

Town of Murray Board Meeting

June 9, 2015

Present: Supervisor John Morriss, Councilwoman Kathy Case, Councilmen Ed Bower, Lloyd Christ and Paul Hendel, Town Clerk Cindy Oliver, Highway and Water Superintendent Ed Morgan, Attorney Jeff Martin, Assessor Lynn Wood, Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer Ron Vendetti, Stan Kemp, Joe Sidonio

Pledge to the flag.

Motion by Christ, Seconded by Bower approving the Town Board May meeting minutes as submitted Motion Carried

Assessor Grievance day was May 26<sup>th</sup> and the office had nine property owners attend. Of those nine, seven have received a reduction in assessment. Louise had been going through the properties using pictometry and she is finding many changes, especially porches and decks on the back of houses that we do not have on record. They will be checking on these properties, measuring and recording these additions and adding to assessments where needed. Ron Vendetti asked for copies of these properties. Lynn briefly spoke about the county tax auction that will take place later this month. There are four properties in the Town of Murray that are up for auction; two in the village (Union St. and Thomas St.) and two outside the village (Kendall Rd. and Hindsburg Rd.) On June 24<sup>th</sup>, Lynn and Louise will be attending a training class being held in Batavia that is being given regarding the update.

Code Enforcement and Zoning Officer Property maintenance is what Ron has presently been focusing on. The Board was provided with pictures of properties with tall grass and letters have been sent to the owners of the properties that are in violation. Ron is beginning to look at barns that are severely damaged, with sides blown in and or holes in the roof, etc. He is working with these owners so they can decide if they want to take the barns down or work on them. Ron provided another photo of A&M Auto with vehicles parked out front once again. Ron and Jeff will meet to discuss what the next course of action will be. Ron has already sent letters to Mr. Manno informing him that he cannot have vehicles parked there, but he has not responded to Ron or Val regarding this. Regarding the pictometry that each of the towns pay for; Ron said it's time for another fly-over as it has been three years since the last one.

Old Business:

Brief discussion regarding the Historical Society's request for \$1,000 per year from the Town. Two years ago we offered \$500 per year but they never

responded to Jeff's correspondence or to the agreement that Jeff drew up. In two months the board will begin the budget process. Supervisor Morriss just wanted to remind the board to think about this; if there is something more we want to do. The agreement was sent to them for their signature on December 16, 2013, which was never signed. The first response we have heard from them was in March of 2015 with their request of \$1,000 per year. Although we've requested in the past and in this last agreement, we haven't been presented with any insurance documents or utility expenses. Councilwoman Case stated that we have to stay under the cap, so even if the board wanted to give them more, it may not even be a possibility.

#### Ambulance Service:

Monroe Ambulance won their appeal so they now have a certificate that allows them to come into the county. The board will continue to pursue getting HVA's certificate of need. Attorney Mark Butler informed Jeff that the application for the transfer of the certificate is 95% complete and should be done within the next couple of days. HVA is covering the cost of this. As Monroe Ambulance has their own certificate of need, we will hold on to our own once we get it from HVA. We can then enter into conversations and a contract for ambulance service. A contract can roll over from year to year unless anyone is unhappy, then we could terminate the contract. Public hearing will be scheduled at 6:30 p.m. on July 14<sup>th</sup> regarding the contract. The contract will begin August 1<sup>st</sup> until the end of the year, then it can be renewed. The regular town board meeting will immediately follow the public hearing.

#### Old Business:

Reminder that the Supervisor/Legislator meeting will be held on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, hosted by the Town of Ridgeway. Legislator Lynn Johnson and David Godfrey will provide an update on broadband and the internet project.

Introduction of Local Law No. 1 of 2015 *Providing for the Removal of Tall Grass and Weeds from Properties in the Town of Murray*. This local law allows Ron the ability to issue appearance tickets and to fine property owners who are in violation. It does require sufficient notice; Ron can issue a notice of violation by mail to the recorded owner of the property, and notice to be posted at the property. If after five days it hasn't been remediated, we have the ability to mow the yard of the property. An invoice will be sent to the property owner and they will have 30 days to pay. If no payment is made, it can be added to the property taxes. This legitimizes what we're trying to do. The Board can introduce it tonight and have a public hearing on Wednesday. Ron asked what happens if the owners say they never saw the posting on the property. Jeff said just as Ron completes an affidavit of mailing, he can complete an affidavit of posting also. Maybe even take a picture to have on record. Discussion regarding cost. Jeff said nothing prevents us from specifying an hourly rate to

include everything; administrative fees, mileage, etc. The County reimburses each year. Jeff will make the revisions discussed tonight and email it to Cindy who will then forward copies to the Board. Public Hearing will be scheduled for June 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Motion by Christ, Seconded by Case introducing Town of Murray Local Law No. 1 of 2015 *Providing for the Removal of Tall Grass and Weeds from Properties in the Town of Murray* with the revisions discussed by the Board Motion Carried

Regarding our joint water district with the Town of Gaines, per Shelby Bennett, funds cannot be mailed to the Town of Gaines for water district 14 bond repayment until Gaines requests it with an invoice or bill. Motion by Hendel, Seconded by Bower to establish a separate line item in Water District No. 14 for the funds that are owed to the Town of Gaines for bond repayment Motion Carried

Councilman Hendel thanked all who volunteered their services for the June Fest.

Our annual Town picnic will be held on August 20<sup>th</sup>, at the Village of Holley pavilion at the falls. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. Cindy will get a flyer out to all.

Councilman Christ commended Hurd Orchards on the parking changes they've implemented.

Town Clerk: Receipts for May totaled \$1,171.20 with \$810.64 going into the general fund. Cindy gave all a 2015 tax collection summary listing taxes collected totaling \$3,382,285.33, and Recycle/Waste charges collected totaling \$277,824.00. Unpaid taxes that were turned in to the Treasurer's office totaled \$548,499.93 along with unpaid recycle/waste charges of \$26,688.00. A check for \$7,311.66 was given to Supervisor Morriss for tax penalties collected.

Highway and Water Superintendent: There has been an amendment to the snow and ice contract due to the severity of the winter. The estimated cost to perform snow and ice control for 2014/2015 has been increased by \$24,190.61. Motion by Christ, Seconded by Case to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town of Murray is under contract with the New York State Department of Transportation to provide snow & ice control on specified State roads within the Town; and

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WHEREAS, the base agreement was extended for the 2014/2015 season by resolution of the Town Board dated March 11, 2014, setting an estimated total cost for the season at \$80,905.06; and

WHEREAS, due to the severity of the winter during 2014/2015, the total cost to perform this service is estimated at \$105,095.67;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to authorize the Town Highway Superintendent to execute an Amendment to the present Agreement. Said Amendment would increase the estimated cost to perform snow and ice control for 2014/2015 by \$24,190.61.

Upon being put to a vote, the resolution was unanimously adopted.

Public Comments:

Joe Sidonio informed all of the Deputy Undersecretary of Agriculture's visit to Orleans County. Hurds hosted and toured with him, discussed policies and issues in Western New York. It was an enlightening and positive experience. Hopefully something good will come of it.

Motion by Christ, Seconded by Bower approving the Supervisor's financial report and that the following bills be paid: Motion Carried

General Fund	Claims 150-172	\$16,265.13
Highway Fund	Claims 118-129	\$16,874.35
Water District No. 1	Claims 16-19	\$834.24
Water District No. 2	Claims 21-25	\$1,051.12
Water District No. 3	Claims 18-22	\$1,782.61
Water District No. 4	Claims 9-12	\$2,457.32
Water District No. 5	Claims 8-11	\$1,256.74
Water District No. 6	Claims 26-35	\$7,212.77
Water District No. 7	Claims 8-12	\$7,791.82
Water District No. 8	Claims 8-11	\$6,037.72
Water District No. 9	Claims 8-10	\$4,062.65
Water District No. 10	Claims 16-21	\$2,553.29
Water District No. 11	Claims 30-38	\$10,954.74
Water District No. 12	Claims 7-10	\$1,531.83
Water District No. 13	Claims 6-10	\$2,571.93
Water District No. 14	Claim 3	\$75.00
Water District No. 15	Claims 7-9	\$4,341.20
Water District No. 20	Claim 2	\$2,000.70

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Motion by Christ, Seconded by Bower that meeting be adjourned. Motion Carried

So adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

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