

MINUTES OF THE FISCAL AND REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF THURMAN HELD SEPTEMBER 17, 2013 AT THE TOWN HALL, 311 ATHOL ROAD, ATHOL NEW YORK, COMMENCING AT 6:30 P.M...

PRESENT: MRS. EVELYN WOOD, SUPERVISOR
MR. LEON GALUSHA, COUNCILMAN
MRS. GAIL SEAMAN, COUNCILWOMAN

ABSENT: MR. CHARLES BILLS, COUNCILMAN
MR. AL VASAK, COUNCILMAN

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

BIDS:

Bids for the design and construction of a production-ready white space network were not opened at today's meeting because of an error in the invitation to bid legal ad. The ad read that bids were due on September 13, 2013 and would be opened on September 17, 2013. The ad should have read that bids were due on September 6, 2013 a date that was specified in an attachment to Resolution # 41. Resolution #41 was amended by the town board at the August regular meeting as it contained the incorrect date for the bids to be opened (see page 7 of the August 13, 2013 regular meeting minutes); the attachment, however, was not amended so the due date for the bids should have remained as September 06, 2013 .

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Supervisor Wood said that the minutes need to be corrected to show September 06, 2013 as the due date for bids instead of September 13, 2013. **Supervisor Wood** also said that she had received numerous calls from folks who understand that a letter from **Dexter Baker** was read at the August meeting (but not included in the minutes) and that they request it be included in the minutes. **Supervisor Wood** asked the town board if they would like to have the letter included in the minutes. The Town Board agreed that **Dexter Baker's** letter should be included in the minutes.

On a motion by **Councilman Seaman**, seconded by **Councilman Galusha**, the minutes of the August 2013 regular meeting were approved contingent upon the correction of the due date for bids and the inclusion of Dexter Baker's letter.

MOTION CARRIED: 3 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, SEAMAN

LETTERS: An inspection letter from the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets (the town clerk incorrectly said this was a letter inspecting the ACO) and a letter from **Mary Eddy**. Attached

BIDS:

Bids for the design and construction of a production- ready white space network were not opened at today's meeting because of an error in the invitation to bid legal ad.

REPORTS:

EMS: **Councilman Galusha** read a report from the Warrensburg Ems. **Attached**

YOUTH: **Councilwoman Seaman** said that the Youth Commission is getting ready for the Halloween party.

Supervisor's Report:

Supervisor Wood reported that...

She attended the opening of the new dorms at SUNY Adirondack.

Budget meetings were in progress at the county.

The Jiminy Peak Mountain club held their annual climb.

Whitefield farm had their open house and gave tours. They have an actual processing unit license which took some perseverance to obtain.

The Warren County Bicentennial Team met and is working on a 50's theme to honor the Warren County Municipal Center.

We are in the process of obtaining health care prices and enacting the affordable care act. There are a lot of unknowns but the hope is for a minimal impact, the prices at this point are unknown.

The River Road bid was done by the county (this saved us some money), Gallo was the lowest bidder. The tentative start date and shut down of River Road is this coming Monday.

Supervisor Wood asked the Town Clerk to certify the resolution for River Road.

FEMA is accepting letters of intent. We were approached by the county level to submit a letter of intent for unfixed roads and hopefully we will get additional funding for Dippikill.

Supervisor Wood said that we were approached by Warren County to submit a letter of intent for unfixed roads.

Supervisor Wood stated that the **Unifirst** contract was up. **Highway Superintendent Pat Wood** has found a cheaper source for wipers. After looking at prices for mats for the town hall **Supervisor Wood** found North Country Janitorial's quote for \$36.00 less than Unifirst's \$58.70. All Pro is no longer offering mats.

On a motion by **Councilwoman Seaman**, seconded by **Councilman Galusha**, the town board agreed to go with North Country Janitorial for town hall mats.

MOTION CARRIED: 3 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, SEAMAN

Supervisor Wood asked the Town Board to consider having Thurman Station Association act as the Chamber of Commerce. It was found that when they coordinated and funded events jointly money was saved. TSA would open a separate account with whatever Occupancy Tax Money was awarded, this would keep the accounting clear and only one report for all events would be needed.

Budget Presentation:

Supervisor Wood will present the 2014 budget at a meeting set for September 30, 2013 at 6:30 pm.

Supervisor Wood stated that there was a revamping of the tax cap, she would be taking webinars and that there will be no retirement exemption this year.

Supervisor Wood reported that the fiscal stress monitoring system scored Town of Thurman better than all the towns' state wide. The environmental factors we are judged on are not in the town board's control. **Wood** said that we did much better at paying our bills and making payroll than other towns and that the Town Board is on the right track. Our score was 6.7%.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Tonight's bids will be rejected because of an error in the legal ad.

POINTS OF INTEREST:

The Thurman Fall Farm Tour is coming up soon.

Councilman Galusha asked if the salt shed was going to be done on time.

Supervisor Wood said that yes the DEC was happy with us and what we are doing.

The Thurman Fire Company needs a letter of support from the town board in order to apply for a grant. The town board agreed to supply a letter of support.

RESOLUTION #43:

RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR GRANT

WHEREAS the Town Justice has indicated she wishes to apply for a grant for the court, and

WHEREAS the grant application requires a resolution of the Town Board authorizing the Justice to apply,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes the Town Justice to apply for a court grant.

On a motion by **Councilwoman Seaman**, seconded by **Councilman Galusha**, Resolution # 43 was approved.

MOTION CARRIED: 3 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, SEAMAN

RESOLUTION # 44:

RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR GRANT

WHEREAS the Town of Thurman holds numerous events each year to promote culture and tourism in the town, and

WHEREAS the Town holds a Summer Concert Series as part of these events, and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town authorizes a grant application to LARAC for assistance with the cost of the Town's events.

On a motion by **Councilman Galusha**, seconded by **Councilwoman Seaman**, Resolution # 44 was approved.

MOTION CARRIED: 3 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, SEAMAN

RESOLUTION # 45:

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE TOWNS OF INDIAN LAKE, LONG LAKE, NEWCOMB, MINERVA AND NORTH HUDSON CONCERNING THEIR PLAN FOR ECONOMIC SUCCESS

WHEREAS, we are in receipt of a letter from the Five TNC (The Nature Conservancy) Towns (The Upper Hudson Recreation Hub/Indian Lake, Long Lake, Newcomb, Minerva and North Hudson) expressing concerns over the current Adirondack Park Agency process, and

WHEREAS, we deem the “classification” of the newly acquired TNC lands, and the subsequent management of same, as critically important to the future of the Five Towns and the entire Adirondack

Park, and

*WHEREAS, we conclude that for all of us to say, “It is a new day in the Adirondack Park”, it means we **ALL** have to do business differently, and*

WHEREAS, the sense that the Adirondack Park Agency, may be poised to, “do business as usual”, is of grave concern, and

WHEREAS, staff references to things like the Snowmobile Guidance Document, as an alleged barrier to recreation, are at a minimum disheartening, and

WHEREAS, these observations only reinforce the message which was previously sent by the Adirondack Park Agency, when they failed to offer a broader range of options for public consideration during the recent Classification process, specifically the sad reality that no option considered a campsite, or any significant Intensive Use Area, and

WHEREAS, based on this pattern of disturbing facts, we find it critical to weigh in.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lake Pleasant Town Board hereby asserts that the desires and the direction of the Upper Hudson Recreation Hub (Indian Lake, Long Lake, Newcomb, Minerva

And North Hudson) are absolutely consistent with:

- 1. The Common Ground Alliance stated vision for a more sustainable/usable Park.*
- 2. The Rec Strategies work asserting the need for more recreational opportunities (the Upper Hudson Recreational Hub was actually showcased as a pilot area).*
- 3. The Adirondack Futures vision for a more usable Park.*
- 4. The highly touted success story involving the Moose River Plains Partnership.*
- 5. The Governor’s stated vision for these lands.*
- 6. Commissioner Marten’s stated vision for these lands.*

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is critically important that the Adirondack Park Agency recognize the physical and logical reasons to classify these lands as Wild Forest:

- 1. There is an existing network of roads sufficient to support higher levels of use.*
- 2. There are existing bridges, demonstrating these lands are NOT Wilderness Classification.*
- 3. Rights will remain on these lands for motorized use (authorized through 2018 for lease holders and 2019 for TNC) which is absolutely inconsistent with a Wilderness Classification.*

AND ALSO BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the use of an Intensive Use Corridor, similar to the successful example demonstrated in the Moose River Plains, is hereby encouraged. This is to allow roadside camping and greater densities of camping, both of which are designed to entice use away from more environmentally sensitive areas. Plus an Intensive Use Corridor will open up the opportunity for a groomed cross country ski trail connection between all of the participating towns.

AND BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, the Association of Towns and Villages hereby goes on record, with the strongest level of support possible, for the Governor's vision that these lands provide recreational opportunities for all recreational users, which is basically captured in the plan set forth by the Upper Hudson Recreation Hub (The Five Towns), and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to Governor Cuomo, Senator Farley, Senator Little, Assemblyman Butler, Assemblyman Stec, NYSDEC Commissioner Martens, APA Chairwoman Ulrich, Hamilton County Board of Supervisors and Essex County Board of Supervisors.

On a motion by **Councilwoman Seaman**, seconded by **Councilman Galusha**, Resolution # 45 was approved.

MOTION CARRIED: 3 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, SEAMAN

RESOLUTION # 46:

Resolution Awarding Bid

September 17, 2013 Regular Meeting

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Thurman that the town Board has determined to let the contract to the lowest responsible bidder;

specifications were determined and placed on file with the Warren County Purchasing Department; the invitations to bid were advertised with the date set forth in the bids; and the opening of the bids were as attached.

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bidder for the River Road pipe arch culvert was Gallo Construction Corporation and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Thurman

that: The bid will be awarded to Gallo Construction Corporation for \$57,711.00.

On a motion by **Councilwoman Seaman**, seconded by **Councilman Galusha**, Resolution # 46 was approved.

MOTION CARRIED: 3 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, SEAMAN

RESOLUTION # 47:

A Resolution to reject all white space build out bids. New bids to be received October 07, 2013 by 4pm to be opened October 8, 2013

On a motion by **Councilwoman Seaman**, seconded by **Councilman Galusha**, Resolution # 47 was approved.

MOTION CARRIED: 3 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, SEAMAN

SALT SHED MATERIAL QUOTES:

Curtis \$11,797.33

Stephenson Lumber \$ 13,317.09

Curtis \$12,393.81

If everything checks out and after checking the procurement policy the Town Board will go with the lowest bidder.

On a motion by **Councilwoman Seaman**, seconded by **Councilman Galusha**, the town board accepted the lowest bid.

MOTION CARRIED: 3 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, SEAMAN

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

On a motion by **Councilman Galusha**, seconded by **Councilman Seaman**, the town board approved vouchers #'s 2013- 576 thru 2013- 623 for a highway fund, general fund and capital fund grand total of \$82,453.92 with the addition of \$400.00 to **Myrna Keeler** for the Halloween party. The claim for \$400.00 for Myrna Keeler was stuck to the back of another claim and will be added to the abstract on September 18, 2013.

MOTION CARRIED: 3 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, SEAMAN

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Barbara Farrell stated that Thurman EMS had 3 new local EMT's that will answer calls.

Cynthia Hyde, Town Clerk asked to explain to the board why she left Dexter Baker's letter out of the minutes. **Hyde** explained that after the meeting she realized the letter did not pertain to town business but was a letter between The Baker family and the Thurman EMS (The letter was received too late to be reviewed first and was read). She spoke to the **Association of Towns Attorneys** and the **Supervisor** about the letter. The **Association of Towns Attorney** advised that a better venue for the letter would be a news paper and agreed that it shouldn't be included in the minutes unless the board requested it. **Cynthia Hyde** added that several months ago a rebuttal letter to one of **Supervisor Wood's** newsletters had been received to be read at a meeting. Because the letter did not pertain to town board business it was not read or entered in the minutes, just noted that it had been received (see April 09, 2013 regular minutes page 1). **Hyde** felt that if the previous letter had been omitted the current one should also be omitted.

Supervisor Wood said that we frequently include things in the minutes that really aren't town board business. For example the August minutes announced a "meet the candidates" event, that **Wood** said was private and in her opinion had nothing to do with the town. **Wood** said she was sure we are going to see an

announcement that the Thurman EMS has multiple new EMT's. **Wood** said that also has nothing to do with the town whatsoever.

Cynthia Hyde asked if people could write letters about any subject and have them published in the minutes.

Supervisor Wood said that the most important part is that we're consistent.

Hyde felt we weren't consistent if one letter was put in the minutes and the other letter wasn't. **Hyde** said that she was trying to be fair.

Councilman Seaman said the rebuttal letter was address to **Supervisor Wood** not the Town Board.

Brian Angell said that he was doing the leg work for a meet the candidate's night with the League of Women's voters.

Supervisor Wood said that he could check and see when the Town Hall would be available.

Joyce Eddy asked about the whereabouts of the honor roll.

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by **Councilwoman Seaman**, seconded by **Councilman Galusha**, the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 pm.

MOTION CARRIED: 3 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, SEAMAN

Respectfully Submitted:

Cynthia R. Hyde
Town clerk
10/02/2013

Attached:

Warrensburg EMS Report and Call Chart
Letter from Dexter Baker attached as requested by the Town Board
Letter from Mary Eddy
Animal Shelter Report



Stephen W. Emerson
Operations Manager

Phone ~ (518) 232-0817
Fax ~ (518) 623-3651

September 17, 2013

Thurman Town Board Members,

Attached you will find a list of the calls that WEMS responded to in the Town of Thurman during the month of August 2013. Warrensburg EMS handled four (4) calls in the Town of Thurman. One call was a non-emergency transport home and the other three were 911 emergency calls and all calls were ALS. Our average response time to the scene was 12 minutes. In all, Warrensburg EMS handled 76 calls in August and 5 of those calls were second out calls. We have had excellent responses and feedback from the residents of Thurman that we have cared for and transported.

It has come to my attention that some residents are concerned about the costs incurred with ambulance transports. Yes, ambulance transports can be expensive. There are several variables that influence the charges. I will let you know that Warrensburg EMS's fees for service are in line with all other ALS services in this area. We understand when people have difficulty in paying for a service such as this and we are more than willing to work with anyone who needs help with their bill. Please call me directly and we will work something out. We are definitely not here to cause you more concern.

We at WEMS sincerely appreciate all the support that we have been given by the Town Board and many of the residents that we encounter and we feel privileged to be able to serve this community.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please let me know. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephen W. Emerson
Operations Manager

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

DATE	PCR #	PRIORITY	CHIEF COMPLAINT	ENROUTE TO ON SCENE
8/3/2013	5-0002903	ALS	TRANSPORT HOME	NO TIMES
8/3/2013	5-0002838	ALS	ABDOMINAL PAIN	21 MINUTES
8/4/2013	5-0002852	ALS	MVA-HEAD INJURY	8 MINUTES
8/12/2013	5-0002923	ALS	DIFFICULTY BREATHING	7 MINUTES

Dexter and Ejay Baker
450 High Street
Athol, NY 12810

Town of Thurman
311 Athol Road
Athol, NY 12810

Dear Board and Residents,

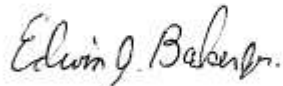
In the August 3, 2013 edition of the Adirondack Journal an ad was seen depicting an upcoming dinner to be hosted by the Thurman EMS. In the ad it mentioned this dinner was to be in memory of Suzie Baker. However, we would like the town residents and public to know that our family in no way supported this. Since then a retraction was suppose to be printed indicating such, however that has not yet been seen. Thus we felt it pertinent to express our opinions to the public so that this was known prior to the dinner. In addition, this dinner is to longer be held in her name.

The past actions of this agency in regards to our family caused many hardships and false accusations. Therefore our family felt it extremely wrong of the EMS to hold a dinner in her memory. As many have said, the sympathy now shown is simply too late. Please include a copy of this in the Town minutes. Thanks very much.

Sincerely,



Dexter J. Baker Edwin J. Baker Jr. 8/13/2013



Mary Eddy
P. O. Box 9
Athol, NY 12810

Town of Thurman Board
P. O. Box 29
Athol, NY 12810

September 12, 2013

To: Evelyn and Town Board Members,

New York State has been promoting shared services, with a focus on 4 main goals:

- Consolidation
- Merging efforts
- Eliminating duplication
- Streamlining administrative functions

This town is in Warren County. You approved - Resolution #38 "Shared Service" - to share Evelyn's secretary/bookkeeper with Cambridge in Washington County.

The resolution states each town will pay ½ of the salary, full family health insurance and the state retirement which is 20% of the wages.

The Town of Thurman and the Village of Cambridge are **not** consolidating, merging efforts or eliminating duplications in their bookkeeping systems.

The resolution neglects to state who will pay this year's balance of the holidays, vacation, sick or personal days. There were a total of 38 days allowed for the year. **Will these be divided 50/50?**

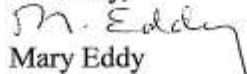
At the budget meetings last fall and town board meetings this spring you were adamant that this full time 40 hour job could not possibly be reduced.

Is this now a full time job at 20 hours per week? Should the taxpayer's in the Town of Thurman continue to pay an out of town employee for part time work with full benefits, under the guise of "Shared Services"?

What you have proved to yourselves and the taxpayers, in sharing an employee, is: Streamlining the administrative functions can be done within our **own** town office.

Please enter this letter with the September board meeting minutes.

Sincerely,


Mary Eddy

MUNICIPAL SHELTER INSPECTION REPORT - DL-90

Rating: **Satisfactory365**

Purpose: **Inspection**

DATE/TOA: **8/22/13 12:15 pm**

**GLENS FALLS ANIMAL HOSPITAL
66 GLENWOOD AVENUE
QUEENSBURY NY 12804**

Inspector: **Elizabeth Holmes**

Inspector #: **58**

These are the findings of an inspection of your facility on the date(s) indicated above:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Shelter is structurally sound | Yes |
| 2. Housing area and equipment is sanitized regularly | Yes |
| 3. Repairs are done when necessary | Yes |
| 4. Dogs are handled safely | Yes |
| 5. Adequate space is available for all dogs | Yes |
| 6. Light is sufficient for observation | Yes |
| 7. Ventilation is adequate | Yes |
| 8. Drainage is adequate | Yes |
| 9. Temperature extremes are avoided | Yes |
| 10. Clean food and water is available and in ample amount | Yes |
| 11. Veterinary care is provided when necessary | Yes |
| 12. Dogs are euthanized humanely, by authorized personnel | Yes |
| 13. Complete intake and disposition records are maintained for all seized dogs | Yes |
| 14. Dogs transferred for purposes of adoption in compliance with Article 7 | Yes |
| 15. Redemption period is observed before adoption, euthanasia or transfer | Yes |
| 16. Owners of identified dogs are properly notified | Yes |
| 17. Redeemed dogs are licensed before release | Yes |
| <i>Dogs are licensed by the Municipal Clerks</i> | |
| 18. Proper impoundment fees paid before dogs are released | Yes |
| <i>Fees are collected by the Municipal Clerks</i> | |
| 19. Written contract or lease with municipality | Yes |

Town - City - Village Information for Inspection:

<u>TCV CODE</u>	<u>TCV NAME</u>
5201	Town of Bolton
5202	Town of Chester
5204	Town of Horicon
2004	Town of Indian Lake
5205	Town of Johnsbury
5206	Town of Lake George
5207	Town of Lake Luzerne
5208	Town of Queensbury
5209	Town of Stony Creek
5210	Town of Thurman

REMARKS:

REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT FOR INSPECTION: **Dr. John O'Connor**
TITLE: **Owner**

REVIEWED BY: **Annette Holowka**
REVIEWED DATE: **08/23/2013**