

OCTOBER 20, 2009

MINUTES OF THE FISCAL MEETING, REGULAR MEETING, AND THE DUTCHER SUBDIVISION PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF THURMAN HELD OCTOBER 20, 2009 AT THE TOWN HALL, 311 ATHOL ROAD, ATHOL NEW YORK, FISCAL MEETING COMMENCING AT 6:30 P.M., REGULAR MEETING COMMENCING AT 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: MR. CHARLES BILLS
MR. JAMES LIGON
MR. LAWRENCE [RED] PITKIN
MR. AL VASAK

ABSENT: MR. LEON GALUSHA

Recording secretary: **Cynthia R. Hyde**, Town Clerk

The meeting was called to order by **Supervisor Lawrence [Red] Pitkin**

FISCAL MEETING: Questions about 20090882 and 20090894. 20090880 is DA and appeared in the general abstract.

REGULAR MEETING:

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: On a motion by **Councilman Ligon**, seconded by **Councilman Vasak**, the **September 15, 2009** minutes were approved.

Councilman Vasak asked if the unanswered questions from the September meeting had been answered. **Supervisor Pitkin** said that the questions on claims had been clarified and the question about whether the grant required matching funds had been answered, and the answer was no.

MOTION CARRIED: 4 AYES ~ BILLS, LIGON, PITKIN, VASAK

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS: On a motion by **Councilman Bills**, seconded by **Councilman Vasak** payment of claims from abstract #55 General fund[\$18,543.06], and abstract #77 Highway fund [\$19,451.91] were approved.

MOTION CARRIED: 4 AYES ~ BILLS, LIGON, PITKIN, VASAK

PUBLIC HEARING: The application for a subdivision located on Drexel Road by **Shirley Dutcher** and **Rose Baker** opened at 7:10.

Bob Hitchcock questioned the zoning on one side of Drexel Road and thought it was 8 acres. **Shirley Dutcher** said their subdivision was on the other side of the road where the zoning was less.

PUBLIC HEARING LEFT OPEN FOR THE TIME BEING:

REPORT FROM THE SUPERVISOR: **Supervisor Pitkin** said that court had been held twice in the new court room and that everything seemed to be working fine. The new records room was close to finished [the installment of a dehumidifier is pending]. Remodeling of the 2nd floor is coming in under time and budget.

COUNTY: Pitkin said there had been brutal cuts at the county and that the budget didn't look good. \$900,000.00 had been cut only to come right back as an expense in the form of the food stamp program ,which now has to be paid by the county.

REPORT FROM COUNCILMAN VASAK: The landfill permit had run out and a new one was on the way. **Councilman Vasak** checked the electric usage at the landfill and said the usage will increase due to the loader being plugged in.

REPORT FROM COUNCILMAN LIGON: The Youth Commission attended Christmas in September at the Thurman Farmers market to sell goodies and made \$45.00 in profit. There will be a Halloween party on October 24, 2009 donations for the party are welcome.

The next Occupancy Tax meeting is January 15, 2010, 10:00 a.m. at the Glen Lodge.

COUNCILMAN BILLS: **Councilman Bills** said that the accusations made against him in the newspaper [that **Bills** was taking metal from the landfill with the town board's permission and making money from selling the metal] were false. **Bills** said that he did not take metal from the landfill and that no one was getting rich on scrap metals.

GARBAGE PICKUP: Thanksgiving week garbage pickup will be Tuesday and Wednesday.

Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of keeping a heated truck at the north end of town in a tin shed. The building would not be heated; the truck would be plugged in.

RESOLUTION # 87: A Resolution to appoint **Bruce Tvrdik** to the Thurman Youth Commission, on a motion by **Councilman Ligon**, seconded by **Councilman Vasak**
MOTION CARRIED: 4 AYES ~ BILLS, LIGON, PITKIN, VASAK

RESOLUTION # 88: A Resolution to appoint **Cheryl Kenyon** to the Thurman Youth Commission, on a motion by **Councilman Vasak**, seconded by **Councilman Ligon**
MOTION CARRIED: 4 AYES ~ BILLS, LIGON, PITKIN, VASAK

NOTE: Background checks are done on everyone that volunteers for the Youth Commission.

RESOLUTION #89: A Resolution to appoint **Nancy Decker** to the Thurman Youth commission, on a motion by **Councilman Vasak**, seconded by **Councilman Ligon**
MOTION CARRIED: 3 AYES ~ LIGON, PITKIN, VASAK
1 NAY ~ Bills

Resolution #89 prompted a discussion on criteria for becoming a member of the youth commission. There was disagreement on whether full time residency should be a requirement.

RESOLUTION # 90: A Resolution to amend the Thurman Highway contract for 2009 and 2010 was tabled.

RESOLUTION # 91: A Resolution to approve the 2010 Thurman Tentative Budget, which now becomes the preliminary budget. On a motion by **Councilman Vasak**, seconded by **Councilman Ligon**

MOTION CARRIED: 4 AYES ~ BILLS, LIGON, PITKIN, VASAK

Councilman Vasak had questions regarding the budget and felt that some areas of the budget were unclear. **Vasak** said that he realized he was new to this process but felt it was in everyone's best interest to have an understanding of the numbers that made up the budget.

RESOLUTION # 92: A Resolution to set the date for the 2010 preliminary budget public hearing on Wednesday October 28, 2009. On a motion by **Councilman Bills** seconded by **Councilman Ligon**

MOTION CARRIED: 4 AYES ~ BILLS, LIGON, PITKIN, VASAK

RESOLUTION # 94: A Resolution to authorize Occupancy Tax Committee procedures, on a motion by **Councilman Bills** seconded by **Councilman Ligon** the board authorized the Thurman Occupancy Tax committee to use email consensus to review and recommend projects [the open meetings law does not apply to citizen's advisory committees, which is what the Occupancy Tax Committee is. Any actual decisions are made by the Town Board and are done at an open meeting].

MOTION CARRIED: 4 AYES ~ BILLS, LIGON, PITKIN, VASAK

NOTE: These resolutions were actually done out of order.

RESOLUTION # 93: A Resolution to authorize occupancy tax expenditures, annual Christmas Bazaar \$250.00 and town website email signup \$240.00, on a motion by **Councilman Ligon**, seconded by **Councilman Vasak**

MOTION CARRIED: 4 AYES ~ BILLS, LIGON, PITKIN, VASAK

Discussion took place concerning the email signup on the town web site and whether or not it was in place. Everyone on this email list will get automatic updates to town events.

HIGHSPEED INTERNET: **Supervisor Pitkin** said that high speed internet is in place and will be available in November to people within range of the outlet which is in Athol by the church. Those in the zone will get a letter from Verizon.

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RESOLUTION # 95: A Resolution to provide the **S.A.F.E.** ATV club with the same rights granted to the Thurman Snowmobile club [pertaining to use of town roads] without having to renew[ask]every year. On a motion by **Councilman Ligon**, seconded by **Councilman Vasak**

MOTION CARRIED: 4 AYES ~ **BILLS, LIGON, PITKIN, VASAK**

SUBDIVISION: on a motion by **Supervisor Pitkin**,seconded by **Councilman Ligon** the **Shirley Dutcher** and **Rose Baker** subdivision was approved.

MOTION CARRIED: 4 AYES ~ **BILLS, LIGON, PITKIN, VASAK**

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING: All those wishing to be heard, having been heard the Public Hearing pertaining to the **Shirley Dutcher** and **Rose Baker** subdivision was closed at 8:22 p.m.

SALES TAX: The pros and cons of the possible 1% increase in the Warren County sales tax were discussed. **Supervisor Pitkin** said that he would vote for the 1% increase if a cap was put in place to prevent the Board of Supervisor's from wasting or abusing the money that would be generated.

AUDIT: Discussion took place regarding the audit, the findings and how it had been addressed

CEMETERY COMMITTEE: **Evelyn Wood** gave an update on the tentative plans of the Cemetery Committee. **Wood** reported that the cemetery now had 5 members and that the committee was addressing headstone renovation.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business on a motion by **Councilman Ligon**, seconded by **Councilman Bills** the meeting was adjourned at 9:11 P.M...

MOTION CARRIED: 4 AYES ~ **BILLS, LIGON, PITKIN, VASAK**

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia R. Hyde, Town Clerk

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November 4, 2009