REGULAR MEETING
TOWN OF SHERMAN
September 4, 2025

A regular meeting of the town of Sherman Board was held on September 4, 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
	Brant Henning	Council Member
	Ben Nickerson	Council Member
	Annette Swan	Town Clerk
	Michael Courtney	Highway Superintendent

Guests: Karen Engstrom, Mayville, NY.
Carol Chase, Sherman, NY.
Dennis and Kathy Sweatman, Patrick Sweatman, Albert and Geraldine Robson, Amanda and Drake Deland, Tom and Janice Sweatman, Sherman, NY

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

Carol Chase addressed the Town Board regarding the condition of several older stone monuments at the Sherman cemetery, requesting that the town consider repairs. Supervisor Mark Persons and Highway Superintendent Michael Courtney responded that they would assess which monuments require restoration and develop an appropriate plan for remediation.

Supervisor Mark Persons and the Town Board presented a plaque to retiring Highway Superintendent Dennis Sweatman in recognition of his 32 years with the Town of Sherman. Supervisor Persons and the Sherman Town Board thanked Mr. Sweatman for his service and wished him well in retirement.

Karen Engstrom presented a report to the Town Board detailing neighboring townships' wind turbine legislation and moratoriums. She discussed the potential adverse effects of wind turbines on communities and noted that many townships which had revised their wind turbine regulations were effective in deterring companies from pursuing new developments.

Resolution #42
Councilman Brant Henning made the motion, seconded by Councilman Howard Crump to open the hearing for Local Law #2 of 2025, Amending the Local Dog Licensing Law.

Councilman James Higginbotham – AYE
Supervisor Mark D. Persons--AYE
Councilman Ben Nickerson--AYE
Councilman Howard Crump – AYE
Councilman Brant Henning – AYE

MOTION CARRIED

There were no guests present to discuss the Dog Licensing Law,

Resolution #43
Councilman Howard Crump made the motion, seconded by Councilman Brant Henning to close the hearing for Local Law #2 of 2025, Amending the Local Dog Licensing Law.

Resolution # 44
APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Councilman Howard Crump made the motion, seconded by Councilman Jim Higginbotham to approve the minutes from the August 7, 2025, board meeting.

Councilman James Higginbotham – AYE
Supervisor Mark D. Persons--AYE
Councilman Ben Nickerson--AYE
Councilman Howard Crump – AYE
Councilman Brant Henning – AYE

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION# 45
ABSTRACTS/CLAIMS
Councilman Howard Crump made the motion, seconded by Councilman Brant Henning to approve General Claims #120 through #132 in the amount of $3,379.87 and Highway Claims #83 through #91 in the amount of $27,751.00

Councilman James Higginbotham – AYE
Supervisor Mark D. Persons--AYE
Councilman Ben Nickerson--AYE
Councilman Howard Crump – AYE
Councilman Brant Henning – AYE

MOTION CARRIED

CLERK/REGISTRAR'S REPORT

- There were 21 dog license renewals for the month totaling $200.00. The town's share is $160.00 and $40.00 was remitted to New York State Ag and Markets.
- There were 4 marriage licenses purchased for the month totaling $160.00. The town's share is $70.00 and $90.00 was remitted to New York State.
- Registrar report: Nothing to report.
- Hunting license sales have started and for the month of August a total of $4235.00 was sold. This is an increase in the amount of $269.00 from 2024.
- The Town of Sherman received $238.31 for sales and $80 in print fees.

ASSESSOR REPORT

- There were 2 deeds recorded in the month of July.
- Sales verifications are completed. Data entry of any updates or changes based on information that was discovered will be complete by end of September.
- Reassessment 2026 has begun with analysis and data changes. Initial land sales analysis and creation of a new land table will be created.
- School tax bills have been received by property owners and phone calls about mailing address changes and exemption questions have begun.
- Assessor Young-Deyell will be attending the NYS Assessor Conference on Assessment Administration in Lake George from October 5th-9th.

Release of Liability Agreement for the Sherman Cemetery

Supervisor Mark Persons informed the town board about a "Release of Liability Agreement for the Sherman Cemetery" that was prepared by the town's attorney.
This agreement releases the town from liability for accidental headstone damage during repair or maintenance due to age, condition, or unforeseen circumstances.
This agreement must be signed by the burial plot owner or an authorized family member requesting the necessary repairs. Additionally, the owner or family member may choose to engage a monument company directly to complete the repair work.
After a short discussion,

Resolution #46

Councilman Jim Higginbotham made the motion, seconded by Councilman Ben Nickerson to adopt the "Release of Liability Agreement for the Sherman Cemetery".

Councilman James Higginbotham – AYE
Supervisor Mark D. Persons--AYE
Councilman Ben Nickerson--AYE
Councilman Howard Crump – AYE
Councilman Brant Henning – AYE

MOTION CARRIED

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Highway Superintendent Michael Courtney reported to the town board about the 2016 International highway truck that is currently being repaired. He also spoke about the other trucks in the fleet and their conditions, which he reported as very good.
Superintendent Courtney informed the town board that he has received one job application to fill the vacancy created by Dennis Sweatman's retirement and himself moving into the Superintendent position. If no other applications are turned in soon, he will be speaking to the current applicant about the open position.

Local Law #2 of 2025, Amending the Local Dog Licensing Law

After a short discussion,

Resolution #47

Councilman Howard Crump made the motion, seconded by Jim Higginbotham to adopt "Local Law #2 of 2025, Amending the Local Dog Licensing Law".

Councilman James Higginbotham – AYE
Councilman Howard Crump – AYE
Supervisor Mark D. Persons--AYE
Councilman Brant Henning – AYE
Councilman Ben Nickerson--AYE

MOTION CARRIED

JUDGE REPORT

No Report

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

No Report.

SUPERVISOR REPORT

- Supervisor Persons told the board that during the next meeting on October 16, he proposes that a public hearing be held for Tax Cap Override and a Moratorium on Battery Energy Storage.

Resolution #48
Councilman Brant Henning made the motion, seconded by Jim Higginbotham to include a public hearing for both the Tax Cap Override and a Battery Eneryg Storage Moratorium at the October 16, 2025, board meeting.

Councilman James Higginbotham – AYE
Supervisor Mark D. Persons--AYE
Councilman Ben Nickerson--AYE
Councilman Howard Crump – AYE
Councilman Brant Henning – AYE

MOTION CARRIED

- Councilman Brant Henning was approached by a Town of Sherman resident regarding potential property tax relief measures for disabled military veterans within the municipality. Superintendent Mark Persons stated that he would consult with either the town attorney or the town assessor to obtain further information on the matter.

- Dog Control Officer Kelly Thornton recently participated in a meeting where the issuance of certified court appearance citations to dog owners was discussed. It was clarified that these citations must be delivered in person and may not be sent by mail to the recipient.

- Supervisor Mark Persons updated the town board regarding a residence on Manison Road. An individual residing in the garage pole building does not have a Certificate of Occupancy. There are also dogs considered dangerous on the property. The Town's Code Enforcement Officer has instructed the occupant to vacate the pole building. The landowner has also been informed by the Code Enforcement Officer that the occupant must leave, or further action will be taken involving both parties.

With nothing further to discuss,
Councilman James Higginbotham made a motion to adjourn.
Meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM.
Respectfully Submitted,

Annette Swan
Sherman Town Clerk