

MAY 27, 2014 BERGEN TOWN BOARD REGULAR 2nd MEETING

The Bergen Town Board convened in a regular session at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall with Supervisor Cunningham presiding.

PRESENT:

Supervisor Donald Cunningham
Councilman Joe Nenni
Councilman Brian Stone
Councilwoman Belinda Grant

ALSO PRESENT:

Michele M. Smith, Town Clerk
Mike Johnson, Highway Superintendent
David Mason, ZEO/CEO
Thomas Tiefel, Historian

ABSENT

Councilman Hugh McCartney

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Peter Yasses, Byron Supervisor
Harold Austin, Byron Councilman
Eileen Dries
Michelle Dries
Neil Musshafen
Dean Ivison

Gary Hume
Patti Hume
Dave Pixley
Bill Bobzin
Russ Meidenbauer

PRAYER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Western New York Trail Riders ATV Club - Gary Hume and members explained what their organization does and asked what the town future plans are for West Shore Trail and what the Town needs help with.

Tom Tiefel Request approval funding sandwich board over \$125 for 2nd entrance, Frontier – modem was bad & router for computer up to \$150 for replacement; signage inside the museum. *Councilman Stone made a motion for Historian to purchase router & signage not to exceed \$400 for items requested; seconded by Councilman Nenni and carried by a vote 4-0.*

MINUTES: *Councilwoman Grant made a motion to approve the May13, 2014 minutes; seconded by Councilman Nenni and it carried by a vote 4-0.*

COMMUNICATIONS:

Mercy EMS Report for April 2014

Notification from NYS Dept. of Taxation & Finance ORPTS; Re: State Aid

Copy of current Purchasing Policy adopted 1984

Copy of letter & “Mayday for Mandate Relief: Resolution from Genesee County Legislature

Notification of new operation times for Mill Seat Landfill from Waste Management

Land use request from Sleds of Stafford for 2014-15 snowmobile Season

Notice of Public Hearing regarding Equalization Rate from NYS Dept. of Taxation & Finance ORPTS

Letter from NYS Dept. of Transportation regarding High Speed Rail Empire Corridor Program

REPORTS:

HIGHWAY/SOLID WASTE: Road work Started; Transfer Station attendants request change of hours for Wednesdays this summer to 5:00 – 7:00 pm.

ZEO/CEO: Nothing to report

COMMITTEES:

BUILDING COMMITTEE: Tim Loewke will replace bullet proof glass in the next week. Windows bids received for 13 S. Lake Ave. by MGB Building Inc. \$18,367.82, Griffin Construction \$13,000.00 & Dilcher’s Contracting \$12,715.00.

Councilwoman Grant made a motion to accept the bid from Dilcher’s Contracting for \$12,715.00; seconded by Councilman and it carried by a vote 4-0. Library has community service workers that can pull weeds and water areas around buildings; Sign for 13 S. Lake Ave. - vinyl sign low maintenance; 200th Anniversary garden should be added to the United Way Day of Caring. Next meeting scheduled September 15th unless needed sooner.

HIGHWAY/PARKS COMMITTEE: Discussed plans for Drew’s Nature Center; Discuss the West Shore Trail use-Councilman reached out to Deputy Gordon Dibble - waiting for a response. New sign for Linear Park is needed.

VILLAGE RELATIONS COMMITTEE: Working on Emergency Response Plans. Next meeting to be Determined

NEW BUSINESS:

Volunteers for Park Festival Council members signed up for clean up duty

Town Clerk accepting Credit Cards starting July 1st

Purchasing Policy Update Councilman Stone made a motion to raise the Purchasing Policy to \$250; seconded by Councilman Nenni and it carried by a vote 4-0.

Sleds of Stafford land use for 2014-15 - Tabled

"Mayday for Mandate Relief" resolution Councilman Nenni offered Resolution #12-2014 for "Mayday for Mandate Relief"; seconded by Councilwoman Grant and it carried by a vote 4-0.

RESOLUTION #12-2014

**DECLARING "MAYDAY FOR MANDATE RELIEF" AND URGING THE STATE
TO ADOPT LAWS THAT DO NOT IMPOSE FURTHER FISCAL STRESS
ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND TAXPAYERS AND BUILD UPON RECENT
EFFORTS TO REFORM COSTLY UNFUNDED MANDATES**

WHEREAS, counties are mandated to administer and finance dozens of state and federal programs; and
WHEREAS, many counties in New York State face significant challenges made worse by the recent recession and slow economic recovery; and

WHEREAS, these county fiscal challenges are also directly tied to state-imposed mandates and in recent years reduced state reimbursement; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Association of Counties has identified 9 state mandates that consume 90 percent of all county property taxes levied across the state (outside of New York City), representing over \$4 billion in county taxes levied. These mandates include: Medicaid, Public Assistance Safety Net, Child Welfare Protective and Preventive Care, Special Education Pre-School, Early Intervention, Probation, Indigent Defense, Youth Detention, and pensions; and

WHEREAS, these mandated and fixed employee costs can consume more than 80 percent of a county's total budget, leaving fewer local dollars that can be devoted to local programs and services; and

WHEREAS, these State mandates are the root cause of high county property and sales taxes in New York and have led to a decline in the delivery of important local services. Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town of Bergen hereby declares the month of May to be "Mayday for Mandate Relief" to raise awareness that decisions made in Albany have a direct impact on the property tax levy and local community services here in Genesee County; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town of Bergen strongly encourages the Governor and State Legislature to continue working to enact meaningful mandate relief, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town of Bergen calls on State Lawmakers to enact legislation preventing future unfunded mandates without corresponding state aid to pay for them, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk of the Town of Bergen shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Senator Michael Ranzenhofer, Assemblyman Steve Hawley, New York State Association of Towns, and Genesee Association of Municipalities.

NEXT MEETING:

Regular Meeting – Tuesday, June 10, 2014 at 7:00 pm in the Courtroom with the audit of the bills at 6:45 pm

Executive Session Councilman Nenni made a motion to enter into executive Session at 9:11pm ; seconded by Councilman Stone and it carried by vote 4-0. Councilman Nenni made a motion to exit executive session at 9:29 pm; seconded by Councilwoman Grant and it carried by a vote 4 -0

ADJOURNMENT at 9:30 pm on a motion by Councilwoman Grant; seconded by Councilman Nenni and it carried by a vote 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele M. Smith

Michele M. Smith,
Town Clerk