

April 20, 2023

REGULAR MEETING, TOWN OF THURMAN APRIL 20, 2023

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Thurman, County of Warren and the State of New York was held at the town hall, 311 Athol Road, Athol, NY on the 20TH day of April 2023.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Debra Runyon Supervisor
Randy Galusha Councilperson
Charles Bills Councilperson
Ed Brown Councilperson
Doug Needham Councilperson

ALSO PRESENT:

Cynthia Hyde Town Clerk

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Runyon called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm with the pledge to the flag.

ROLL CALL

RESOLUTION 29-2023

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF THE CLAIMS

On a motion of Councilman Brown, seconded by Councilman Bills, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Runyon, Galusha, Bills, Needham, Brown
 Nays 0

TOTAL OF ABSTRACT 4, GENERAL FUND, APRIL 20, 2023, \$68,719.98
TOTAL OF ABSTRACT 4, HIGHWAY FUND, APRIL 20, 2023, \$68,889.76
TOTAL CLAIMS FOR APRIL 20, 2023, \$137,609.74

RESOLUTION 30-2023

RESOLUTION TO REIMBURSE THE THURMAN STATION ASSOCIATION FOR THE BAND THAT PLAYED AT THE JACK WAX EVENT

On a motion of Councilman Needham, seconded by Councilman Brown, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Runyon, Bills, Needham, Brown
Abstain 1 Galusha
Nays 0

WHEREAS the Town of Thurman has previously paid for the band at the annual Jack Wax event and agrees to continue to do so; and

WHEREAS this year that payment of \$550.00 was made directly from the Thurman Station Association to Hollis Ovitt prior to the town making a payment; be it

RESOLVED: The Town Board agrees that a reimbursement can be made to the Thurman Station Association for \$550.00 to reimburse them for the payment to Hollis Ovitt.

RESOLUTION 31-2023

RESOLUTION TO AWARD THURMAN COMMUNITY / STATION ASSOCIATION \$10,000 OCCUPANCY TAX FOR THE THURMAN FALL FARM TOUR

On a motion of Councilman Brown, seconded by Councilman Needham, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Runyon, Bills, Needham, Brown
Abstain 1 Galusha
Nays 0

WHEREAS the Fall Farm Tour has been a major event for the Town of Thurman in the past that enables local farms and businesses an opportunity to attract visitors, providing them the experience of rural living; and

WHEREAS one of their goals is to make plans to host additional authors, artists, as well as provide an opportunity for visitors to see vintage farm equipment and purchase homemade crafts and other goods: be it

RESOLVED: The Town Board will grant Occupancy Tax Funding in the amount of \$10,000 to cover expenses.

RESOLUTION 32-2023

RESOLUTION TO SOLICIT BIDS PER A REQUEST FROM THE HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT FOR A 2004 INTERNATIONAL 7600 TANDEM TRUCK, VIN# 1HTWYSBT4SJ045355, WITH A C12 CAT ENGINE

On a motion of Councilman Galusha, seconded by Councilman Needham, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Runyon, Galusha, Bills, Needham, Brown
Nays 0

WHEREAS the Town of Thurman Highway Superintendent has expressed a desire to sell one of the Tandem Trucks by putting it out to bid; be it

RESOLVED: The Town Clerk will put an ad in the newspaper informing potential bidders of this opportunity and stating that the truck can be viewed at the Thurman Highway Department 311 Athol Road, Athol, NY, Monday through Friday, 7am – 3pm. Bids will be publicly opened on 5/18/2023 at 4:30 pm. No bids will be accepted after that time. The Town of Thurman reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

RESOLUTION 33-2023

RESOLUTION TO ALLOW TOWN BOARD MEMBERS, TOWN CLERK TO ATTEND THE ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS FINANCE SCHOOL IN MAY 2023

On a motion of Councilman Needham, seconded by Councilman Galusha, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Runyon, Galusha, Bills, Needham, Brown
Nays 0

WHEREAS the Association of Towns is holding a Town Finance School in May of 2023 at a cost of \$200.00 which may be of interest and benefit to members of the Board or the Town Clerk, be it

RESOLVED: The Town Board authorizes the payment of \$600.00 to enable the Supervisor, Town Clerk and Town Board Member Randy Galusha to attend the AOT Town Finance School in May, 2023 to be paid from code A1220.4, A1410.4, and A1010.4.

RESOLUTION 34-2023

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUPERVISOR TO APPLY TO WARREN COUNTY DPW AND NYS DOT FOR SPEED REDUCTION ON CAMERON ROAD

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On a motion of Councilman Galusha, seconded by Councilman Brown, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Runyon, Galusha, Bills, Needham, Brown
Nays 0

WHEREAS the Town Supervisor received a request from a resident on Cameron Road to limit the speed to 35 mph, and

WHEREAS this road does not currently have a speed limit assigned so the state speed limit is 55 mph, which seems excessive for a rural road, and

WHEREAS it is in the best interest of public safety to have a designated speed limit, be it

RESOLVED: The Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to apply to Warren County DPW and NYSDOT for a speed limit of 40 mph on Cameron Road.

RESOLUTION 35-2023

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUPERVISOR TO HIRE A NEW TOWN HALL CLEANER

On a motion of Councilman Needham, seconded by Councilman Galusha, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Runyon, Galusha, Bills, Needham, Brown
Nays 0

WHEREAS the current Town Hall Cleaner has resigned effective immediately due to unexpected circumstances, and

WHEREAS the town is in need of a cleaner who can start this week, and

WHEREAS there is someone willing to take the position immediately who came in and cleaned the hall and bathrooms, mopped floors, etc during the previous weekends the hall was in use, be it

RESOLVED: The Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to hire a new cleaner at the rate of \$20.00 per hour, 4-6 hours per week.

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO HIRE A CEMETERY MAINTENANCE WORKER

On a motion of Councilman Brown, seconded by Councilman Needham, the following resolution was brought to the floor.

WHEREAS the Town Supervisor has been informed that the Highway Department will be able to clean the cemeteries prior to Memorial Day, but not after that, and

WHEREAS the town will require someone to mow, weed whack, fix fencing and other cemetery maintenance throughout the summer and fall, be it

RESOLVED: The Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to hire a cemetery maintenance worker as a seasonal part time position at a rate of \$16.00 per hour.

DISCUSSION: Discussion ensued regarding hiring someone to mow the cemetery and town hall.

MOTION TO TABLE:

On a motion of Councilman Galusha, seconded by Councilman Brown, the resolution **“TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO HIRE A CEMETERY MAINTENANCE WORKER”** was

TABLED

Ayes 5 Runyon, Galusha, Bills, Needham, Brown

Nays 0

DISCUSSION: There was discussion about financial reports (sales tax and NY class), the \$4,000 grant received for archery for the youth and discussion about a \$500 grant from Warren County Soil and Water for the community garden that the town applied for. Also discussed were archery instructors and the need to come up with forms and waivers pertaining to archery.

DISCUSSION: Discussion ensued about possibly keeping a refrigerator at the town hall for extra garden produce that people want to share with their neighbors and that there was food pantry funds that could be used to buy a refrigerator.

DISCUSSION: There was discussion about replacing town lighting with LED light bulbs and tubes. It was noted that Gore electric will give a quote to replace the lights with Led lights and National Grid will reimburse 60% of the cost of replacing all the lighting.

DISCUSSION: Discussion ensued about short term rentals and about possibly sending out a letter to homeowners asking for their thoughts on short term rentals. It was also suggested that the board review the town local laws and ordinances.

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DICUSSION: The town board had a discussion about a F150 truck that Cornell Cooperative has out for bid.

DICUSSION: Discussion ensued regarding the highway garage.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR: Several people spoke during privilege of the floor.

RICHARDS LIBRARY: A representative from Richards Library came and spoke about what the library offers to the public. For information about the Richards Library go to <https://therichardslibrary.com/>.

INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

On a motion of Supervisor Runyon, seconded by Councilman Brown, the Town Board went into executive session at 5:15pm to discuss purposed, pending or current litigation.

MOTION CARRIED: Ayes 5 Runyon, Galusha, Bills, Needham, Brown
Nays 0

OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:

On a motion of Councilman Galusha, seconded by Councilman Brown, the town board came out of executive session at 5:38 pm with no action taken.

MOTION CARRIED: Ayes 5 Runyon, Galusha, Bills, Needham, Brown
Nays 0

MOTION TO APPROVE RESPONSE TO MOST RECENT ATTORNEY

COORESPONDENCE:

On a motion of Councilman Galusha, seconded by Councilman Brown, the town board authorizes the supervisor to respond to the town attorney's most recent correspondence.

MOTION CARRIED: Ayes 5 Runyon, Galusha, Bills, Needham, Brown
Nays 0

DICUSSION: Discussion ensued regarding the amount of occupancy tax funds that the Town of Thurman has now and what the town will get this year and what could be done using those funds.

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FREE STORE: Free Store will be held at the Thurman town hall this coming weekend.

SLIDE SHOW: On May 27 at 7pm Town Historian Myra Vopleus will present a historical slide show.

DICUSSION: Discussion ensued regarding maintenance of the cemetery and the recreation field.

DICUSSION: There was discussion about food being offered at the summer concerts.

ADJOURN:

On a motion of Councilman Needham, seconded by Councilman Galusha the town board adjourned the meeting at 5:45 pm.

MOTION CARRIED: Ayes 5 Runyon, Galusha, Bills, Needham, Brown
Nays 0

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia R. Hyde

May 01, 2027