REGULAR MEETING
TOWN OF SHERMAN
April 3, 2025

A regular meeting of the town of Sherman Board was held on April 3, 2025 at the Town Office Building, 111A Mill St., Sherman, NY, Chautauqua County, New York at 7:00PM.

Present:	Mark D. Persons	Supervisor
	James L. Higginbotham	Council Member/Deputy Supervisor
	Howard E. Crump	Council Member
	Ben Nickerson	Council Member
	Annette Swan	Town Clerk
	Dennis Sweatman	Highway Superintendent

Absent: Councilman Brant Henning
Guests: Karen Engstrom, Mayville, NY.
Ted Pugh, Sherman resident.
Heather Ramsey, Youth Baseball Director.
Greg Rater, Sherman resident.

Supervisor Persons called the meeting to order at 7:00PM and led the Pledge to the flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Karen Engstrom spoke about neighboring towns that are passing wind moratoriums. These moratoriums are in response to the company that is proposing wind turbines in the area. She spoke about the impact these turbines would have on our area and how they have negatively affected people and the environment in the towns of Charlotte and Pomfret.

Youth Baseball Director, Heather Ramsey brought in a list of what equipment is needed for the baseball programs and new softball league this season. She also reported to the board members the sponsorship monies she had collected so far.

Sherman resident, Greg Rater, spoke to the board members about a building permit he is going to need for a structure that NYS is requiring him to build for topsoil storage. He asked the board for clarification on the cost of the building permit.

Resolution # 17

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman James Higginbotham made the motion, seconded by Councilman Howard Crump to approve the minutes from the March 6th board meeting.

Councilman James Higginbotham – AYE Councilman Howard Crump – AYE
Councilman Ben Nickerson- AYE

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION# 18
ABSTRACTS/CLAIMS

Councilman Howard Crump made the motion, seconded by Councilman Ben Nickerson to approve General claims #40 - #52 in the amount of $31,433.52 and Highway claims #23- #31 in the amount of $28,371.69.

Councilman James Higginbotham – AYE Councilman Howard Crump – AYE
Councilman Ben Nickerson- AYE

MOTION CARRIED

JUDGE'S REPORT

No Report.

CLERK/REGISTRAR'S REPORT

- 11 dog licenses were renewed in March. $170.00 was the total amount collected. $34.00 gets submitted to the State of NY, $136.00 remitted to the General account.
- No marriage licenses.
- Cory Emory, Saturday Morning Basketball program director submitted his season end report. This year's program ran for 9 weeks, and he averaged 38 students (grades 4-7) participating each Saturday. Twelve high school students helped with coaching and refereeing. The championship games were held on Friday this year during the school day, so the school classes could cheer on the participants. Mr. Emory was paid out of Payroll #7, his budgeted salaried amount for program director.
- Tax collection for the Town of Sherman has been completed. The final day that taxes were collected at the Town Clerk's office was April 1st. At the end of April 1st, there were 117 parcels still not paid, for a total of $238,611.63. Payments must now be made in Mayville, NY at the Chautauqua County Office building.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT

No Report.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

No Report

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- The Highway workers did some spring cleanup outside of the town buildings and collected scrap metal, which was taken to a local scrap yard. The amount the town received for the scrap metal was $788.00.
- The Highway workers currently receive work clothes through Cintas. Most of the workers do not use the laundry portion of the service. The contract with this company expires on October 1st. Superintendent Dennis Sweatman suggested not renewing the contract and giving each highway worker a yearly clothes allowance. This will help keep costs down for the township. After a short discussion:

  RESOLUTION #19

  Supervisor Mark Person made the motion, seconded by Councilman James Higginbotham to not renew the contract with Cintas at the end of October and give each highway member a $500.00 yearly clothing allowance.

  Councilman James Higginbotham – AYE Councilman Howard Crump – AYE
  Councilman Ben Nickerson- AYE

  MOTION CARRIED

- Superintendent Dennis Sweatman reported to the board on the progress of the dog kennel project. An outside exit door has been cut for each kennel. Sherman DCO Kelly Thorton has stopped by to inspect progress. Also, gravel, pea stone and two man doors will need to be purchased to complete the project. These purchases will keep the project within the allotted budget set by the board.

SUPERVISOR REPORT

- The Clymer Town Clerk, Wendy Trisket, put together a cemetery fee comparison (grave openings, plot purchase prices ,etc.) that other townships in Chautauqua County are charging. She has emailed this information to the area Town offices. Supervisor Persons shared this cost comparison with the board for their review. If the board feels that the Town of Sherman's cemetery fees need to be updated, they can address the issue at a later time.
- Supervisor Mark Persons gave an update to the board on the shermanny.org website that is shared with the Village of Sherman. This website is in the process of having its address changed to shermanny.gov. This is a new requirement set forth by New York State. The Sherman village clerk, Jeanette Rahm has been submitting the necessary paperwork to complete this change over. Because this website is shared between the town and village, NYS needs to have a signed contract between the two municipalities. Supervisor Persons presented a copy of this contract to the board and reported one addition that needed to be made. He added and initialed one change in the contract pertaining to the split cost of the website, which was originally omitted. This split cost is

recorded as being 50% paid by the village and 50% paid by the township. After this change was made:

RESOLUTION #20

Councilman Howard Crump made the motion, seconded by Councilman Ben Nickerson to authorize Supervisor Mark Persons to sign the website agreement.

Councilman James Higginbotham – AYE Councilman Howard Crump – AYE
Councilman Ben Nickerson- AYE

MOTION CARRIED

- Local Law No. 4 (2024), A Moratorium on Wind Energy Conversion Systems, that the board passed on December 5, 2024, will expire in roughly 60 days. Supervisor Persons asked the town attorney, Joel Seachrist, to draft a wind law for the board's consideration. Copies were made and handed out to each board member. Supervisor Persons asked each board member to review the draft and respond withing 10 days with any thoughts or concerns. He also advised the board that instead of enacting a new law, they could extend the Wind Energy Conversion System Moratorium to another 6 months. This would give the town board and town attorney more time to work on a possible new law. This subject will be further discussed at the May 1st meeting.

With nothing further to discuss,
Councilman James Higginbotham made the motion to adjourn the meeting.
Meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM
Respectfully Submitted,

Annette Swan
Sherman Town Clerk