

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF THURMAN, NEW YORK HELD AUGUST 12, 2020 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:

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic the meeting was closed to the public.

The meeting started with a review of claims at **6:30 pm**. The meeting was called to order at **7:00 pm**.

MOMENT OF SILENCE: Councilman Needham asked for a moment of silence for **Bob Shepler**.

Discussion: Supervisor Shepler stated thank you. The Town of Thurman Supervisor report August 12, 2020. Warren County has had a slight increase in reported Covid-19 cases. During these changing times everyone needs to remember to maintain social distancing of six feet, wash your hands frequently, and wear your face mask, and if you are ill stay home. The Thurman Food Pantry is open Tuesdays from 11 until 1, and we are here Monday thru Friday if you are in need please let us know. The Thurman Gleaning hours are the first Monday of the month from 12 noon to 2 pm. We're still asking those who come to wait outside observing the six foot social distancing. The Gleaning Volunteers will have you sign in and get the food needed. Landfill hours are Wednesday from 11 am to 2 pm. Saturday and Sunday from 8 am till 3 pm. Please do not leave any garbage or recycling materials when the landfill is not open. We had problems with this of late, and we would like to curb it if at all possible. The Thurman White Space is getting on in age and was not maintained for at least 2 plus years. The end of July to the 1st of August I had made 12 trips to either the fiber, and Valley Road poles. With the direction of **Fred Engelmann** I was able to reset the system most of the time. We have a 900MHz radio out, and need to be replaced. I have been in contact with the County to see if we can use their bucket truck and driver to come to Thurman to replace the old radio. The County is willing to send a bucket truck, and a person to attach the new radio when it is ready to hang. The Town of Thurman has been told by the current and past insurance companies as well as the State Police and Warren County Sheriff's Department that the shrubs out front of the Town Hall need to be either cut back to below the windows or removed. After speaking with a Master Gardener who told me that by cutting the bushes that severally it would most likely kill them. I am recommending removal of all shrubs that obstruct the windows, and cutting back those that do not obstruct. The Town has also been advised to upgrade its security system by both the New York State Police and the Warren County Sheriff's Department. The 2018 and 2019 AUD's was due by August 7, 2020. As a result of not being able to complete the AUDs in a timely fashion as a result of not being given the necessary information from the Town Clerk to complete the reports. The Town will

now be listed in Physical Stress. And on a personal note I would like to very much like to thank, take a moment to thank everyone for their kind words and thoughts during this very difficult time. Thank you. Let's move on to Resolutions please. Do I have someone who is willing to introduce a Resolution to replace a 900MHz radio on the Valley Road pole?

Resolutions:

Resolution # 53

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

Resolution to Replace the 900MHz Radio on Valley Road Pole

Whereas, the Town of Thurman has to maintain the Whitespace System thru the month of December 2020,

Be it Resolved, that the Town of Thurman is in need of replacing the 900MHz Radio on the Valley Road pole for the sum of \$179.00, and the cost of pairing the radio by Rainmaker, Mr. Fred Engelmann, at a cost of one hour for \$175.00. Approximate expense is \$354.00 for the Valley Road Pole.

Discussion: Supervisor Shepler asked do I have any discussion. **Councilman Galusha** noted aren't we supposed to identify a cost (inaudible) for something like this. **Supervisor Shepler** responded it will be coming out of the Enterprise Fund. Which is what we are currently being billed or are billing our White Space to. **Councilman Galusha** noted I assumed that I understood that. I just thought that in a Resolution.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting and you are absolutely right. I, you're, you're. It could have been, but it wasn't. It is the Enterprise Fund. The one that we normally use for White Space. Do I have any further discussion? Let me just add into this in my Supervisor's Report I indicated contacting Warren County, and working with them to utilize their bucket truck and person to hang the radio. I have found out that there is no charge for this service from the County. Had we had to go out, and hire a contractor and an electrician to come up and do this for us the truck alone would start I was told at around \$1,200.00. That is not including an electrician. So I think we are quite fortunate that the County is willing to do this for us. At a huge savings so. Can we take a Roll Call Vote please? If there is no further discussion. No further discussion. Roll Call Vote Please.

A Roll Call Vote was Called.

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

Resolution # 54

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

Resolution to Increase the Boarding Fees for Glens Falls Animal Hospital

Whereas, the Fees for Boarding at the Glens Falls Hospital have increased from \$16.00 to \$17.00 a day

Be it Resolved, that the Town of Thurman will now charge \$17.00 a day for Boarding Fees

Discussion: Supervisor Shepler asked do I have any discussion. Being no discussion can we do a Roll Call Vote please?

A Roll Call Vote was called.

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

Resolution

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

Resolution To Hire a New Cleaning Company (Person)

Whereas, The Town of Thurman is required to maintain the Hall in a clean and sanitary manner, per New York State Guidelines,

Be it Resolved, That the Town of Thurman agrees to contract for cleaning of the Town Hall. (to be determined by Town Board at August meeting).

Discussion: Supervisor Shepler noted what everybody needs to know is our current cleaner has overbooked herself, and she has decided that she needs to cut back on some of the jobs that she is doing, and she has no time for herself. So I can understand and respect that. I just wish it had not been us that had been cut back unfortunately. I have been in contact with North County Janitorial Inc. The attached Resolution is on or attached quote is on here. I was also in touch with Judy at Dependable Professional Cleaning. They are bonded and insured. They said it would cost \$100.00 per day, and that they were really not interested in traveling to Thurman. So after making an appointment for her to come out and view it she called and said this is what they had decided. Then I had spoken with Glen, the gentleman who cleans for Warrensburg, he came out, and did a walk through, and he was going to be \$32.00 a day or \$16.00 and hour, and he would be willing to have worked Tuesdays and Fridays. I got a call on 8-10 where he decided that he was not going to pursue this, and did not want to look further. Short of putting it out in the paper again I'm wondering if we might want to go with a professional cleaning company versus an individual. There might be more continuity. Rather than the individuals overbooking themselves or deciding that they just not want to clean at this point in time. It is a little bit more. We were originally going to pay our person \$98.00 I think it was a week for doing 2 days a week for 8 hours total, and this is \$108.00 for the North Country Janitorial if you are willing to entertain it. **Councilman Galusha** noted once again we do not have funding code. **Supervisor Shepler** noted it would be the same.....I apologize for that. I am sorry. It would be the same code that we are currently paying our cleaner out of. **Councilman Galusha** noted A1620.4. **Supervisor Shepler** asked is that what it is there. **Councilman Galusha** noted buildings contractual. **Supervisor Shepler** noted no, there was one there for.....There was one there for cleaning. **Councilman Galusha** replied buildings and personal services. **Supervisor Shepler** responded yes. **Councilman Galusha** noted A1620.1. **Supervisor Shepler** replied 1620.1. Yes, and there is enough funds in there. **Councilman Galusha** noted so there is enough funds in there to cover this contract for a year. The 8,000 that was budgeted for that wasn't that also cover some kind of handyman to make repairs and stuff. **Supervisor Shepler** replied and we got no interest in the handyman position, and I have had the opportunity to talk to a couple of people who thought they might be interested then decided that they didn't want to do it. **Councilman Brown** asked

reason. Not enough hours? **Supervisor Shepler** replied I think it was not enough hours is one gentleman's reasoning then the other one just didn't like the lack of continuity. In other words today he could be doing replacing the lightbulbs. Tomorrow he could be doing something else. I think he was looking for a bit more continuity in the job description so at that point in time we didn't go further and pursue it. **Councilman Brown** asked have you given any thought to maybe combining those two positions give the person more hours. Maybe it would entice someone. I think the main thing is people just don't want to come to work for 12 hours. It's just a thought. Just a thought. **Supervisor Shepler** replied well I will say quite honestly that the cleaning person that we've had was able to do the Town Hall in a couple of hours a day versus 4 hours a day which was the same.....I beg your pardon.

Councilman Needham interrupted noting have we posted that in the post in the paper since.....

Supervisor Shepler replied we have not posted that in the paper. **Councilman Needham** noted could we try that again. Maybe someone will (inaudible) a couple of hours. **Councilman Galusha** noted a couple of questions though about this. This seems like a little more than what we were paying.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting it was 98 this is 108, yes. **Councilman Galusha** noted but the person we were paying were we supplying all the cleaning materials. **Supervisor Shepler** responded yes we were.

Councilman Galusha noted so that is a big difference between North Country Janitorial is going to supply according to this. **Supervisor Shepler** spoke over him noting yes, yes. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting according to this they are saying they are providing necessary cleaning products and equipment to perform duties. **Supervisor Shepler** replied that is correct. **Councilman Galusha** noted we have to supply toilet paper, paper towels, hand soap and plastic liners, but they are going to supply the cleaning so that counts for something. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yes it does. **Councilman Galusha** noted I don't have a problem with this. Which one are we talking about? The weekly, monthly or yearly rate? It all comes out the same. **Supervisor Shepler** noted it is all the same. They are coming twice a week. The duties are listed here. The low and high dust they will do one day a week, the vacuum edges around the corners and the hard areas you know for the carpeting, around the edges will be done once a week. They will vacuum the carpet twice a week. Everything else is twice a week. **Councilman Galusha** noted so this.....Someone made an inaudible comment. **Councilman Galusha** responded yeah, I don't have a problem with that. How though are we going to comply with our Covid Plan. The **Town Clerk** noted no, because that is supposed to be everyday. **Councilman Galusha** stated well that is what I am asking. This is talking about doing it twice a week. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted stating exactly. **Councilman Galusha** continued asking who is going to cover the other three days a week. **Supervisor Shepler** responded what we have to do every day of the week is we just have to wipe down the bathrooms, and dump the garbage cans is what we have to do on a daily basis. **Councilman Galusha** noted I guess.....

Supervisor Shepler interrupted noting we can walk around make sure the handles, the door knobs and the railings are cleaned once a day. **Councilman Galusha** asked I guess I am asking who is going to do that if these guys are only coming three days week. **Supervisor Shepler** replied well to be honest with you I've been dumping the garbage, and refilling the soap. I've been doing the paper towels when necessary. I don't mind continuing to do it, but I would like to hopefully hope that some other people would be willing to step up, and help do it too. I am not asking for anybody in particular. I am just looking for anyone who is willing to volunteer on days that I am not available to do it, and again it is something that would be done in the afternoons not in the mornings. The **Town Clerk** noted which makes no sense either. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting and the cleaning people would be coming in the afternoon also. The **Town Clerk** noted I mean it should be done in the morning then it is clean for the people coming in all day long. You cleaning it at the end of the day makes no sense. **Supervisor Shepler**

noted well it is clean in the morning. I am getting dived bombed here by a darned needle I think. If it is cleaned in the afternoon before we get ready to leave. Usually in the afternoons there are only two people in the building. Once on Tuesdays it's the Judge and her staff, but for them to come in the afternoon it would be better because then in the morning when we start it is fresh and clean. And that is the consensus that everybody that I spoke with as far as cleaning is concerned. **Councilman Galusha** noted I mean obviously we can't afford to have them come 5 days a week. **Supervisor Shepler** responded no. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting but I also don't think it is fair to be asking staff here in the building to have to (inaudible) janitor. So I really don't know what the solution is. I am not saying.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting well unfortunately I agree with you, but taking the financial situation that we are in a little light housekeeping by people is not unheard of in an office situation. I don't mind. I have already stated that. That is not a huge issue for me, but on the days that I am not here I would appreciate it if somebody, anybody could step up and lend a hand. **Councilman Needham** noted (inaudible) like the personnel that are here everyday. **Supervisor Shepler** responded yeah, yeah. **Councilman Needham** continued noting I see no reason why everybody can't pitch in a little bit. People that are here all day. **Supervisor Shepler** noted by the way **Susan** I want to thank you. I think you are the one who moved the Judge's bench back. Thank you for doing that. The **Town Clerk** replied yup. **Supervisor Shepler** noted I think what we are going to have to do is have them do that on a weekly basis. Especially when we have Board Meetings and so forth going on. The **Town Clerk** responded well they've got court every week right now. **Supervisor Shepler** replied I know they are pretty swamped. I understand that. **Councilman Galusha** noted go to get back to the Resolution I think that in order to vote on this we need to put in the Resolution the funding source, and I think we need to make it specific to what we are doing here I mean.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting well this is no different than our other when we hired the cleaning person that we had. She was here two days a week. **Councilman Galusha** noted I get that, but I am saying if we are talking about hiring North Country Janitorial then shouldn't the Resolution say that. **Supervisor Shepler** responded well we, I didn't make the decision if you see it states to be determined by the Board at the August meeting. **Councilman Galusha** noted right. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting I wasn't going to make that determination. That is why I didn't put a name down here. We can list them certainly. I think we should, and the funding source is two twenty twenty one. The **Town Clerk** asked are you making an amendment to this Resolution. **Supervisor Shepler** replied we will be. We will be. What is the consensus. **Councilman Needham** noted I wished we could. **Councilman Galusha** noted yeah, I have no problem. **Supervisor Shepler** noted well so then I would like to make a motion to amend the current Resolution to read in the second paragraph where it says be it resolved that the Town of Thurman agrees to contract for cleaning of the Town Hall with North Country Janitorial Inc. to be funded from budget code A1620.1. The **Town Clerk** asked and you are striking to be determined by Town Board at August meeting. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting yes. **Councilman Galusha** asked at a rate of. At a weekly or monthly? Which one are we going to pay them on a monthly basis. **Supervisor Shepler** responded I believe it would be a monthly basis, but.....The **Town Clerk** noted that is what we pay them for the mats. We pay them monthly. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yup, but can we list the weekly rate, and then it can be multiplied by 4 or 5 whatever is in the month. **Councilman Galusha** responded well see what they did here though because I figured this out a few minutes ago, rather than take 108 and multiply by 4 what they do is they multiply by 52 then divide it by 12 to get the monthly rate. **Supervisor Shepler** replied oh OK, sorry so then.....**Councilman Galusha** interrupted noting so we kind of need to pick one or the other. **Supervisor Shepler** replied that is fine so do you.....Someone made an inaudible comment. **Councilman Galusha** noted yeah, I am assuming we are

going to pay them on a monthly basis so. **Councilman Needham** noted they already do the mats here. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yes. **Councilman Needham** continued noting so they already (inaudible). **Supervisor Shepler** noted that is a separate division of North Country Janitorial. We will still be billed separately for the mats, and then we would be billed separately for a cleaning service. **Councilman Galusha** asked so you have added in with North County Janitorial Inc. to be funded from budget code A1620.1 at a monthly rate. This is a continuation of the amendment **Susan**. At a monthly rate of \$468.00. The **Town Clerk** asked OK does anybody want to second that motion to amend. **Councilman Galusha** replied I will second it. **Supervisor Shepler** replied thank you. So can I have a Roll Call Vote on this one please including the amendment.

A Roll Call Vote was called.

Motion to amend: On a motion introduced by **Supervisor Shepler** and seconded by **Councilman Galusha** the Resolution was amended as follows.

Resolution # 55

Resolution To Hire a New Cleaning Company (Person)

Whereas, The Town of Thurman is required to maintain the Hall in a clean and sanitary manner, per New York State Guidelines,

Be it Resolved, That the Town of Thurman agrees to contract for cleaning of the Town Hall with North Country Janitorial Inc. To be funded from budget code A1620.1 at a monthly rate of \$468.00.

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

Resolution # 56

Resolution to Approve the Standard Work Day for New York State and Retirement System

Whereas, it is required by New York State and the Local Retirement system to report the Standard work day for each elected and appointed official

Be It Resolved, that the Town of Thurman hereby establishes the following standard work days for the attached titles and will report the officials to the New York State and Local Retirement based upon their record of activities and See attached certification.

Discussion: Supervisor Shepler asked is there any discussion. **Councilman Galusha** asked are there any changes to what they were previously or are these the same. **Supervisor Shepler** replied I don't believe there have been any changes nor has there been changes in (inaudible). The **Town Clerk** noted there are changes to the hours for myself. **Doug** never put his calendar in last so that didn't get done. He wasn't on it last year, and **Brett** didn't give a calendar this year so it might be slightly changed from last year. We have to send in a physical calendar of the actual hours for three months. You have to add them all up divide them by 3 months divide them by the hours that you are in either 6 or 8. That is how you come up with a figure. **Councilman Needham** asked I gave you the calendar right. The **Town Clerk** noted yeah you gave me the calendar. **Supervisor Shepler** noted yeah, these figures are pretty much a standard there is nothing out of the ordinary listed here. The **Town Clerk** noted the hours the 6 and the 8 that is mandated by the State. **Supervisor Shepler** asked is there any further discussion. Being none can I please have a Roll Call Vote?

A Roll Call Vote was called.

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

Discussion: Supervisor Shepler noted everybody has been in receipt of a White Space Calendar for the Residents that are currently listed, and this was updated by **Mr. Engelmann**. We are not using a Resident's name. Are there any questions? If there are no questions we can go forward. Payment of claims. I know this **Randy's** favorite part of the evening. **Supervisor Shepler** then read the claims for the General Fund noting a total of \$10,226.19. She then read the claims for the Highway Department noting a total of \$10,087.54. She then read the claims for the Enterprise Fund noting a total for \$1,334.39 with a total for all of the August 12, 2020 claims of \$21,648.12. Everybody was in receipt of the monthly report from the Supervisor, and for the General Fund expenditures and details and the Highway Fund expenditures and details, and the Enterprise Fund. Do we have any questions in regards to any of these? **Councilman Galusha** stated there is one thing that I noticed. **Supervisor Shepler** noted let me know where you are. **Councilman Galusha** noted under Employee benefits. The unemployment insurance it looks like we have overdrawn that code by \$621.36. **Supervisor Shepler** asked where are you. **Councilman Galusha** responded I am on page 6 of 6. Under Employee Benefits. **Supervisor Shepler** noted State Retirement has been paid in full. Social Security there is still 55% in there. Workers Comp we have 9.8%. Unemployment insurance. Is that what you were referencing? **Councilman Galusha** replied yeah, it looks like we overdrew that fund by six twenty one thirty six. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yes, you are correct on that. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting so I am just asking how do we handle that because I thought that it was my understanding that expressly illegal for us to validate payments for something when there isn't actual money in the funding code. **Supervisor Shepler** responded these Budget Codes were established by Board last year whether they didn't foresee unemployment rates and so forth I can't speak on that. **Councilman Galusha** right. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting I can tell that we can correct that. We have to do a Budget Transfer which will come before the Board at the next meeting. **Councilman Galusha** noted I guess what my thinking is, and correct me if I am wrong, that before we incur an expenditure we should be transferring the money because I am pretty sure that I remember reading it in the Law Book that overdrawing a funding code is illegal. **Supervisor Shepler** responded oh, you are on board. **Councilman Galusha** replied yeah, and I am thinking we should have done that funding transfer that you are talking about before we actually wrote the check for this. And there is one other one. It is a small one it's here someplace. **Supervisor Shepler** asked General Fund. **Councilman Galusha** noted Equipment Capital Outlay for transportation code A5010.2 it is \$7.55, but still that is overdrawing a money code, and I think that is the kind of stuff that an Auditor is going to ding us for. **Councilman Brown** responded um hm. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yup, alright so before the Board at our next meeting we will have 2 Budget transfers to rectify these two codes, and I am in total agreement with you that we should have probably.....I want to say we should have foresight for it, but the insurance one I am not sure we could have had foresight on that. Unfortunately with Covid-19 we were socked with a lot of unemployment. Some of which I don't agree with, but I am not going to make said decision. I have to pay it. **Councilman Galusha** noted since we are also talking about funding or money stuff here where do we stand on receipt of sales tax. **Supervisor Shepler** replied as a matter of fact we just got it in, and it was a little over \$80,000.00. It was down 30% from last year. And I voiced my concern to the County, the people at the County, and I will voice my concern with the Board here. Have you guys taken rides through Lake George, and around the Outlets and stuff like that during the week, and on the

and on the weekends? I mean it is incredible the amount of traffic, and foot traffic and so forth and so on. I am just.....I'm not saying the taxes are not coming, it is not there. I'm just saying we've got an awful lot of foot traffic, and people in town. **Councilman Needham** noted well it is just starting to pick up there for 2 months nobody was doing nothing. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting right, but that was the first quarter this is the second quarter, and we are still down 30% on the sales tax so I'm just saying. I am just making a statement I'm not making accusations or anything I am just saying it's interesting to me that we've got the amount of foot traffic and vehicle that we have got in Lake George, Glens Falls, and the various stores I have been in, and our taxes are still down 30%. Let's hope that this is a sign of an uptick that is going to happen for the third quarter. We can only hope for the best there. **Councilman Galusha** noted I mean at some point if those numbers are down we are going to have to look at what we are going to do for the rest of the year. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yes, and we also just informed the Board. We are in the process of getting the packets together. It is what they call a wish list to go out to the different departments here at the Town Hall. Every year they get them. They have to really scrutinize them based on the numbers that we are coming in with, and the fact that they are anticipating a recovery of possibly 3 years. So it (inaudible) the numbers could be down next year too. **Councilman Brown** asked that's the sales tax. That is not revenue taxation. **Supervisor Shepler** replied no, no, no, no. This is the sales tax that we get. This is revenue to the Town. This is what the Town runs on so.....**Councilman Brown** made an inaudible comment. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yeah. **Councilman Brown** continued noting that is what worries me. **Supervisor Shepler** noted it is going to be a rough haul, and it is going to fall on this Board's shoulders to make it work next year, and put a Budget together the following year that is going to be hopefully something that everybody can actually work with going forward. And hope that this is going to end in the near future, and things can get back to a little better normal financially. So that process has started, and we need to deal with that. You've got a list there? **Councilman Galusha** noted I've just some things once we get out of the claims. We have got to vote on the claims still so. **Supervisor Shepler** noted we do. **Councilman Galusha** noted after we are done with that. I didn't see on the agenda where we had any new business or old business there. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting I didn't put it in **Randy** there is no real excuse there is just.....I apologize. **Councilman Galusha** noted I just wanted to bring up so we could talk about so let's finish up with this. **Supervisor Shepler** replied alright so for the claims for the August. The General Fund Abstract 8 for August 12th is \$10,226.19. The Highway Fund Abstract 8 August 12, 2020 the total is \$10,087.54. The total of Abstract 8 the Enterprise Fund for August 12, 2020 is \$1,334.39. Total claims for August 12, is \$21,648.12. Do I have a motion? I guess I need a motion to get it on the table. Can I have a motion to get it on the table please?

Resolution # 57

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

Payment of Claims

Total of Abstract 008: General Fund, August 12, 2020 \$10,226.19

Total of Abstract 008: Highway Fund, August 12, 2020 \$10,087.54

Total of Abstract 008: Enterprise Fund, August 12, 2020 \$1,334.39

Total Claims for August 12, 2020 \$21,648.12

A Roll Call Vote Was Called.

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

Discussion: **Councilman Galusha** asked this thing on the Bed Tax is that for our information or are we supposed to discuss that. **Supervisor Shepler** replied that is for information only so that people are aware. I do believe there was a note, a news release that was done that I wanted to share with the Board. **Councilman Needham** noted (inaudible) renting their houses. **Supervisor Shepler** responded they do. **Councilman Galusha** noted you can go to their websites. They are all over. It is on websites. The **Town Clerk** noted Airbnb, Homes to go. Also put pictures of their homes. **Councilman Galusha** noted if somebody is doing it privately, and not advertising maybe they can get away with it, but you take most of the people in Town that have any number of these things. A Councilman made an inaudible comment. **Councilman Galusha** responded yeah they are on there. **Supervisor Shepler** asked do you have something you wanted to discuss. **Councilman Galusha** replied well I have got a few things. First of all last meeting we talked about what we were going to do as far as opening meeting back up, and we really didn't make any decision to do anything, but I am getting complaints from people that they can't attend the meetings. And I think, I know you and **Doug** measured the room itself here, but I am thinking that there might be a way that we can actually do this if we set the Board up on the counter up there, and stretch out around the corner here. Just take this out, and set seats. Just do.....Don't do rows of chairs, but just do individual seats, and measure them 6 feet apart, and include that space back there. I think we come close to getting the normal attendance that we usually have at meeting here, and if we can't may.....And if we do that, maintain the 6 feet make sure everybody wears a mask. And if we can't do that then I think we need to entertain having it under the pavilion or someplace where we have room to do it because people are complaining. They are not satisfied because it is partly not being able to attend the meetings, but it is also the fact that they are not seeing the meeting minutes. **Supervisor Shepler** stated the meeting minutes are posted on the webpage, and I have also posted on there, and made public that anybody that has any questions pertaining to the current Board packet can post them, and I put my email address out there, up until noon Tuesday of the Board Meetings so that I can download them, and get them ready for the Board Members. And I am going to tell you I had 2 people who were quit excited about it, but I have gotten no email. So I was a little disappointed personally. **Councilman Galusha** asked were do we stand as far as posting videos. I mean.....The **Town Clerk** replied I have been uploading them. **Supervisor Shepler** noted she is uploading them. **Councilman Galusha** asked are we current on the videos. The **Town Clerk** replied we are current on the videos since we have been in lockdown we are current. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK, so and all of the meeting minutes are posted so far. **Supervisor Shepler** replied not online they are not no. No they have not been because the Board has to approve them all. We have to get them before the Board, and the Board needs to approve them. **Councilman Galusha** responded I think we had this discussion before. Do we have a Resolution that says the Board has to approve them? **Supervisor Shepler** replied I do believe there was one, and I do believe I presented to the Board months ago, but I will go back and double check. The **Town Clerk** noted no, there is no Resolution for that. It is not required by law. **Councilman Galusha** noted so that is what I was getting at. We had this discussion before. If there is a Board Resolution that says we have to review and approve them so be it. We will deal with that. In the absence of that the law says that we do not have to approve them. **Supervisor Shepler** responded we also do not have to by law put them online anywhere. They can be made available in the Town Hall. And that is a fact. The **Town Clerk** noted that is wrong. **Supervisor Shepler** replied **Councilman Galusha** responded that's not.....It is listed in

the.....It is listed in the book. The **Town Clerk** noted thank you **Randy** you are going to tell her. **Supervisor Shepler** spoke over her noting you don't have to post them. She continued noting we don't have high speed internet here no matter what anybody says. It is quite slow. The **Town Clerk** responded if we have the ability to post them. We've had the ability to post them up until the time that you are claiming that we don't. **Supervisor Shepler** asked what. The **Town Clerk** replied we've had the ability to post them no problem for the last three years, and prior to that up to your saying we don't have the ability to do it. I can't understand how you are saying that we don't have the ability to do so when we have been doing it up until your claiming that we can't. **Supervisor Shepler** responded well if you remember correctly when I made the claim that was when had people working from home, and students working from home, and all of the systems not only White Space, Verizon everything was maxed to the hilt, and it was taking us up to 3 hours to be able to post a Board packet. So to be able to add 45 pages of minutes would have taken us days I have a feeling if we were able to get them on there. If you could reduce the minutes down it might be more of a viable situation. The **Town Clerk** replied no. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting but I think quite frankly the minutes are can be made available, and have been made available in the Town Hall for years. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK, she has a point here. I am going to read it out loud just so everybody knows. Publication of minutes, there is no requirement as yet that minutes of meetings be posted on a Website. Although a Town Board is not precluded from so posting or publishing. The Open Meetings Law does however require that the minutes be made available to the public pursuant to the Freedom of Information Law. The decision to publish the minutes of a Town Meeting must be made by an affirmative vote of a majority of all members of a Town Board. For Town's that maintain a website the Town Clerk should be mindful of proper compliance with Public Officer's Law which incurs the Town to post all documents scheduled for discussion by the Town Board at a Town Meeting. If a Town Board reviews and discusses the minutes of a prior meeting this section could require said meeting minutes to be posted on the Town's Website. So if we discuss the prior meeting minutes we have to post them. If we don't. We don't. **Supervisor Shepler** replied but I want to make a suggestion with what you have just read. That due to the fact that our minutes are so lengthy, up to 45 pages, that we do not bog down the system anymore than what it is, and we make them available in paper format which they have been in for years. Available to the public in paper format. And I think that is a reasonable request. **Councilman Galusha** responded I guess I don't consider posting them on our website bogging it down. I think that they.....Once they are on the website.....**Supervisor Shepler** noted and uploading them first. **Councilman Galusha** replied yup I understand that. **Supervisor Shepler** noted and that many pages I mean.....Just getting the Board packet posted sometimes is a bit of a challenge. Three hours. I mean, and then we have to bring it down and restart it again, and get it posted. **Councilman Galusha** noted I think we need to make.....There is some....There is somehow we need to make these available to the Public or than telling them they have to come here to do it. To get them, and so.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting well they have always picked them up in the past at the meeting. You know the previous month meeting was always available at the meetings, and or they were made available on the table for anyone choosing to come in, and get one. **Councilman Galusha** stated that seems to me like a waste of paper if they are 45 pages long. The **Town Clerk** noted that has not been the case. I have not had copies of minutes available. **Councilman Galusha** noted I am going to make a couple of suggestions, and I think maybe we need to talk about having a Resolution at the next Board Meeting. SLIC is coming to town. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting yes they are. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting and once they are there this excuse that we don't have high speed internet goes away, and I think we need to have a Resolution that says that all Board Meeting Minutes get

posted on the Town Website. And I think we need to follow the law that says they are supposed to be done within 2 weeks. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yes they are. Yes, from the meeting date so 2 weeks from tonight. **Councilman Galusha** replied right, and I think we need to.....I think next meeting we need to have a Resolution for that. **Supervisor Shepler** may I add a caveat to that that once SLIC is up, and running. The **Town Clerk** noted but that isn't going to be for quite a while. **Supervisor Shepler** spoke over her noting (inaudible) high speed internet. **Councilman Galusha** noted actually I can weigh in on that. I just spoke to **Kevin Lynch** from SLIC. He indicated that they are going to be putting in what they call the cabinet here in Town in about a month, a month and a half. Once that is done then they are going to be running the cables, and they are going to start talking to people about individual hookups. **Supervisor Shepler** noted they are already running cable up on Huber, and poles (inaudible) poles. They had to call the County to get permission to do that. **Councilman Galusha** noted but I think until they have the cabinet here they can't actually make hookups is the point. So that is coming, and it sounds like everybody that talked to SLIC they are talking about this so unless something goes wrong it sounds like that is going to happen so I think we need to consider that. So as far as opening the meeting up I think that we need to talk about how to get that done one way or the other. **Supervisor Shepler** responded and that is fine. The only thing I am going to say to you.....**Councilman Needham** interrupted noting we can't limit who is going to come in. We can't say OK you stay outside, and you come in. How are we going to regulate that? **Councilman Galusha** replied we already do. Right there (pointing to maximum occupancy signs). I realize there has never been that many. **Supervisor Shepler** noted we could never max it by putting 10, 15.....**Councilman Needham** responded that don't mean nothing with Covid. **Councilman Galusha** replied I realize that. There is always a limit. It is just a question. That one we never hit. **Supervisor Shepler** noted 50 people is the maximum you can have in a building, but you have to be able to do 6 feet, 6 feet. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting right, and I think we are not going to get 50 people at a time. What is the most that we get at a normal Board Meeting? **Supervisor Shepler** replied we have had over 45 people in this room. **Councilman Galusha** noted that is a pretty high.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting **Susan** has set chairs, and I have set chairs, and I can tell you that I have had over 45 people. **Councilman Galusha** noted I have attended meeting where there is that many people. Those are very contentious meetings, but I think our normal Board Meetings if we get 15-20 is probably the most that we are going to see, and I think we can figure a way to accommodate that if we use the spill over area out there.....**Supervisor Shepler** asked are they going to be able to hear us though out there. **Councilman Galusha** noted they already sit there. During the meetings people sit out there all the time. **Supervisor Shepler** replied alright, that is fine. **Councilman Galusha** noted if they have a problem hearing then it is incumbent on us to speak up. I think if there is a will to do it we can find a way to get it done. **Supervisor Shepler** asked what are you planning on doing with this (the Board's table). **Councilman Galusha** noted that is what we would have to figure out. **Supervisor Shepler** noted you were talking about, you were talking about moving it, and sitting back there. There is no overhang on that just so you know. I am sure you are aware of that. **Councilman Galusha** noted I mean it is not going to be the most convenient way, but for a temporary measure I think we can make it work. **Supervisor Shepler** noted we need to consider what we are going to do with this, and then.....Again thank you for moving the Judge's bench that was in here when we set up today. **Councilman Galusha** noted that we can shove against the counter and that will make the 6 foot space between the audience. I don't know I am just thinking out loud so. **Supervisor Shepler** noted and then we have to consider where we are going to put **Susan**. Because **Susan** has to be 6 feet from everybody also, and she requires a table. The **Town Clerk** noted well I can put my table back over there where it used to be. **Supervisor**

Shepler asked are you going to be able to video us from over there because that is why you moved over here. The **Town Clerk** noted I should be able to if you are on that blue I should be able to hit you from there, and I should probably be able to pick all of you up. **Supervisor Shepler** asked do you remember how long that is. The blue counter. Can we get everybody in that instead of having to drag a table out over here and maintain the 6 feet. **Councilman Needham's** answer was inaudible. **Supervisor Shepler** replied alright. **Councilman Galusha** noted I mean if you put a person over there, and every 6 feet you put a person one of the Board Members would probably have to come around the corner. **Councilman Needham** noted 4 would be tight, but I (inaudible) one all the way over here, and two in the middle. **Councilman Galusha** noted I mean it is not a perfect solution, but I am just getting a lot of complaints from people who want to come to the meetings, and I think we need to find a way. If we can't do it here let's get going on up there. **Supervisor Shepler** stated well I am not for going up there for a multitude of reasons. You've got to clean it before we get up there. You've got to clean it after we have been up there, and uh.....**Councilman Needham** interrupted asking how are we going to clean it. All that (inaudible) how are we going to try (inaudible). **Supervisor Shepler** noted and if it is raining up there what are we going to do. **Councilman Galusha** responded you know what we are a Board, and it is a democracy. If I get out voted it is up to you guys. That is the way I look at it, but I am just voicing my opinion.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting I understand that. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting that I think people are dissatisfied that we are using this as an excuse to keep these meeting closed. **Supervisor Shepler** replied well I don't think it is an excuse. I think it is a legitimate reason, and it is on the advice of the attorney. **Councilman Brown** made an inaudible remark. **Councilman Galusha** noted what other towns are doing is televising their meetings. We are not. **Supervisor Shepler** replied we can't. **Councilman Galusha** noted I realize that we can't so we need to find another solution. **Supervisor Shepler** responded that is were we implemented having the packets out there, and people emailing in any questions that we can bring before the Board which everybody that I have talked to who was upset that we weren't opening the Board Meetings thought that that was a good idea, and they were glad to see it, but again I didn't get any. And I went on just before I came downstairs just to be sure. I had used a cut off of 12 noon the Tuesday before so that it could all be put together. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting hoping there would have been a huge onslaught of questions. That has not occurred. Again, this is not something I entered into lightly, and it has been, as you can see, reflected the attorney fees many discussions with him as to how to do this, and maintain keeping it legal. And he has suggested until we can get people in here, somewhat back to a normal status, that we continued doing what we can do because none of the Board Members are going to be standing at the door, and saying you can come in, and you can come in. You cannot come in. **Councilman Galusha** replied no, I realize that. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting we would have a huge uprising if that was ever to occur. So I think we are meeting everybody's needs. I have heard a lot of good things about being able to have it publized so that people can watch it at their leisure. Turn it down. Restart it. Go back and relisten. The only complaint that I have heard of late is that the volume isn't loud enough. We are not being heard. **Councilman Brown** noted yes, I have heard that. **Councilman Galusha** noted yes, that is an issue. Have you heard of that? The **Town Clerk** replied I have heard that yes, but it is nothing that is on my end. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK. Is there something.....Is there someway that you could put an external microphone attachment on that. The **Town Clerk** replied I can check into that, but not to my knowledge. **Councilman Galusha** noted that would be helpful because people do complain that they can't.....They are trying to watch the video, but they can't hear any of us. **Councilman Brown** noted I hear it every weekend. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting and I setting

over here, and I am talking to you so I am not talking towards the microphone. **Supervisor Shepler** replied exactly. I am the only one facing that direction when we are in our normal situation we are all speaking outwards so. And that is an issue so. If you could find a microphone that would be a good thing to add it to your system. The **Town Clerk** noted I can check if they have it. I don't even know if they have such a thing. **Councilman Galusha** noted another thing I have a question, I realize that you have things going on in your life, being the business liaison do you want me to get to gather up the information from the various businesses. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yes, **Councilman Galusha** asked what am I supposed to be telling them we are going to use this for. **Supervisor Shepler** responded we want to have a listing of available businesses in Town. Let's say somebody has moved into the area or somebody is a long time resident, and they want to know do we have an egg farm, and that is just hypothetical. Or you know who sells fresh vegetables. Or who has wool. Or wood. Who can we purchase wood from? You know that is what we are thinking. So it is for an index for us. It is also something that we should have on hand given the Covid situation. We should be supplying our businesses with the masks also, and the hand sanitizer. I have no idea. I have talked to a few people. They have already got masks. They have hand sanitizer so that is where that sat, but would be good to know that we have a list of 10, 12 whatever it is. **Councilman Galusha** replied I just want to be able to tell them if they ask why do you want my information I want to be able to tell them what we are using it for. **Supervisor Shepler** noted we want to be able to promote you. **Councilman Galusha** asked are we going to be putting it on the Town's Website. **Supervisor Shepler** noted I would like to figure out how we could do that, and list it on there. I think it would be very advantageous to the Town as well as for the businesses in Town to be advertised. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK. So that was that. We already (inaudible). I don't know if you guys ever get any complaints, but I have had 2 people separately over different issues complain about noise in Town, and they asked me if there is anything the Town can do to adopt a noise ordinance. The complaints that I have gotten, one is somebody is shooting after hours. When I say after hours I am not talking about just 10 o'clock at night. 2:30 in the morning, and I am not talking about one gun shot. They are out there for how.....**Councilman Brown** noted (inaudible) like fireworks. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting the people that have complained have talked to the Sheriff's Department, and the problem is the Sheriff says they can't really do anything because the Town doesn't have a noise ordinance. The other person that complained they are near one of the rental units in Town, and the rental unit is not policing itself, and they renting to people that throwing (inaudible) parties. Loud noise all hours of the day and night. And they are having problems. They are living next door to it, and they can't do anything about it. Because the police show up, and they can't do anything. **Supervisor Shepler** replied well if it is a party and it is an excess number they can.....**Councilman Galusha** noted well if it is within the numbers. If you are talking about people who are just renting the unit and there are 10 people there. **Supervisor Shepler** asked have they notified the owner of the unit. **Councilman Galusha** responded yup. **Supervisor Shepler** replied they have. **Councilman Galusha** and they have had a problem. So these two people in particular, and I know that they have talked to other people who are also having the issue are asking if we can develop a noise ordinance. I am not saying that we should do something that limits people's freedom during the day stuff like that, but I think people, you know when we are talking about the middle of the night, somebody shouldn't be out there shooting a 100 rounds off of a gun. I mean if you are hunting that is fine, wailing away after dark like that is kind of little bit.....It is disturbing the peace. It is a little bit ridiculous, and I sympathize with these people because if it were my next door neighbor I would be pissed too. **Councilman Needham** asked do we have to make that a Town Law. **Councilman Galusha** replied yes. **Supervisor Shepler** replied a Town Ordinance. **Councilman**

Galusha noted a Town Ordinance, and I think what we can do is we can probably look at a model ordinance from one of the other towns, and we could tailor it to meet Thurman's needs. I am not looking for something that is going to be oppressive to people. If somebody wants to throw a party, and have a cookout and a barbaque I am not saying that we should restrict stuff like that, but this this stuff with somebody after hours that has something going on in the middle of the night, and you can't sleep then.....**Supervisor Shepler** noted well perhaps maybe it should be addressed towards the shooting aspect, and not the party aspect because I think um.....Every now and then anybody and everybody is going to have a party. **Councilman Galusha** noted oh I agree. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting and I think there will always be.... Unfortunate that somebody would not be happy about it, but.....**Councilman Galusha** responded the problem that this one person is complaining about is it is a rental unit so every weekend it is a different group of people come in, and every weekend there is somebody throwing a party because this particular rental unit is attracting people who that are coming up here to have a party. And so it is an ongoing problem they are complaining about. I mean I can understand one weekend you know you have a barbaque or something somebody is going to have to live with that. I get that. If it is a persistent problem I think we need to.....**Councilman Needham** noted is there.....Could we more or less have an order or whatever saying to the owners that you've got to have control of the noise here a little bit. You have got to keep it down to a certain amount or something. **Councilman Galusha** spoke over him noting I'd be surprised. I mean.....**Councilman Needham** continued noting I mean it is more or less up to the homeowner to say hey we have neighbors here that we have to.....The law has to put something on them too I mean.....**Councilman Galusha** replied I would be surprised. **Councilman Needham** noted they are making money on it so let them you know they have got to.....**Councilman Galusha** responded I would be surprised if that was effective. I am not saying you can't try that, but I think without an ordinance we have nothing to back us up. They could tell us to go take a hike. **Supervisor Shepler** responded well at least they would be aware that we are aware of it, and that we are contemplating a possibility of an ordinance which would prohibit a weekly event. I mean we all understand the occasional event. **Councilman Galusha** noted right, right. **Councilman Needham** noted we could set a curfew or something wouldn't we. We would have to set a curfew or something.....**Supervisor Shepler** responded no, not a curfew something different entirely, a noise ordinance is different from a curfew. **Councilman Galusha** noted I think the problem in the particular case with the shootings I think there are issues that I don't think the Board wants to get involved in that. I think that's up to, I think that is up to the authorities to deal with that. There are issues there that we shouldn't be.....**Councilman Needham** noted yeah, (inaudible) there are fireworks they are shooting off. **Councilman Galusha** noted this is a high powered rifle. They are shooting off a lot of rounds. I mean I hear it over at my place, but I am far enough away with the windows closed it doesn't bother me. The people that are near by I mean it is right in their backyard so it's.....And it is routine. It has been happening regularly. I'm surprised you don't hear it down here to be honest with you. **Councilman Needham** noted I hear it, I hear it (inaudible). **Councilman Galusha** noted I mean I hear people clear up on some of the other roads. They are all over Town. **Councilman Brown** noted I can hear them clear up behind the cemetery when they are doing their skeet, but they do it during the day. **Councilman Galusha** replied yeah. **Supervisor Shepler** noted well skeet during the day is different than.....**Councilman Galusha** interrupted noting you can't restrict. If someone wants to target shoot during the day I don't think we want.....We are all hunters. (Inaudible) I don't think we can restrict that, but I think the stuff. When you are talking 2:30 in the morning. If I lived next door to it I would be pissed. **Councilman Brown** noted oh yeah, I would too. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting so I just think maybe at some point I

just think we need to talk about it, and do some investigation. **Councilman Needham** noted maybe look into what some of the other towns have on their books. **Supervisor Shepler** noted let me see what I can find out, alright. **Councilman Galusha** responded something basic. I mean I am not.....I don't want to make something that is so hounerous that people are complaining. I know what you are talking about a normal party. **Supervisor Shepler** replied right. I don't want the Board to put ourselves in that sort of position you know. **Councilman Galusha** responded but I think we have a responsibility to our citizens to help keep the peace. **Supervisor Shepler** replied let me talk to the Sheriff, and let me talk to a couple of the other neighboring towns to see what they do, and how they handle this sort of scenario. I can't believe we are the only town that has this sort of an issue. **Councilman Brown** noted a lot of places have a noise ordinance. Especially with construction. It's a certain time of the morning 8, 9 o'clock before you can start you know. **Supervisor Shepler** noted we don't have that. **Councilman Brown** replied no, no we don't need one. What I am saying is.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting 6:30 in the morning they were outside across the street so. **Councilman Galusha** noted if you are gong to call the Sheriff's Department the person I talked to was Terry Comeau. **Supervisor Shepler** replied I am sorry who. **Councilman Galusha** responded Terry Comeau. **Supervisor Shepler** asked Como. **Councilman Galusha** noted no, Comeau I think. **Supervisor Shepler** asked Terry, T-e-r-r-y. **Councilman Galusha** replied I believe. **Supervisor Shepler** asked alright, is he a patrolman, Sargent. **Councilman Galusha** noted I think he is an under Sheriff. **Supervisor Shepler** asked under Sheriff. **Councilman Galusha** replied I am not sure. Don't quote me on that. **Supervisor Shepler** replied alright. Let me see what I can find out, OK. **Councilman Galusha** replied sure. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting and I'll check with a couple of the area communities, and find out what they have going on. **Councilman Galusha** noted the last thing that I wanted to bring up, and I know everybody wants to get out of here. This whole thing that has been going on with the AUDs, and you getting information that you need. Did you get the email that I sent? **Supervisor Shepler** replied I did, but you know what I don't have the time to do that. It is not my job to download those, and it only goes from July. I need from January forward. I need the full year. **Councilman Galusha** replied so I understand, but actually it goes back to July of 2018. **Supervisor Shepler** replied right. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting so you don't need to download. What I am getting at is.....So let's back up a little bit. I have looked at the old AUDs, and for the National Grid the only thing that is in here that I saw, and correct me if I am wrong, is the total dollar amount, and the kilowatt hours. **Supervisor Shepler** noted kilowatt hours, yes. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting so I guess I am asking why you need complete copies of the total bills for each month. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting because what I am doing is I am putting the um.....Each individual bill has a number to it, and I am going to put them all together, and then I am going to do a breakdown, and determine what is for lighting, what is for the poles, what is for the Town, what is the (inaudible). **Councilman Galusha** asked is that is what is required for the AUD. **Supervisor Shepler** replied I can do that for them because I am not sure that the poles for the White Space need to go on there. I need to have the other information, and I am trying to call them and ask them. I have gotten a little bit of a cold shoulder. Normally they are very, very receptive, but I think they are little miffed that we are not done, and I can understand that. I'll respect it, but I am waiting for a call back now to find out if I can just eliminate the poles. **Susan Baker** very diligently wrote out a bunch of information on paper for me, but it wasn't broken down in a manner in which I can take poles.....Irving Baker pole or what is the other Blueberry Hill or South Johnsbury that sort of thing. **Councilman Galusha** noted I guess what my point of asking is rather than photocopy all the bills it seems tc me that somebody can open a bill up, and write down the two numbers that they need from that bill. All we need is the dollar amount, and the total kilowatt

hours. So all the extra paper that would be copied for that bill would be a waste. **Supervisor Shepler** noted well then why can't we just copy the pages that have the kilowatt hours, and the prices on there showing me the account numbers. **Councilman Galusha** asked would that be just one page out of every bill. **Supervisor Shepler** replied it might be two. Some of them are carried on to a second page. The **Town Clerk** responded I don't know. She hasn't asked for that. You saw the stack of the bills. **Councilman Galusha** replied yeah, I saw the stack. Can it be done by not taking it apart just by folding, and putting in on the machine. The **Town Clerk** replied I would have to look at the actual bill and see where they put the bill. And I want it noted on the record I have never refused to provide her with the information. It was available the next morning by....Before she even came in. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK. The **Town Clerk** stated don't roll your eyes. I have an email chain to prove it. **Supervisor Shepler** spoke over her noting because you sat there the last meeting and refused. That is why I am rolling my eyes. The **Town Clerk** replied no that is incorrect. **Supervisor Shepler** noted if you can get me. If **Susan** can get me, either **Susan** can get me, the page, I believe it is the front page. It has the prices on it. I am not sure if it is the second page has the kilowatt hours. I do believe it is a maximum of two pages per bill. The **Town Clerk** noted which would be what **Susan** wrote down for her. **Supervisor Shepler** noted I beg your pardon. The **Town Clerk** responded I believe that is what **Susan** wrote down for you. **Supervisor Shepler** replied there were no account numbers. There was no way to ascertain what it was. **Councilman Galusha** noted OK, so somehow we can break this logjam by some hybrid of doing that, figuring that out. The last thing I wanted to say about the AUDs I think that at some point in the past I asked about or I mentioned that I had been told that the 2018 was basically done. **Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting yes, and we had this discussion. It is not done. It is not on.....It is not on my computer. It is not on **Gail's** computer. **Councilman Galusha** noted it is right here in my hand. **Supervisor Shepler** asked it's done. Where did you get it? **Councilman Galusha** responded I cannot honestly tell you. I don't know. I was looking through some papers the day before yesterday looking for something, and as I am going through it I look at this and I thought it was the 2017, and it is the 2018. **Supervisor Shepler** replied I have no access to that I would like to know where you got it because I would have liked to have had it. **Councilman Galusha** noted I would like to know where I got it because I honestly don't know who gave it to me because it was in an old stack of papers that I have, and I don't know where I.....**Supervisor Shepler** asked and it is 2018. **Councilman Galusha** noted this say for fiscal year ending 12-31-2018, and it is.....I mean there are numbers inserted for 2018 throughout this entire document. And I have no way of confirming what these numbers are, but.....**Supervisor Shepler** interrupted noting would you be willing to let me have a copy of it. **Councilman Galusha** replied I will make a copy with you. **Supervisor Shepler** replied thank you because I have not been privy to this. **Councilman Galusha** noted I don't know I had it. I honestly didn't know I had it. I just found it going through some stuff. **Supervisor Shepler** replied and what was supposedly a complete 2018 on the computer has nothing in it. Nothing at all. **Councilman Galusha** noted this one is all filled out. There are numbers in all the spaces. **Supervisor Shepler** noted I would like to compare the numbers to what I have, and ah.....Is the electric in there? Cause that would.....**Councilman Galusha** noted that is one of the things I looked at. So on page 45 it says electricity total expenditures \$10,458.00. Total volume 56,984 kilowatt hours. **Councilman Brown** noted my question is if that is done how come they didn't file it in 2018. **Supervisor Shepler** stated thank you. **Councilman Galusha** replied I have no idea. **Councilman Brown** noted that is what I am saying. This has gone on way too long. **Councilman Galusha** replied I agree with you. **Councilman Brown** continued noting I think it is way too long. I am not pointing names at anybody, but this has got to be resolved. The **Town Clerk** noted I remember they did it, and they filed it, and it got kicked back from the

Comptroller's Office because of something that was not correct previously that they had.....**Councilman Galusha** noted the Comptroller's should have a record of that, and they should be able to tell you what was wrong. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yes they should. Yes they should. **Councilman Galusha** noted and they should be able to tell you what was wrong so it could be corrected. **Councilman Brown** noted get followed up because I tell you if we don't get our AUD done.....**Supervisor Shepler** spoke over him noting according to them it wasn't done at all. (Inaudible). **Councilman Brown** continued noting if the AUDs don't get done we are not going to be able establish our credit. And the only thing that is going to happen no credit we won't be able Bond, and we are going to be in trouble with our equipment I hear in another year or two. **Councilman Galusha** noted the one things that don't looks to be done on this are on page 45. There is some blanks under energy cost. **Supervisor Shepler** asked may I look over your shoulder. **Councilman Galusha** replied you can't get within 6 feet of me. **Supervisor Shepler** replied I have a mask on. **Councilman Galusha** responded I don't care. I have a 3 month old grandson. **Supervisor Shepler** asked could you send it over. **Councilman Galusha** noted I'll just hold it up. There is a table here for energy cost. **Supervisor Shepler** remarked yes. **Councilman Galusha** continued noting electric is filled in. Diesel fuel, gas and stuff is not. So it appears that that would be information that is missing. So I am just scanning it. This is honestly my first time looking at this as I am going. I don't see where they got unemployment or disability insurance in here, but every other page looks like.....There is numbers in all the spaces so.....**Supervisor Shepler** noted I would very much like to compare them to what I have entered into our system already. **Councilman Galusha** replied OK. **Supervisor Shepler** continued noting again I think it is a valid question why wasn't it finished, and if it was submitted why was it kicked back, and why is there no record of it at the Office. **Councilman Galusha** remarked I don't know. **Councilman Needham** asked how did you get it. That is the mystery. **Supervisor Shepler** noted I don't know how he got it. **Councilman Galusha** noted I, I can tell you I was given a bunch of information when the last administration left just for my own education, and I know that they gave me a 2017 AUD just for my information. **Supervisor Shepler** noted and that was completed, and it is on the system. 18 and 19 were never turned in. Unfortunately. **Councilman Galusha** replied right, so I'll make a copy of it. I'll get you a copy. **Supervisor Shepler** replied thank you. I would appreciate also when you are doing this **Susan** if you could also do the 19. 2019 because I don't (inaudible) for 2019 also. Those are the two outstanding AUDs. OK. Thank you. **Councilman Galusha** noted that is all I have got. **Supervisor Shepler** asked does anybody else on the Board have anything to ask or say. **Councilman Brown** noted I just hope we can get these AUDs filed. Get them done. We need to have them filed to have our credit established. **Supervisor Shepler** replied yes we do. **Councilman Galusha** noted I agree. **Councilman Brown** continued noting if we don't the only action is if we don't Bond is to raise taxes, and people don't like that. Because we are going to need equipment. I can tell you right now the garbage truck is on it's way out. They put the new spring in the rear of it the other week for us. Fixed the lights so it is pretty much (inaudible). So I think they are going to try and repair the side so we don't lose the trash going down the side of the road. They have to take it down now that they have the spring in it, and get it inspected. The **Town Clerk** noted I don't know if anyone noticed but the Tax Cap is going to be lower than 2% next year. Did you catch that? **Supervisor Shepler** replied I have not. The **Town Clerk** noted it is going to be 1.5 something. I can't remember 1.59. I believe it was in the from the AOT, the Town Topics. **Supervisor Shepler** noted well if you take that into consideration with the reduced revenues that we will be getting from the County we have really got to put our heads together, and do some serious work here. And I am not saying that we are going to be beyond anything at this point in time. **Councilman Galusha** noted do you need a motion to adjourn. **Supervisor Shepler** replied I do. **Councilman Galusha** stated I will make it. **Supervisor Shepler**

August 12, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

replied thank you. Do I have a second? **Councilman Needham** seconded the motion. **Supervisor Shepler** noted thank you everybody for coming out. The **Town Clerk** asked is everyone saying aye. Everyone responded Aye.

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion introduced by **Councilman Galusha** and seconded by **Councilman Needham** the meeting was adjourned at **8:23 pm**.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan E. Staples, Town Clerk

August 25, 2020

Attachments

Town of Thurman Supervisors Report

August 12, 2020

Warren County has had a slight increase in the reported COVID -19 cases. During these changing times everyone need to remember to maintain social distancing of six feet, wash your hands frequently, and wear your face mask, and if you are ill stay home.

The Thurman Food Pantry is open Tuesdays from 11 am till 1pm, we are here Monday thru Friday if you are in need please let us know.

The Thurman Gleaning hours are the first Monday of the month from 12 noon till 2pm; we are still asking those who come, to wait outside observing the six foot social distancing, the Gleaning volunteers will have you sign in and get the food needed.

Landfill hours are Wednesday from 11am to 2pm, and Saturday and Sunday from 8am till 3pm. Please do not leave any garbage or recycling materials when the landfill is not open.

The Thurman White Space is getting on in age and was not maintained for at least 2 plus years. The end of July to the 1st of August I had made 12 trips to either the fiber and Valley Road poles, with the direction of Fred Engelman, I was able to reset the system most of the time. We have a 900MHz radio out and needs to be replaced. I have been in contact with the County to see if we can use their bucket truck and driver come to Thurman to replace the old radio. The County will send a bucket truck and a person to attach the new radio when it is ready to hang.

The Town of Thurman has been told by the current and past insurance companies as well as the State Police and Warren County Sheriff's Department that the shrubs out front of the Town Hall need to be either cut back below the windows or removed. After speaking with a Master Gardner, who told me that by cutting the bushes that severely it would most likely kill them. I am recommending removal of all shrubs, that obstruct the windows and cutting back those that do not obstruct.

The Town has also been advised to upgrade its security system by both the New York State Police and the Warren County Sheriff's Department

The 2018 and 2019 AUD's was due by August 7, 2020, as a result of not being able to complete the AUD in a timely fashion as a result of not being given the necessary information from the Town Clerk to complete the reports, the Town will now be listed in Physical Stress.

On a personal note I would like to take a moment to Thank everyone for their kind words and thoughts during this difficult time.

Thurman ACO report July 2020

07/10/2020

Received a call at 7:50 PM from [REDACTED] saying that her pig had gotten loose on High St. I helped [REDACTED] look for her pig until dark with no luck

07/13/2020

Received a call at 7:30 AM about a loose pit bull at [REDACTED] Mountain Rd. Upon arrival I picked up a brown and white pit bull and took him to Glens Falls Animal Hospital.

07/13/2020

Received a call from the town hall at 11:00 AM saying that a loose pig had been at the residence of [REDACTED] on High St. I went and spoke with [REDACTED] and he stated that the pig was at his house that morning. I searched around the area but no pig was found.

07/16/2020

Received a call from Warren County Sheriff's Department about 2 loose dogs that had killed some chickens at [REDACTED] Glen Athol Rd. Upon arrival I spoke with Rob Sheppler. Mr Sheppler stated that he was doing a favor for the owners of the house (Joel and Kerri Mosher) by checking on the kids and the situation. I also spoke with the children. The children stated they were outside playing when 2 mid sized dogs(1 white and 1 black and white) came out of the woods and killed some chickens and then took off again. I spoke with [REDACTED] on the phone and she stated that another neighbor said that the dogs belonged to [REDACTED]. I went and spoke with [REDACTED] with a Sheriff's Deputy. [REDACTED] stated that his dogs "might have been loose". [REDACTED] also stated that even if his dogs were loose they wouldn't have killed any chickens because he also has chickens and they don't bother his. No further action taken because I had no proof that it was [REDACTED] dogs

I later spoke with [REDACTED] and explained to them what [REDACTED] had said. They said they would be putting up game camera's around thie r property.

Susan Staples

From: Susan Staples [ThurmanTownClerk@verizon.net]
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 8:05 AM
To: 'localgov@osc.ny.gov'
Subject: FW: 2018& 2019 National Grid Bills
Attachments: emails regarding bill requests.pdf

From: Susan Staples [<mailto:ThurmanTownClerk@verizon.net>]
Sent: Wednesday, August 5, 2020 9:18 AM
To: 'Susan Shepler'
Cc: 'Ed Brown'; 'Randy Galusha'; 'Joan Harris'; 'Doug Needham'; 'Mark Schachner'; Comptrollers Office Glens Falls ([Muni-Glensfalls@ocs.state.ny.us](mailto:Glensfalls@ocs.state.ny.us))
Subject: RE: 2018& 2019 National Grid Bills

Susan, As I have mentioned to you at the Board meeting as well as in several emails going back several months I cannot copy those bills from National Grid. I offered to copy the smaller ones which you never got back to me on. Also due to the fact that you have not returned files to me that you requested in January, and the fact that you have not filed anything in my office as required by law I cannot give you those records. You have had the ability to view those records the day after you made your original request for them, but you never made an attempt to do so. If there is more information that you feel you need off of those bills I highly suggest that you make arrangements with my office to view these bills. I have never refused to supply your office with any information, and your claim is utterly untrue, and I do not appreciate your attempt to blame me for your failures. Please see the attached emails that prove what has happened.

Susan

From: Susan Shepler [<mailto:supervisor@townofthurmanny.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 11:05 AM
To: Susan Staples
Cc: 'Randy Galusha'; 'Joan Harris'; eddawg1956@gmail.com; 'Doug Needham'; 'Mark Schachner'
Subject: 2018& 2019 National Grid Bills

Susan,

As was discussed at the Board meeting in July of 2020, I am in need of the actual bills, vouchers and copies of the checks for National Grid.

the information that I was given is not helpful.

I have received a phone call from NYS Comptrollers office and as of August 7, 2020, the Town of Thurman is being placed in physical stress

since we have not completed 2018 & 2019 AUD's. This is a result of your office not supplying me with the necessary information in a timely

manner, that has been requested several times. Please be advised that the Comptrollers Office is fully aware that you have on many occasions refused to supply my office with the necessary information that is required by the State.

I am now requesting again the National Grid Bills, vouchers and check stubs for 2018 & 2019.

Thank you,
Susan H. Shepler

Susan Staples

From: Susan Shepler [supervisor@townofthurmanny.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 11:27 AM
To: Susan Staples
Subject: Paid Invoices for 2018 & 2019

Susan,

Please pull for me the following Vendors for the year 2018 January thru and including December, and the same for 2019, I am in need of the paid bills and all the accompanying documentation for each.

Can I please have them by end of day Thursday, 04/30/2020.

1. G. A. Bove
2. Main Care
3. National Grid
4. Warren County Dept. of Public Works

Thank you,
Susan H. Shepler

Susan Staples

From: Susan Shepler [supervisor@townofthurmannny.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2020 2:10 PM
To: Susan Staples
Subject: Re: files requested

Thank you Susan,

Would you please make copies for me as I am going to need them for more than just a viewing.

Thank you,
Susan H. Shepler

From: Susan Staples <ThurmanTownClerk@verizon.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2020 9:41 AM
To: Susan Shepler <supervisor@townofthurmannny.com>
Subject: files requested

Susan, I have the files that you requested. Please set up a time to view them with me. Susan

Susan E Staples
Town Clerk
POBox 29
311 Athol Road
Athol NY 12810
518-623-4588
thurmantownclerk@verizon.net
www.thurmannny.com

Susan Staples

From: Susan Staples [ThurmanTownClerk@verizon.net]
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 8:33 AM
To: 'Susan Shepler'
Subject: RE: files requested

Susan, I am sorry that is not possible due to the size of the files that you have requested. Susan

From: Susan Shepler [mailto:supervisor@townofthurmanny.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2020 2:10 PM
To: Susan Staples
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Susan Staples

From: Susan Shepler [supervisor@townofthurmannny.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 8:56 AM
To: Susan Staples
Subject: Re: files requested

Susan,

Again, I am in need of not viewing these files but require them in my office, there should be approximately at total of 48 invoices plus attachments for each year.
Please copy 2018 for me now and 2019 by the 12 of May.

Thank you

From: Susan Staples <ThurmanTownClerk@verizon.net>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 8:33 AM
To: Susan Shepler <supervisor@townofthurmannny.com>
Subject: RE: files requested

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Subject: files requested

Susan, I have the files that you requested. Please set up a time to view them with me. Susan

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Susan Staples

From: Susan Staples [ThurmanTownClerk@verizon.net]
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 9:07 AM
To: 'Susan Shepler'
Subject: RE: files requested

Susan, As I have stated the files that you have requested are too numerous to copy. I would be glad to copy some of the smaller files, but not the larger ones. You will have to view those in my presence. Susan

From: Susan Shepler [mailto:supervisor@townofthurmanny.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 8:56 AM
To: Susan Staples
Subject: Re: files requested

Susan,

Again, I am in need of not viewing these files but require them in my office, there should be approximately at total of 48 invoices plus attachments for each year.
Please copy 2018 for me now and 2019 by the 12 of May.

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Susan E Staples
Town Clerk
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thurmantownclerk@verizon.net
www.thurmanny.com

Susan Staples

From: Susan Shepler [supervisor@townofthurmanny.com]
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 9:18 AM
To: Susan Staples
Subject: Re: files requested

Susan,

I am in need of copies of all the files that I have requested. Or you can give me the originals and I will return them when I am finished.

Susan H. Shepler

From: Susan Staples <ThurmanTownClerk@verizon.net>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 9:07 AM
To: Susan Shepler <supervisor@townofthurmanny.com>
Subject: RE: files requested

Susan, As I have stated the files that you have requested are too numerous to copy. I would be glad to copy some of the smaller files, but not the larger ones. You will have to view those in my presence. Susan

From: Susan Shepler [mailto:supervisor@townofthurmanny.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 8:56 AM
To: Susan Staples
Subject: Re: files requested

Susan,

Again, I am in need of not viewing these files but require them in my office, there should be approximately at total of 48 invoices plus attachments for each year.
Please copy 2018 for me now and 2019 by the 12 of May.

Thank you

From: Susan Staples <ThurmanTownClerk@verizon.net>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 8:33 AM
To: Susan Shepler <supervisor@townofthurmanny.com>
Subject: RE: files requested

Susan, I am sorry that is not possible due to the size of the files that you have requested. Susan

From: Susan Shepler [mailto:supervisor@townofthurmanny.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2020 2:10 PM
To: Susan Staples
Subject: Re: files requested

Thank you Susan,

Would you please make copies for me as I am going to need them for more than just a viewing.

Thank you,
Susan H. Shepler

From: Susan Staples <ThurmanTownClerk@verizon.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2020 9:41 AM
To: Susan Shepler <supervisor@townofthurmanny.com>
Subject: files requested

Susan, I have the files that you requested. Please set up a time to view them with me. Susan

Susan E Staples
Town Clerk
POBox 29
311 Athol Road
Athol NY 12810
518-623-4588
thurmantownclerk@verizon.net
www.thurmanny.com

Susan Staples

From: Susan Staples [ThurmanTownClerk@verizon.net]
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 9:50 AM
To: 'Susan Shepler'
Subject: RE: files requested

Susan, I will again tell you that the files you have requested are too large to copy. You will have to view them under my direction. I will not give you the originals as you have not returned any of the bills that you have previously requested to view. Again I will gladly copy the smaller files if you for you if you would like. Susan

From: Susan Shepler [mailto:supervisor@townofthurmanny.com]
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 9:18 AM
To: Susan Staples
Subject: Re: files requested

Susan,

I am in need of copies of all the files that I have requested. Or you can give me the originals and I will return them when I am finished.

Susan H. Shepler

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To: Susan Staples
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Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2020 2:10 PM

To: Susan Staples

Subject: Re: files requested

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Thank you,

Susan H. Shepler

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Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2020 9:41 AM

To: Susan Shepler <supervisor@townofthurmanny.com>

Subject: files requested

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Susan E Staples

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