quote you requested.

Qty	Description	Unit Price	Ext. Price
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#### Meraki Security Appliance(s) w/Licensing

1	Meraki MX67 Cloud Managed Security Appliance - 450 Mbps Throughput - Max Users: 50	\$485.51	\$485.51
1	1 Yr Meraki MX67 Enterprise License - Subscription License	\$225.70	\$225.70

*\*\*Hardware is highly constrained. Estimated to ship from vendor in late June.\*\**

#### Professional Services

1	Storedtech Professional Services	\$660.00	\$660.00
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#### Scope of Work

**Objective:**  
 Configure and install firewall for Town Hall.

**Tasks:**  
 Set up Meraki Dashboard and add device.  
 Update device firmware.  
 Configure device for local networks.  
 Deliver on site and install with ISP cutover.

**Customer Responsibilities:**  
 Client will be responsible for allowing StoredTech access to any onsite locations necessary.  
 Client will work with StoredTech to allow a window for down time to perform the upgrade (if required).

**Assumptions:**  
 Items that are determined to be outside of this scope of work will require a project change order.

#### \*\* Balance of total due upon delivery of hardware/software to client site.

Prices subject to change. Prices based upon total purchase. All delivery, training or consulting services to be billed at published rates for each activity involved. Generally all hardware components proposed above are covered by a limited one-year warranty, covering parts and labor for hardware only and on a depot basis. We specifically disclaim any and all warranties, express or implied, including but not limited to any implied warranties or with regard to any licensed products. We shall not be liable for any loss of profits, business, goodwill, data, interruption of business. Nor for incidental or consequential merchantability or fitness of purpose, damages related to this agreement. Minimum 15% restocking fee with original packaging. If either party brings any legal proceeding or lawsuit in connection with an alleged breach of this Agreement, the prevailing party in such proceeding or lawsuit shall be entitled to recover its costs, legal fees and disbursements from the other party





Qty	Description	Unit Price	Ext. Price
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Acquire the technology you need today! Leasing options may be available for any quotes greater than \$2,000. Please contact your Sales representative if you would like more information.

Deposit Required: \$1,028.41  
 Monthly Total: \$0.00

<b>SubTotal</b>	\$1,371.21
<b>Tax</b>	\$0.00
<b>Shipping</b>	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,371.21</b>

**\*\* Balance of total due upon delivery of hardware/software to client site.**

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• Prior to the pandemic I questioned the board as to a board member sitting on the board while being employed by the town. There was an opinion given by the Association of towns at the 2020 "Newly Elected Seminar". I asked the Supervisor to request the opinion be given in writing.

• has this been done? If not, why?

• until such opinion in writing is given said member should recuse themselves.

• who is the Highway liaison?

- How will the septic inspection be paid for? Is it in the budget? Line item?
- What is the plan of action should damage occurs during inspection?
- Does such inspection open us up to being legally responsible to bring it up to code?
  - If yes, shouldn't we budget for that?
- Does the Supervisors office receive calls?
  - Calls to your office are left unanswered.

• When will the remaining Annual Update Documents be submitted to the State? Date specific.

• What are the job description/duties of the Confidential Secretary?

• Who completes the books, i.e., financial documents?

• has this individual passed the civil service exam?

• What has the Confidential Secretary done to receive a promotion in the monetary form they have?

• When will the taxpayers be compensated for this theft?

• Is the Confidential Secretary still receiving taxpayer subsidized health Insurance?

• Who signed the enrollment form?

• It has been speculated that Thurman is slated to receive between \$140,000.00 and \$219,000.00 as part of the stimulus package. Many other towns have ~~asked~~ formed community citizens group(s) with a liaison to assure the needs of the community are met.

Given the track record of the CFO and her proclivity for spending without board approval it is imperative.

Kindly include in Meeting minutes

Kathy Templeton