

Regular Board Meeting of the Town of Poland Board August 13, 2019

Town Supervisor Kelly Snow called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with the pledge to the flag. In attendance were Town Council members Corey Swanson, Stevan Hatfield, Norm Gustafson and Terry Walker. Also present were Justice Judith Shields, Assessor Heather Young-Deyell, new Code Officer Eric Yager, Code Officer Alan Gustafson, Zoning Officer George Gustafson, Legislator John Davis, and town residents Barb Czerniak, Bonnie Mead and Post-Journal stringer Rose Mary Carver.

Supervisor Snow asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes from the July 9th regular Board Meeting. There being none, *Councilman Gustafson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Swanson to accept the minutes as presented.*

Ayes: Snow, Swanson, Hatfield, Gustafson, Walker

Motion carried.

****First Privilege of Floor**** - Town resident Judy Shields approached the board with inquiries regarding the Verizon bill. After a brief discussion, the board decided to speak with Highway Superintendent Mee regarding the highway workers starting to pay \$20 out of pocket (which is the difference in cost of the smart phone) if they choose to keep the smart phones. They will also have the option to return to the basic phone instead.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1) Town Hall - the first town power outage caused the well to need reset and the second power outage caused problems with two printers.
- 2) Railroad Crossing Reconstruction - nothing new to report
- 3) NY Street Lighting LED Project- Will be moving on the new grant application in the fall.

NEWBUSINESS

1) Shelter Point Disability Insurance - The town has been participating in this insurance since 1982. The town is not required to participate in the family Leave act or the New York State Disability but since the town has had this coverage for so long it would be very difficult to discontinue this policy. With this insurance all full time and part time employees are covered. After a brief discussion, *Councilman Hatfield made a motion, seconded by Councilman Swanson to reinstate the Shelter Point Disability Insurance.*

Ayes: Snow, Swanson, Hatfield, Gustafson, Walker

Motion carried.

2) CD - The CD the town had through Community Bank came due and after reviewing the rates, Supervisor Snow closed out the account at Community Bank and received a new 6 month CD at M&T for 1.35%.

****Second Privilege of Floor****-

1) LEGISLATOR - July Legislature meeting - had 11 communications, 26 resolutions and 2 motions that were addressed. I supported all of the following issues: One of the communications was a letter from County Clerk Barmore in opposition of the Green Light Bill signed by Governor Cuomo. Also a roll call vote was taken in opposition of construction of Wind Turbine Farms on Lake Erie. The last one was in opposition of the New York State Driver's License Access and Privacy Act. The Early Voting times and

dates for the Elections this year are located for viewing at the Town of Poland Clerk's office and the Town's website.

2) JCAP - The Court Grant's Deadline for this year is in October so it will be presented at next month's meeting. We will be applying for coatracks for this grant. Supervisor Snow suggested a partition wall for the courtroom.

SUPERVISOR

Distributed the Sales Tax Revenue spreadsheets to the board members

TOWN CLERK

1) Sent Memorials for Terry Mee (Larry Mee's brother) and Mark Wallace (Bonita's brother-in-law).

2) Williamson Law Annual Contract is due this month and there will be a 2% increase in the contract price next year.

3) 2019 Planning & Zoning School will be in September

4) The new election schedule will be posted in the Town Clerk's office for review.

ASSESSOR

1) The current assessment database has been sent to Chautauqua County Real Property Tax, for the processing of school tax bills.

2) The sales verification process is continuing through August. I am inspecting properties that have sold in the past year.

ZONING OFFICER

1) Active with swimming pools & sheds

2) A couple variances are ready for next month's Zoning Board Meeting

CODE OFFICER

1) Reroofing permits are up

2) Spent the day at Pine Bluff Trailer Park with the Health Department

3) A Laptop has been order for the new Code Officer, Eric Yager

LEGISLATOR Candidate - Garrett Cain

1) As your candidate for County Legislator; I am hosting a waterway cleanup and riverside picnic on Saturday the 24th. We will meet at the Kennedy fireman's park and pavilion at 8am for registration and a safety briefing. From there we will head out to clean up trash from shore and in the water. At 1pm lunch will be served but if people want to spend longer cleaning up food will be available until 3pm. The rest of the day will be spent enjoying the park, river, and fellowship. We are looking for volunteers as well as monetary or in-kind contributions to help with coffee, donuts, lunch, gloves, bags, life jackets, canoes, nets, grabbers, and trucks or trailers. Please spread the word and help out if you can.

2) The recently enacted "Statewide Tenant Protection Act of 2019" (S. 6458/A. 8281) adds to and amends existing state laws regarding rental properties. Like much of the legislation coming out of Albany it seems tailored to perceived issues that exist in densely populated areas but have negative and unintended consequences in other areas of the state. In short, it makes the option of renting housing, which many in this area do as a much needed source of extra income and equity even less attractive by further advantaging bad tenants over good landlords. There is little local government can do

about MOST of this legislation.

So far I have found one section in the legislation where municipal bodies DO have an opportunity to hold off state interference in our local rental markets. I encourage this board to examine "Part G" of this legislation. As far as myself and some others have interpreted the language it basically says that if any municipal government determines there is less than 5% vacancy in their rental market they can reach out to the State Housing Authority. This then triggers the formation of a local **9 member** "Rent Guidelines Board" which would be appointed by the State at the recommendation of the local body. The language is vague on how the 5% vacancy is calculated but it's certainly something to consider in a town without a large total number of rental properties. I realize that is board is not likely to reach out to the State and declare such an emergency at this point or in the near future. The long term future is what concerns me and none of us can guarantee what will happen or who will be in charge. If this board as representatives of the residents of this town can agree that we can manage the fluctuations of the rental market locally now and in the future, I encourage you to consider adding or amending language in your charter to state that regardless of the conditions of the rental housing market the board shall not declare an emergency housing shortage.

MONTHLY REPORTS

JUSTICE JUDITH SHIELDS - reported 43 Vehicle & Traffic, 3 Criminal (Penal), 2 ECL, 1 Highway Tax and 1 Public Health with \$3,490.00 forwarded to Supervisor.

CEMETERY- ALAN SHORT- 7/10/19-8/13/19: All is well; mowed and trimmed at Tucker Cemetery. Also completed dirt work; continuing to mow and trim at Riverside Cemetery; and getting quotes for tree work/removal at Riverside Cemetery.

DOG CONTROL BRIAN KING -7/9/19-8/11/19: Three (3) complaints about neighbors' dogs.

LIBRARY- DIANE CAREY - 8/13/19: The computer that was donated to the library was sold in two hours. That was a great little fundraiser. I forget what it sold for (Barb has that info.) but I believe it was \$85. I'm planning another Paint Night at the Library coming in September. I will be posting dates and the picture we will be painting on our website and facebook. There will only be 15 tickets available and each ticket will be \$20. Summer Recreation was wonderful this year. The two performances - Checkers & Snoozer and Mark Rust were both well attended by children and adults. I am hoping we can partner up again next summer. Thank you Becky!

The summer Reading Program is coming to an end this Saturday. 55 Children signed up this year. We have one child who has read over 100 books! The kids really liked the theme of "A Universe of Stories" and our space themed books. We all learned a lot about planets, astronauts, and everything associated with the universe.

I have met with Access Elevator and will be meeting with a local contractor in the hopes of having an elevator installed in the library. New York State has added an additional \$20 million dollars to library construction aid and I am working with Janice Dekoff at Prendergast to apply for a grant that would not only enable us to install an elevator but also a bathroom in the basement. If anyone has any valuable insight on persuasive grant writing - I'd love to pick your experienced brain.

Circulation numbers for July - We had a circulation of 1663 (this number does not include our in-house numbers - which is an additional 235) & our attendance was 945 people. The Library will be closed Saturday, August 31st and Monday, September 2nd for the Labor Day holiday weekend.

PLANNING BOARD - no report

ZONING BOARD - no report

RECREATION (REBECCA LINDQUIST) - no report

HISTORIAN - REBECCA LINDQUIST- no report

TOWN CLERK BONNITA WALLACE reported \$2,291.11 paid to Supervisor with \$2,492.67 total disbursed.

ZONING OFFICER GEORGE GUSTAFSON - (ZONING REPORT) reported four (4) Complaints received, two (2) Notices of Violation issued and \$351.55 in fees forwarded to Town Clerk.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER ALAN GUSTAFSON - (BUILDING CODE REPORT) zero (0) Inspections Performed, and zero (0) Certificates of Occupancy were reported.

TOWN SUPERVISOR SNOW distributed prior to the meeting the Agenda and Monthly Supervisor's Reports for General Fund, Highway Fund, Payroll Fund, Money Market accounts and General & Highway Budget Reports.

Supervisor Snow asked if there were any questions on the bills.

Councilman Walker made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hatfield to pay General Vouchers (272-314) totaling \$24,841.35, Highway Vouchers (103-115) totaling \$161,315.67, Light District #1 Voucher (8) in the amount of \$718.82, Light District #2 Voucher (8) in the amount of \$198.05 and Justice Court Voucher (8) in the amount of \$1,518.00.

Ayes: Snow, Swanson, Hatfield, Gustafson, Walker

Motion carried.

The next Board Meeting will be Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall.

At 8:15p.m., Supervisor Snow made a motion, seconded by Councilman Swanson to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Snow, Swanson, Hatfield, Gustafson, Walker

Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnita R Wallace
Town Clerk