

June 09, 2015

**MINUTES OF THE FISCAL AND REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF THURMAN HELD JUNE 09, 2015 AT THE TOWN HALL, 311 ATHOL ROAD, ATHOL NEW YORK, COMMENCING AT 6:30 P.M...**

**PRESENT:     MRS. EVELYN WOOD, SUPERVISOR**  
**MR. MICHAEL EDDY, COUNCILMAN**  
**MR. LEON GALUSHA, COUNCILMAN**  
**MR. DANIEL SMITH, COUNCILMAN**  
**MRS. GAIL SEAMAN, COUNCILWOMAN**

Recording secretary: **Cynthia R. Hyde**, Town Clerk

**FISCAL MEETING**: The Town Board reviewed all claims.

**BOARD MEETING**: The regular town board meeting was called to order by **Evelyn Wood, Supervisor**.

**PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

**ROLL CALL**

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**:

On a motion by **Councilman Smith**, seconded by **Councilman Eddy**, the September 08, 2014 meeting minutes were approved.

**MOTION CARRIED**: **ROLL CALL ~ EDDY-YES, SEAMAN-NO, WOOD-NO, GALUSHA-YES, SMITH-YES**

On a motion by **Supervisor Wood**, seconded by **Councilman Galusha**, the May 12, 2015 meeting minutes were tabled.

**MOTION CARRIED**: **4 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, SMITH, SEAMAN**

**1 NAY ~ EDDY**

June 09, 2015

On a motion by **Councilman Smith**, seconded by **Councilman Galusha**, the May 19, 2015 meeting minutes were approved with the following amendment added to Resolution # 50> **Further Resolved that employees or employees working with the employees who wish to use their own equipment will sign a “hold harmless” agreement..**

**MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, EDDY, SMITH, SEAMAN**

**OPENING OF BIDS:**

**Bids for Town of Thurman Reverse Osmosis Systems were opened:**

**WEL-DUN Inc. 384 Dunbar Road, Cambridge, N.Y. 12816 for \$17,780.00**

**CULLIGAN WATER CONDITIONING 131 Little Britain Road, Newburgh N.Y. 12550 for \$36,300.00**

**LETTERS:**

A letter from the **Friends of Thurman** was read and a letter from **Sally Wallace** was read. **Attached**

**REPORTS:**

The following officers gave their reports: **Councilman Smith, Councilman Galusha** and **Councilwoman Seaman**

**Supervisor’s Report:**

**Supervisor Wood** filed the May 31, 2015 balance sheets, the operating statements and the treasurer’s report with the town clerk and gave a verbal report.

**Supervisor Wood** said that a thank you goes out to **Ernie Smith, Ed Brown, Billy Arnold** and **Darrin Needham** for helping an injured cyclist.

**Discussion:** Regarding quotes for hooking up wells.

**Discussion:** Pertaining to looking at using a purchase order system.

June 09, 2015

**Fund Balance: Supervisor Wood** gave a talk on Thurman Fund Balance

**Discussion:** There was a discussion regarding electric service

**Break out: Supervisor Wood** provided the board with a break out of 2015 attorney fees.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION # 59:**

To approve submitting a renewal for the River Road mine permit application with no changes for five years.

On a motion by **Councilman Galusha**, seconded by **Councilwoman Seaman**, Resolution # 59 was approved.

**MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, EDDY, SMITH, SEAMAN**

**POINTS OF INTEREST:**

Summer Concerts

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

The following people spoke during privilege of the floor... **Marilyn Youngblood, Sally Wallace, Avis Russell, Jean Coulard, Mary Eddy, Joyce Eddy, Winnie Martin, Jeanie Sprague** and **Cynthia Hyde**.

**LETTER READING FROM THE FLOOR:**

The following person was extended the privilege of reading their letter on the floor ... **Marilyn Youngblood. Letter Attached**

**RESOLUTION:**

June 09, 2015

On a motion by **Councilman Galusha**, seconded by **Councilwoman Seaman**, a resolution to adopt a code of ethics and disclosure policy failed. Failed resolution filed

**MOTION FAILED:**

**ROLL CALL ~ WOOD-YES, SEAMAN-YES, EDDY-NO, GALUSHA-NO, SMITH-NO**

**RESOLUTION:**

Adopt a family medical leave act

This resolution was tabled to be considered at a special meeting.

**RESOLUTION #60:**

To amend budget -attached

On a motion by **Councilman Galusha**, seconded by **Councilman Smith**, Resolution # 60 was approved.

**MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, EDDY, SMITH, SEAMAN**

**RESOLUTION #61:**

To fill cleaning position-Resolution attached

On a motion by **Councilman Galusha**, seconded by **Councilwoman Seaman**, Resolution # 61 was approved.

**MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, EDDY, SMITH, SEAMAN**

**RESOLUTION # 62:**

Concerts-Resolution attached

On a motion by **Councilwoman Seaman**, seconded by **Councilman Smith**, Resolution # 62 was approved.

**MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, EDDY, SMITH, SEAMAN**

**APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:**

On a motion by **Councilwoman Seaman**, seconded by **Councilman Smith**, the town board approved vouchers #'s 2015-322 thru 2015-371 for a highway, general, capital projects and enterprise fund grand total of \$31,132.24.

**MOTION CARRIED: 4 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, SMITH, SEAMAN**

**1 NAY ~ EDDY**

**BOARD MEMBER MAIL BOX:** **Councilman Smith** suggested that there be a box installed where board members could pick up their mail and other things such as meeting packets after hours, because working board members have trouble getting to the supervisor's office during business hours.

**ADJOURNMENT:** On a motion by **Councilman Galusha**, seconded by **Councilwoman Seaman**, the meeting was adjourned at 8:54 pm.

**MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, EDDY, SMITH, SEAMAN**

**Respectfully Submitted:**

**Cynthia R. Hyde**

**Town clerk 06/23/2015**

**Attached: Warrensburg EMS Report, Resolutions, Letters from Friends of Thurman, Sally Wallace and Marilyn Youngblood**

June 09, 2015



Stephen W. Emerson  
Operations Manager

Phone ~ (518) 232-0817  
Fax ~ (518) 623-3651  
Email ~ tek910@nycap.rr.com

*Our Patients Are Our First Priority  
Our Members Are Our Greatest Asset*

June 9, 2015

Thurman Town Board Members,

Attached you will find the run totals for May 2015. We handled a total of 6 calls in Thurman in May and our average response time was 17 ½ minutes to arriving on-scene. We were canceled on 1 of the calls and another call was a good intent call. Three of the calls were ALS and one was BLS.

I would like to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU to Ernie Smith and the four Thurman Highway Department men that helped us during a call last month. The patient they helped us with was critically injured and their help was instrumental in the proper handling of the patient. They worked with us every step of the way. Their assistance was invaluable and I have no doubt that they helped save this patient's life. They all have my sincerest respect and gratitude and they deserve a lot of praise for going way above and beyond! Thank you all!!

Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. I can be reached on my cell phone at 232-0817. I would like to thank the Town Board and the Thurman residents for their continued support.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Stephen W. Emerson*

Stephen W. Emerson  
Operations Manager  
Warrensburg EMS, Inc.

Thurman Calls handled by Warrensburg EMS  
May 2015

DATE	PCR #	PRIORITY	CHIEF COMPLAINT	DISP. TO ENROUTE	ENROUTE TO ONSCE
5/1/2015	15-14559	ALS	UNRESPONSIVE	2 minutes	19 minutes
5/3/2015	15-14777	BLS	FALL	5 minutes	21 minutes
5/4/2015	15-14921	BLS	GOOD INTENT CALL	NO TIMES	NO TIMES
5/7/2015	15-15294	ALS	DIFFICULTY BREATHING	5 minutes	8 minutes
5/7/2015	15-15443	BLS	CANCELLED	NO TIMES	NO TIMES
5/19/2015	15-16976	ALS	MULTI TRAUMA	3 minutes	22 minutes

Warrensburg Emergency Medical Services Inc.  
PO Box 157  
Warrensburg, New York 12885

# Town of Thurman

## Resolution # of 2015

Introduced By:

Seconded By:

Supervisor	Evelyn Wood	Yea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nay <input type="checkbox"/>
Councilman	Leon Galusha	Yea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nay <input type="checkbox"/>
Councilwoman	Gail Seaman	Yea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nay <input type="checkbox"/>
Councilman	Daniel Smith	Yea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nay <input type="checkbox"/>
Councilman	Michael Eddy	Yea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nay <input type="checkbox"/>

### Resolution to Amend Budget

BE IT RESOLVED that the following budget adjustment is approved.

Decrease:		Increase:	
10104.01 Town Board CE	\$ 25.00	65104.01 Veteran's Services	\$ 25.00
90408.01 Worker's Comp	\$200.00	51824.01 Street Lighting	<del>\$200.00</del>

# *Town of Thurman*

Resolution #    of 2015

Introduced By:

Seconded By:

Supervisor	Evelyn Wood	Yea <u>Y</u>	Nay <u>   </u>
Councilman	Leon Galusha	Yea <u>X</u>	Nay <u>   </u>
Councilwoman	Gail Seaman	Yea <u>X</u>	Nay <u>   </u>
Councilman	Daniel Smith	Yea <u>✓</u>	Nay <u>   </u>
Councilman	Michael Eddy	Yea <u>✓</u>	Nay <u>   </u>

## Resolution to Fill Position

WHEREAS the employees in the position of cleaner has resigned, and

WHEREAS this position will need to be filled and

WHEREAS the position is nine hours a week at a rate of \$8.75, now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Town Board approves advertising for and filling the position of cleaner.



# *Town of Thurman*

Resolution #    of 2015

Introduced By:

Seconded By:

Supervisor	Evelyn Wood	Yea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nay <input type="checkbox"/>
Councilman	Leon Galusha	Yea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nay <input type="checkbox"/>
Councilwoman	Gail Seaman	Yea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nay <input type="checkbox"/>
Councilman	Daniel Smith	Yea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nay <input type="checkbox"/>
Councilman	Michael Eddy	Yea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nay <input type="checkbox"/>

**Resolution to Approve Summer Concert Series and Fireworks** ~

BE IT RESOLVED that the Thurman Town Board hereby approves the following concert schedule and fireworks display and authorizes the Supervisor to sign any necessary documents.

July 6 – Marty Wendell  
July 13 – The Bluebillies  
July 20 – Lustré Kings  
July 27 – Smokey Greene  
August 3 – Vintage Country  
August 10 – The Hartlee Family  
August 17 – Bear Fox & the Akwesasne Women Singers  
August 24 – Warren County Ramblers  
August 31 – Big Fez & the Surfomatics, Fireworks display

June 09, 2015

June 9, 2015

Gentlemen and Ladies,

At a time when progress seems continuously slowed and town may even be moving backward, we all might step back and appreciate how many good things happen in our town when people work together be they volunteers, town employees, or elected officials. Let us cite a few examples.

1. Rebuilding the bridge on Combs Road destroyed by 2012's Memorial weekend storm is underway. Because the town and county are working together, Thurman will have new bridge at minimum town expense and Warren County will be able to replace the culvert and road bridging it on Valley Road at far less expense and traffic delays that could have occurred. This resulted from cooperation between town and county officials.
2. Recently a bicyclist went off Garnet Lake Road and flipped off the road seriously injuring himself. A town employee spotted the injured rider and alerted other town road workers. They arrived quickly and administered CPR until medical transportation arrived. We have heard the cyclist is recovering well. The quick actions and cooperation of town employees may well have saved this man's life.
3. Our town hall and its surrounding property are looking very good this year since a designated maintenance man has gotten to work. Repairs are made quickly, repainting is taking place, and the grounds are well-kept and attractive. Getting things done quickly and efficiently saves the costs of later extra expense. Take a look around you, if you have not done so, to appreciate the improvements.
4. Thurman is the only town in the county to maintain Gleaning program in cooperation with the town food pantry. Through Warren County Community Action large amounts food are provided from commercial donations and surplus programs. These are brought to the town hall by the town employees each month. Then volunteers organize and oversee the distribution of these supplies to townspeople who have a need for them. The program works to smoothly help people in need through the cooperation of the town and hard-working volunteers.
5. Finally, volunteers came together again in the last year to step up and erect the new salt storage shed required by the state to correct some serious conditions. After much needless delay, the end is in sight on this project, avoiding state fines and delays and assuring pure drinking water for the town hall and affected homes in the area.

These are just some of the positive things that can happen when town employees go that extra mile, volunteers step in to help the town, and officials work together. It is the hope of our group that the entire town board come together without political, selfish delay, especially in campaign season, to continue to move our town forward.

Sincerely submitted,

Friends of Thurman

*Please read at meeting and include in minutes  
for June 9, 2015*

June 09, 2015

**Sally Wallace 254 Mountain Rd Athol, Ny 12810**

Attn. Thurman Town Board and Town Members,

I just want to make sure that my opinion of our Town Supervisor using her position to act in a "Power Hungary" "Belittling" manor is correct.

Beginning with the power move of the removal of our towns free trash removal. Sending out post cards to everyone in town stating our Town was in BIG trouble. Just to hold a special "grandstand" meeting with her new podium, with the press to "belittle" the men on the town board along with installing cameras without our boards knowledge.

Ms. Wood placed the Approval of the August 12, 2014 regular meeting minutes on hold stating she had found 13 mistakes and the "Press" had a problem with them, continuing with the minutes from August 27, 2014, September 08, 2014, September 30, 2014 and the October 06, 2014 were put off until the next month for approval, due to numerous mistakes on part of our Town Clerk.

During the Nov. 2014 Meeting the Sept. 30, 2014 and Oct. 28, 2014 Minutes were approved. Stating the other minutes still needed to be fixed. Still no list of corrections to be made.

During the Jan. 2015 Meeting, Councilmen Eddy and Smith asked for all 2014 Minutes to be approved. Ms Wood answered that "she would advise the board that she had been advised by the attorney that if

There are items in the minutes that are incorrect and we approve them, you know he advised that we shouldn't approve them essentially." When asked if Ms. Wood had a list of the items that need correction, she stated "I PROBABLY do upstairs". Councilman Smith asked for a list so these mistakes can be fixed by the next meeting. Councilmen Seaman FINALLY asked for a copy of the Audio and the Written Minutes so she can check them over. After 5 months.

No mention of Approving the Minutes during the Feb. 2015 Meeting. Still no list for corrections.

During the March 2015 Meeting a few board members handed Cynthia a list of suggestions concerning the past minutes. Nothing from council woman Seaman.

At the April 2015 meeting, Council Woman Seaman conveniently left her list of corrections at home. The board gave her until next month.

Beginning with the Aug. 2014 through April 2015 meetings, you Ms. Wood belittled our town clerk every month stating there were numerous mistakes in the minutes, but you would not provide her with a list of your concerns. When Ms. Hyde would respond to your accusations; you Ms. Wood would cut her off not letting Ms. Hyde speak. We all know that legally the Minutes DO NOT need approval. I feel it was all for, You Ms. Wood and Councilman Seaman to "Belittle" and "Bully" our Town Clerk.

Finally May 12, 2015 ALL minutes were approved. After 9 months of belittling our town clerk.

I give the cameras credit, the actions of the Women on our board are more professional. I no longer see the "rolling" of eyes.

So yes my opinion stands. Thank you for listening. Please attach with minutes

June 09, 2015

Date: 6/9/15

From: Marilyn Hoy-Youngblood

To: Our Selectboard, All Elected Officials and the Residents of Thurman,

Our nation was founded on differences of opinion, open debate and commitment to change when needed, among other principles. In 2015 we, the citizens of Thurman, of Warren County, of NYS and of the USA continue to attempt to make our communities more democratic, more accepting of differences of opinion and practice and more inclusive of all. In recent decades we have all witnessed a tremendous lack of transparency and a lack of open debate at all levels of business and government. Without clearly articulated issues, perceptions, and facts there can be no real understanding of what the difference of opinion is. And, without a real understanding of the differences of opinion, there cannot be a healthy debate, a reasonable compromise, and moving forward.

Thus, I address the Board and Mr. Eddy in particular:

To this day Mr. Eddy, I and many others do not really understand what your repeated opposition is all about. You have taken a stand against many of the major projects and issues that have come before the Board and Town. Yet, in many instances you have been **unable or unwilling** to state clearly for us the **"why"** of your thinking, the **facts** as you see them, and your **proposals** for approaching the issue differently. If you would do this, you might carry more influence with both the Board and with the wider public.

Sometimes, you appear to oppose just for the sake of opposing—which leaves the perception that you have a hidden agenda. You ran on a ticket of "transparency" but it seems that you apply the concept to others more than you do to yourself. Your "secretary", Mary, has spent innumerable hours in the privacy of the Clerk's office collecting piles of information. Numerous residents in Thurman have expressed concern about the privacy of their personal information. Furthermore, several residents will no longer go to the Supervisor's office because they have been intimidated by **members of your family** after visits there. They will only come to town hall when Mrs. Hyde is not there and it would appear that Mrs. Hyde informs you as to who comes to town hall. Intimidation and bullying, Mr. Eddy,

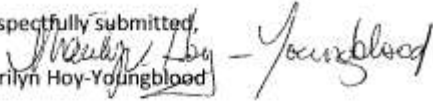
June 09, 2015

is not acceptable in this town. You have challenged our Supervisor at the County and State level for "hiding" money along with other accusations on at least 4-5 instances. To my knowledge, you have been **disproven on all of your accusations**. In the process, you have cost us, the taxpayers, significant money in forcing the Supervisor to respond, in taking secretarial time to respond, in the use of the town lawyer, and in the general atmosphere of conflict and confusion you create in Thurman. Your petition to rescind a vote for transfer of money to the Highway department from beginning to end is a good example of costing taxpayer money, administrative and legal time and community turmoil. In the end, two months later, **you accomplished nothing**. In addition, your useless permissive referendum **cost the town \$1,100.00 in legal fees**. Finally, in May, you voted "no" on the money transfer—**which was your right to do on the initial vote**. You have refused to accept a Committee assignment as is the tradition of the Board and when asked to be responsible for the Veterans Memorial update, you being a Veteran, you have produced precious little work in a year and a half. You are the only Board Member who feels free to call the town lawyer and use the small budgeted allowance for legal services. The issue of Bear Pond Rd has cost the town \$1,600.00 in legal fees and most of us believe that you are acting in your own personal interest **and** that you should recuse yourself from votes regarding Bear Pond Rd. You rarely sign town bills that other Board members sign. At Board meetings, you appear to not hear much of the discussions, including after **you** have asked for clarification. You seem to set yourself aside as a Board member, choosing to not be a cooperative member of the team. You proudly state that you will **never** go up the stairs to give or share information with the Supervisor. Finally, you promoted volunteerism in your campaign but I am unaware that you have volunteered for anything nor promoted volunteerism in town.

In conclusion: I accept that you have concerns about how our town is run. I accept the possibility that your perspective and information might be useful and important. BUT, I find it hard to give credibility to your position because of your tactics and posturing.

June 09, 2015

To paraphrase a friend of mine: Posturing in politics doesn't help people. Facts, debate and discussion do.

Respectfully submitted,  
  
Marilyn Hoy-Youngblood

Please include this letter in its entirety on the town record.