REGULAR MEETING
TOWN OF SHERMAN
February 5, 2026

A regular meeting of the town of Sherman Board was held on February 5, 2026 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
	James V. Weise	Council Member
	Ben Nickerson	Council Member
	Michael Courtney	Highway Superintendent
	Annette Swan	Town Clerk

Guests: Molly Dunton, Bedrock Renewables.
Marty Proctor, Chautauqua County Legislator.
Greg Rater, Sherman Town Resident.

Absent: Brant Henning , Council Member.

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

Molly Dunton, representing Bedrock Renewables, addressed the town board regarding prospective wind turbine initiatives in the region. She clarified that there are currently no active projects within the Town of Sherman. Ms. Dunton provided an overview of her company's procedure for initiating a wind turbine project, which involves steps such as assessing landowner interest, reviewing relevant municipal regulations, and conducting wildlife studies. She also responded to questions posed by members of the Town Board and attendees.

Greg Rater informed the board about receiving an annual report request from the Department of Environmental Conservation regarding his top-soil business and shared his ongoing frustration with the DEC over the past 19 years.

Marty Proctor, Chautauqua County Legislator, informed the town board about recent county Legislature discussions, including proposals to reduce sales tax and exempt seniors from taxes.

Resolution #7

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman James Higginbotham made the motion, seconded by Councilman James Weise to approve the minutes from the January 8th board meeting.

Councilman James Higginbotham – AYE Councilman James Weise – AYE
Supervisor Mark D. Persons-AYE Councilman Ben Nickerson- AYE
MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION# 8

ABSTRACTS/CLAIMS

Councilman James Higginbotham made the motion, seconded by Councilman Ben Nickerson to approve General Claims #15through #29 in the amount of $12,234.07 and Highway Claims #8 through #23 in the amount of $25,400.99

Councilman James Higginbotham – AYE Councilman James Weise – AYE
Supervisor Mark D. Persons-AYE Councilman Ben Nickerson- AYE
MOTION CARRIED

JUDGE'S REPORT

Fines collected for the month of December were in the amount of $901.00.

CLERK/REGISTRAR'S REPORT

- There were 18 dog license renewals for the month totaling $275.00. The town's share is $226.00.00 and $49.00 was remitted to New York State Ag and Markets.
- There were 0 marriage licenses purchased for the month.
- Registrar report: No money collected.
- Hunting Licenses: No licenses purchased.
- Clerk Annette Swan submitted a 2025 Town Clerk Report and a 2025 Registrar Report to the Town Board. These reports show the money collected for 2025.

2025 Registrar	
48 Death Cert. Copies @ $10.00 each	$480.00
20 Marriage Transcript copies @$10.00 each	$200.00
1 Birth Cert. Copy $10.00 each	$10.00
Total remitted to the Town	**$690.00**

2025 Town Clerk		
Conservation		$1,047.88
Print Fees		$307.00
Marriage License	23	$402.50
One day Marriage Officiant	3	$75.00
Dog Licensing	196	$1,517.00
Local Share remitted to the Town		**$1,994.50**

Amt. paid to NYS Dept. of Health	$517.50
Amt. Paid to NYS AG & Markets	$378.00
Amt. paid to NYS Dept. of Health Environmental Conservation	$20,047.12
Total Non Local Revenue	**$20,942.62**

- Heather Ramsey contacted Town Clerk Annette Swan to inquire whether there had been any interest in the position of Youth Baseball Program Director. Clerk Swan confirmed that she had not received any inquiries regarding the role. Ms. Ramsey indicated that she knew an individual who could assist her with uniforms; with this support, she expressed her willingness to serve as director for the forthcoming year.

Resolution #9

Supervisor Mark Persons made the motion, seconded by Councilman James Higgingbotham to appoint Heather Ramsey as the Youth Baseball Director for 2026 season.

Councilman James Higginbotham – AYE
Supervisor Mark D. Persons-AYE
Councilman James Weise – AYE
Councilman Ben Nickerson- AYE

MOTION CARRIED

ASSESSOR REPORT
No Report

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- Highway Superintendent, Michael Courtney reported to the Town Board that the 2016 Plow Truck was back in the shop for repairs because it was overheating. The mechanics hadn't diagnosed the problem yet.
- On January 31st, snow falling off the garage roof knocked down the furnace exhaust pipe, causing the furnace to fail and freezing water pipes. A repairman reported that fixing the aging natural gas furnace would be expensive; this furnace also heated the clerk's office and boardroom. The board received a quote for an alternative heating system for discussion.

  *Price for a Unit Heater in the 2 bay garage area that hangs from the ceiling, labor and materials: $3760.00
  *Price for a Unit Heater in the Boardroom/Office area that hangs from the ceiling- labor and materials: $3190.00
  *New water Line for the office bathroom- labor and materials:$650.00

  Because of the emergency situation,

Resolution #10
Councilman James Weise made the motion, seconded by Councilman Ben Nickerson to approve the quote for the new heating system so it could be put in place immediately.
Councilman James Higginbotham – AYE
Councilman James Weise – AYE
Supervisor Mark D. Persons-AYE
Councilman Ben Nickerson- AYE
MOTION CARRIED

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT
No Report.

SUPERVISOR REPORT

- The annual "Agreement to Spend Highway Funds" was reviewed by the Town Board. The agreement was signed by Supervisor Persons, Highway Superintendent Michael Courtney and Town Board members that were present.

Resolution #10

Councilman James Higginbotham made the motion, seconded by Councilman Ben Nickerson to accept the Agreement to Spend Highway Funds for the upcoming year.

Councilman James Higginbotham – AYE Councilman James Weise – AYE
Supervisor Mark D. Persons-AYE Councilman Ben Nickerson- AYE
MOTION CARRIED

- Supervisor Mark Persons related to the board that he had met with Judge Denis Cooper and had completed the Court Audit for 2025.

With nothing further to discuss,
Councilman James Higginbotham made a motion to adjourn.
Meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Annette Swan
Sherman Town Clerk