

TOWN OF POMPEY BOARD MINUTES

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Pompey was held on June 2, 2014. In attendance: Supervisor Carole Marsh; Councilors Carl Dennis, Greg Herlihy, Victor LaFrenz, Craig Smithgall; Town Attorney Jeff Brown; Code Enforcement Officer Richard Penhall; Accountant 1 Tom Chartrand and Town Clerk Ann Christmas.

Supervisor Marsh called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence for our service men and women.

The monthly report of the Supervisor was submitted and reviewed. Highway Superintendent Purcell took the snowplow truck to the municipal auction last month and sold it for \$18,000.00. He purchased the tractor/mower that he was authorized to buy for \$11,000.00. This netted the Town \$7,000.00. The Highway Abstract was high this month because we paid for the new truck that we had saved for three years to buy.

There was a lengthy discussion on the letter that Councilor LaFrenz had asked Supervisor Marsh to sign in May regarding the triangle in Pompey Hill. She wanted to have input from the Town Board before she signed it. Councilor LaFrenz explained that he felt this has been something that the Town Board members have been interested in as Councilor Dennis had mentioned in the past that we should clean up the park. He had some meetings as part of the Master Plan Committee and then the Pompey Hill Community Development Forum. There are two issues: 1) the strip of land between Route 91 and Sweet Road and 2) you can't walk anywhere in the hamlet. He decided to contact NYS Department of Transportation. They performed a traffic study which he has. The land is state owned. Councilor LaFrenz got in contact with County Legislator David Knapp who in turn contacted Senator Valesky. He determined that if we want to do something on that strip they (New York State) would let us. Councilor LaFrenz reported that Carl Ford from New York State Dept. of Transportation did not see any safety issues in Pompey Hill. The group wants to find out what is beneficial to those living in the hamlet. Councilor LaFrenz stated that there will be another meeting of the Pompey Hill Community Development Forum soon. The group wants to improve walkability and attract businesses. Supervisor Marsh informed those in attendance that she had received a petition from 20

individuals who are not in favor of changes in the hamlet. Victor Greene stated that he travels thru the hamlet every day and people are hurrying in the morning. Sometimes he pulls over to let people pass. He would like to have a space to pull over in the hamlet. Supervisor Marsh stated that approximately 8 years ago there was a request to install sidewalks in the hamlet and the cost was \$300,000.00.

Jack Lawyer stated that he has been the facilitator of the group that has been meeting. They have been gathering information. No decisions have been made. They will have another meeting to share the information that has been obtained with the residents and see if they come to an agreement on what to do. The group feels there are two main issues: 1) pedestrian and vehicular safety; speed limits would be helpful; and 2) beautification of the park. The state has gathered data and performed the traffic study. They feel the accident history and traffic flows are manageable. They realize that the Sweet Road/Route 91 intersection is a problem. They might want to limit access to Route 20 by closing Cherry Street. The residents will need to talk about these things and may decide that they like the hamlet the way it is. Councilor LaFrenz stated that he will give Supervisor Marsh a copy of the traffic study he received.

Jesse Williams stated that walkability is a focus along with the safety on Henneberry Road. He feels that the intersection of Henneberry Road, Route 20, Cherry Street and Cemetery Road is a very difficult intersection. It is hard to walk around the hamlet. Closing Cherry Street might help. They want to make the hamlet better. There is no definition of hamlet.

Councilor Dennis stated that he is better informed about the park and the safety issues thanks to Rosemarie Bush. We would be limited on beautification of the park because of the salt. He would like to see if David Tessier, a landscape architect, could do a drawing and then we could look into a grant. He initially thought that the Town could go in and spruce up the park.

Councilor Herlihy asked if Tom Chartrand could come up with the figures for what the improvements would cost the residents in that area. A special district would need to be formed and anything that is done up there would be charged to that district. Councilor LaFrenz stated the he understands any work done up will be included in the state budget.

Tom Malagisi stated that he has been listening to this conversation and that there are both plus and minuses to each side and asks that the Town Board weigh both sides.

Attorney Brown stated that for a grant one condition is that you must own the property. We do not own the park where the work would be done.

Stan Omiecinski stated that the trees should be cut down and get rid of the two signs in the park.

Accountant Chartrand reported that the assessed value in the Pompey Hill Lighting District is \$7,557,000.00. It is not a large tax base so any improvements would increase the property owners tax bills in that area.

R-95-14 Made by Marsh, seconded by Smithgall to authorize Code Enforcement Penhall to take the Code Update Exam on June 6, 2014, at 1 p.m. in Albany. He will be reimbursed for his mileage. All in favor. Motion carried.

R-96-14 Made by Smithgall to hold a second monthly meeting on the third Monday of each month at 3 p.m. He would consider it a business meeting only to look at books and sign vouchers.

Councilor Herlihy stated that we currently have additional meetings in the month when a councilor requests it for a specific reason.

Supervisor Marsh stated that if there is a need she calls for an additional meeting.

Councilor Dennis stated that we have additional meetings in September for budget decisions and in December when we close out the books for the year.

There was no second to the motion and the action died.

There was a discussion on the zoning complaint form. Code Enforcement Officer Penhall stated when you go to Court it is nice to have a signed complaint form. Attorney Brown stated that we should have signed complaint forms.

Attorney Brown reported that he had been in contact with Jesse Walser about grants for rural broadband. There was grant funding thru USDA but the County must take action and then municipalities can seek funding. Onondaga County did not take this action. He is reaching out to NYS Broadband to see what kind of funding is available. He will research it and get back to the Town Board on availability.

Attorney Brown also informed the Town Board that he has been in contact with Anne Shelly from the Historical Society concerning the lease and insurance coverage. The Town will provide insurance on the building and the Historical Society will provide insurance for the contents and liability. He will clarify the language in the lease and send it to the Town Board.

Code Enforcement Officer Penhall reported that there hasn't been much going on in new home building but there a number of permits for swimming pools issued.

R-97-14 Made by Dennis, seconded by Herlihy to approve the payment of General Fund Abstract Nos. 180-202, totaling \$7,481.62; Highway Fund Abstract Nos. 90-101, totaling \$51,992.86, Special District Abstract No. 19, totaling \$477.49 and Trust & Agency Abstract Nos. 17-18, totaling \$253.00. All in favor. Motion carried.

R-98-14 Made by Dennis, seconded by Herlihy to approve the bank reconciliations and monthly reports of the Supervisor and Town Clerk/Tax Collector. All in favor. Motion carried.

John Shaheen questioned if the Town Board had made any decisions on the recommendations he made on the alternative energy presentation. Councilor Dennis thanked him for his hard work on gathering the information. He feels there is a safety issue to brush the snow off from the highway garage roof. John suggested if the Town went along with a Power

Purchase Agreement the company would install the equipment and maintain it. Councilor Dennis stated that we don't have the money and all of the suggestions were expensive. He would like to have John check with suppliers to see who might be cheaper than who we currently have.

Councilor Herlihy stated that he felt it was an interesting presentation. He questioned if instead of solar panels would it be possible to install a small wind turbine tucked behind the garage. John Shaheen stated that would require a variance. Councilor Herlihy felt it would be a cheaper alternative and would still be environmentally friendly.

John Shaheen stated that the boiler in the garage is 40 years old and not efficient and that the equipment in the Town Hall is 20 years old. He will ask the Central New York Regional Development Board to make a short presentation to the Town Board.

Frank Niles spoke to the Town Board about an easement next to his property that belongs to the Town. He mows it four times a year. The easement doesn't show up on his deed. He would like to know what there still is an easement. Supervisor Marsh will speak to O'Brien & Gere about this and will be in touch with him with what she finds out.

R-99-14 Made by Dennis, seconded by Herlihy to adjourn at 8:20 p.m.
All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Christmas
Pompey Town Clerk