

Board Meeting  
August 13, 2020

The Gerry Town Board met at 6:30 PM, August 13, 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
- Eric Yager, Zoning Officer
- William Duncanson Jr., Town Attorney
- Dennis Bartholomew, Zoning Member

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Supervisor Heath called the meeting to order and led the pledge of Allegiance.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

1. A Communication from the Chautauqua County of Emergency Services was received noting that they are adding more EMS personnel and ambulances to improve the EMS calls received. A map of the county services showed the proposed new operating territories and they are looking for the Town's support. Discussion. Supervisor Heath will sign the letter of support and return back to the County's Executive Officer of Emergency Services.
2. A letter of concern regarding speeding on the Gerry Levant Road was received from Town Resident, Doug Arters. Mr. Arters requested for more law enforcement in the area to help reduce the speeding problem. Supervisor Heath has been in touch with the County Sherriff's Office as well as the New York State Police and they will be patrolling the area more often.

**OFFICERS REPORT:**

**ZONING OFFICER:**

Eric Yager, Zoning Officer, commented about an issue with the sign at the rodeo grounds and Supervisor Heath explained that Denny Barmore reached out to him and would like to replace the entire sign as they are having problems and Dennis Bartholomew noted that it is approximately 20 thousand dollars to fix and that they are looking at advertising to pay for the sign. William Duncanson, Jr., Town Attorney, commented that they ended up putting the sign up without a permit and it was agreed with them to advertise only for Rodeo sponsors and special events. They are not allowed to just put up the sign just for advertising unless what was agreed upon as it is an overlay district and only so many signs per feet are permitted as problems with spacing occurs and the law is much defined. The decision would also have to go through the Zoning Board of Appeals as well. Supervisor Heath will look into the paperwork that was processed from before and will contact Denny Barmore to discuss further.

Eric Yager, Zoning Officer, noted that Universal Tooling is demolishing the house next door and Councilwoman Bartholomew would like the fan in the peak as it is a historical item after discussion they will be in contact with the owner of Universal Tooling to obtain the fan and keep it upstairs at the Town Hall until they decide where to place the item.

Eric Yager, Zoning Officer, explained that he has a few residents that have violations for high grass in the area and he commented that he has two variance requests right now to discuss as public hearings are required. The Town Board discussed possibly having the meetings at the fire hall. Town Clerk, Recia Myers, will contact Paul Cooley, Zoning Chairman to discuss setting up the hearings and will work with the Zoning Officer.

Supervisor Heath commented that the suburban house is looking good and Councilman Gustafson asked a few questions regarding the allowance of cars and fencing for a pool nearby, he is going to make a list of an area of concern for the Zoning Officer.

**DOG CONTROL OFFICER:**

Matt Abbey, Dog Control Officer, was absent and no submitted report was received for this month.

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT:**

Brian Anderson, Highway Superintendent, was absent but made a note that they finished up Terry Road.

**ASSESSORS REPORT:**

Kevin Okerlund, was absent but submitted the following report:

The assessment roll will be filed by August 15, 2020 with the County for school tax bills which will be mailed out the first part of September. I'm updating STAR exemptions to reflect the State's decisions on who does not qualify for the enhanced Star exemption. The State is contacting those that they remove from the exemption.

**COMMITTEES, BOARDS & AGENCIES:**

**Town Park:** No Report.

**SPECIAL ORDERS:**

Resolution No. 27 - 2020. Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records. A motion was made by Councilman Swan, seconded by Councilwoman Bartholomew. Approved.

Resolution No. 28 – 2020. JCAP Application for grant funds. A motion was made by Councilwoman Bartholomew, seconded by Councilman Zahm. Approved.

Resolution No. 29 -2020. 2020 Budget Transfer. A motion was made Councilman Gustafson, seconded by Councilman Zahm. Approved.

Resolution No. 30 – 2020. Modifications to 2020 Budget. A motion was made by Councilman Gustafson, seconded by Councilman Swan. Approved.

Minute approval for the July Board Meeting and Supervisor's Monthly Report. A motion was made by Councilman Swan, seconded by Councilwoman Bartholomew. Approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Councilwoman Bartholomew spoke with the Gerry Rodeo Senior Citizens Director John Sipos and she read his correspondence regarding the deposit money discussed at the last town board meeting. Mr. Sipos noted that he has been in touch with the bus company and they did return the full amount of the deposit back to the Senior Citizens and they have no bus tours planned this year and have not been meeting personally due to the pandemic and Councilwoman Bartholomew let him know to please notify the Town Supervisor when they will be planning any trips for the future.

**NEW BUSINESS:** A Budget Session was set for September 17<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:00 PM.

The Board of Assessment Review current member Dale Barmore will be resigning and Councilman Swan suggested contacting his son Randy Barmore to see if he would be interested in the position.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

**VOUCHER APPROVAL:**

Highway Fund Vouchers # 97 – 107 totaling \$73,436.02 was approved on a motion by Councilwoman Bartholomew, seconded by Councilman Zahm. Approved.

General Fund Vouchers # 194 – 226 totaling \$3,603.64 was approved on a motion by Councilman Gustafson seconded by Councilman Zahm. Approved.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The next board meeting will be held at 6:30 PM, September 10, 2020 at the town hall.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 PM on a motion by Councilman Gustafson, seconded by Councilman Swan.

Minutes taken by

Recia L. Myers  
Town Clerk