

BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 8, 2020

The Gerry Town Board met at 6:34 PM, October 8, 2020, at the Gerry Town Hall for the regular monthly board meeting.

Present were: Richard C. Heath, Supervisor
 Gary J. Swan, Councilman
 Linda D. Bartholomew, Councilwoman
 Randy J. Zahm, Councilman
 Bruce Gustafson, Councilman
 Recia L. Myers, Town Clerk
 Brian T. Anderson, Highway Superintendent
 William Duncanson Jr., Town Attorney
 Eric Yager, Zoning Officer
 Dave Hall, Court Officer

CALL TO ORDER:

Supervisor Heath called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance. A moment of reverend silence was held in honor of Former Town Board member Howard Johnson and Former Board of Assessment Review member Dale Barmore.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Supervisor Heath presented a Certificate of Appreciation to David Hall, Court Officer, on behalf of the Town Board and thanked him for his 50 plus years of service. Mr. Hall thanked everyone and discussed his years in services and the changes of times right now which he feels is upsetting as his daughter is a dispatcher and is unable to wear her shirt acknowledging this and she is proud of what she is and during these times you can't even show your accomplishments anymore.

COMMUNICATIONS:

No Communications.

OFFICERS REPORT:

ZONING OFFICER:

Eric Yager, Zoning Officer, commented that he issued one permit this month and he has been in touch with Universal Tooling Corp and is waiting to receive their paperwork to demolish the building next door to the Town Hall. He has received phone calls from solar companies asking questions recently and Councilman Swan noted that he has had a developer contact him as well and William Duncanson Jr., Town Attorney, said they do have Zoning regarding Solar Energy. Councilman Zahm asked about the Spartan Tools and the aircraft place possibly going there which Mr. Yager noted that it did not go through right now and Mr. Shelters still owns the property.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER:

Matthew Abbey, Dog Control Officer, was absent but submitted a report.

Received a call on 9/27 from the Sheriff’s office to Contact the fire department regarding a child being bit in the face by a dog. He spoke with a member of the Fire Department and a family dog bit a child in their home and the family wants him to take the dog and he informed the member that it happened inside the family’s home and it is the family’s dog and it is not the town’s responsibility to take the dog and he suggested for them to contact the Humane Society or their vet if they would like it euthanized. Town Attorney, William Duncanson, Jr., agreed.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT:

Brian Anderson, Highway Superintendent, reported that they are gearing down with summer projects and are getting ready for the snow. They took the flags down and Supervisor Heath thanked them and they will be picking up in the park as well. Supervisor Heath noted that Part Time Mower, Kevin Carlson, is done for the season now. Brian Anderson, Highway Superintendent, received quotes on tractors right now and presented them to the Town Board but explained that it can be reviewed and he is in no hurry right now. Councilman Zahm asked about 0 percent financing for the tractor and if that would be a better option and Mr. Anderson said not really as they would still have to pay the payments. Discussion.

ASSESSOR REPORT:

Kevin Okerlund, Town Assessor submitted the following report:

School tax bills are out. If someone did not receive they’re tax bill they need to contact the tax collector. If there is an issue with exemptions or value they can contact me. The state has started mailing out the STAR credit checks to those in the PV school district. All property owners who are on the STAR credit check program instead of the STAR exemption program should receive their check over the next couple of weeks and if they do not receive by 9/30 would recommend they call 518-457-2036.

COMMITTEES, BOARDS & AGENCIES:

SPECIAL ORDERS:

Resolution No. 32 - 2020. Zoning Board Secretary. A motion was made by Councilman Swan, seconded by Councilwoman Bartholomew. Approved. Discussion.

Resolution No. 33 – 2020. Adoption of Local Law No. 2 of 2020. A motion was made by Councilwoman Bartholomew, seconded by Councilman Zahm. Approved.

Roll call vote as follows:

- Councilman Gustafson AYE
- Councilman Zahm AYE
- Councilwoman Bartholomew AYE
- Councilman Swan AYE
- Supervisor Heath AYE

Resolution No. 34 -2020. 2020 Budget Transfer. A motion was made by Councilman Zahm, seconded by Councilman Gustafson. Approved.

Minute approval for the September Board meeting and Budget Sessions on September 17th and September 24th along with the Supervisor's monthly report. A motion was made by Councilman Gustafson, seconded by Councilman Swan. Approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Halloween- Supervisor Heath commented Town Clerk, Recia Myers, has an idea this year. Mrs. Myers commented that this year the CDC is not recommending having trick or treat hours due to the ongoing pandemic and she would like to have a drive thru where the Town can give the local kids bags of Halloween Candy. She has been in touch with the Free Methodist Church and they did not see a problem with using the full driveway and possibly helping donate candy as well and the Fire Department would like to also participate in something and she wondered if they could help with traffic control that day. After discussion, the Town Board agreed to let Town Clerk, Recia Myers, purchase the bags and candy for Halloween and Town Attorney, William Duncanson, Jr., recommends all volunteers to wear a mask and gloves for the event. She will contact the Fire Department and Church to organize all the details.

Councilwoman Bartholomew asked about containers in the area being used as storage sheds and guidelines should be put in place. Councilman Swan noted that they should be taxed and a permit should be in place as sheds are already required for this. Eric Yager, Zoning Officer, commented that in the Town of Poland they had issues with semi-trailers being used for storage so they made rules on requirements such as no lettering etc. After discussion, Town Attorney, William Duncanson, Jr., will find similar local laws on the process and research this and put regulations on the placement of the containers and will get back to the Town Board.

NEW BUSINESS:

No new Business.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

VOUCHER APPROVAL:

Highway Fund Vouchers #124 - 139 totaling \$11,627.47 was approved on a motion by Councilman Swan, seconded by Councilwoman Bartholomew. Approved.

General Fund Voucher's #254 – 280 totaling \$4,086.02 was approved on a motion by Councilwoman Bartholomew, seconded by Councilman Zahm. Approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next board meeting will be held 6:30 PM, November 12, 2020 at the town hall with a Public Hearing set for the Preliminary Budget at 6:15 PM November 12th.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM on a motion by Councilman Zahm, seconded by Councilman Gustafson.

Minutes taken by,

Recia L. Myers,
Town Clerk