

**MEETING, TOWN BOARD OF GENOA**

**October 9, 2013**

A Regular meeting of the Town Board of Genoa, Cayuga County, State of New York was held at the Town Hall, 1000 Bartnick Road, Genoa NY on October 9, 2013

Present      Lorie Fessenden, Supervisor                      Mick Piechuta, Code Enforcement Officer  
                 Cheryl Shields, Board member                      Kim Bennett, Town Justice  
                 Dale Sellen, Board member                              Dan Thayer  
                 Brandon White, Board member  
                 Al Armstrong, Board member  
                 Sue Moss, Clerk

The regular Town Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Lorie Fessenden with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Dan Thayer was appointed to the Variance Board. This appointment is for five years. He joins John Fessenden (whose term ends December 31, 2013), Joe Wargo, Sue Bower and Stuart Underwood.

RESOLUTION 82-2013    **APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT OF DAN THAYER TO VARIANCE BOARD**

On a motion of Board member Shields, seconded by Board member White, the following resolution was

ADOPTED    Ayes    5    Fessenden, Shields, Sellen, Armstrong, White  
                 Nays    0

Resolved that the appointment of Dan Thayer to the Variance Board be approved

RESOLUTION 83-2013    **APPROVAL OF September 11 MEETING MINUTES**

On a motion of Board member Shields, seconded by Board member Sellen, the following resolution was

ADOPTED    Ayes    5    Fessenden, Shields, Sellen, Armstrong, White  
                 Nays    0

Resolved that the September 9, 2013 meeting minutes be approved

The September 24 minutes for the Work Session/Meeting were recorded and read by Board member Cheryl Shields

Opened meeting at 6 p.m. with pledge to the Flag

Present at the meeting:

Lorie Fessenden, Dale Sellen, Brandon White, Al Armstrong and Cheryl Shields

Term for Assessor was the opening discussion. Heather Garner's position as Town Assessor is up for renewal. With discussion to appoint Mrs. Garner for another 6-year term, it was agreed that the Town is already at a 100% rate and the reval could wait to coincide with Ledyard's reval in 2015; this was at the Assessor's request. Also discussed

TOWN BOARD MEETING

October 9, 2013 Page 2

was her request for a clerk. The Board did not feel that was necessary at that time and would discuss it again for the reval in 2015.

A resolution to appoint Heather Garner to another 6-year term without a clerk and a 2015 reval was passed.

Dale Sellen made the motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Al Armstrong

Brandon White - aye

Cheryl Shields - aye

Lorie Fessenden - aye

Also discussed briefly, insurance request for liability bonding

The Board then moved on to the budget work session until 7:30.

On a motion to adjourn the meeting/work session at 7:30 by Cheryl Shields and was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Al Armstrong.

RESOLUTION 84-2013 **APPROVAL OF September 24 WORK SESSION/MEETING MINUTES**

On a motion of Board member Sellen, seconded by Board member Armstrong, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Fessenden, Sellen, Shields, White, Armstrong  
Nays 0

Resolved that the September 24, 2013 meeting minutes be approved

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

Lorie Fessenden

This was put on hold until the end of the meeting.

**CLERK'S REPORT**

Report on Revenues from Clerk's Office for September 2013

Dog Licenses	\$ 204.00
Building Permits	838.50
Miscellaneous	150.00 (includes 2 variance apps and 1 demo app)
Certified Copies	70.00

**Disbursements for August**

Pd to Supervisor	\$ 1262.00
Pd to NYS Ag & Markets	30.00

RESOLUTION 85-2013 **CLERK'S REPORT**

On a motion of Board member Shields, seconded by Board member Sellen, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Fessenden, Sellen, Shields, White, Armstrong  
Nays 0

Resolved that the September 2013 Clerk's Report be accepted

## **REPORTS**

### **HIGHWAY REPORT**

Dale Sellen

The men have been ditching, repairing and replacing culverts and repairing shoulders that were washed out from the heavy rain. Jeff has been hauling gravel and mowing. Eric has been welding and cutting plates for the box on #9, getting it usable until it will be sent to auction. The metal is real thin and some had to be replaced.

Mark has been off using up his comp time built up from last winter. Matt has been filling in for him on the water maintenance.

After touching up the shoulders on Genoa-Locke Town Line Road, the fresh blacktop was sealed with oil and a stone. Locke, Venice, Moravia and Ledyard helped with their trucks and we helped them finish theirs.

Frank has been talking with George Wethey about the new County Plow Contract that was supposed to be signed this evening, but due to changes made by the County, the contract will have to be revised. The County wants more documentation of the roads and times we are on them. To avoid a whole lot more paperwork, Superintendents met with County Legislators and agreed to cut back on some of the forms they wanted filled out each and every time.

George has been negotiating with Chris Colvert, from DOT, on what to do with the State roads that we were maintaining through the winter. Seems no one wants to deal with Route 90 for some reason. The State DOT is not willing to give an inch, and still demands straight salt be applied and monitored per lane mile. The ultimate decision on this would be left to the DOT, as they know what the Town has to work with.

Frank has been in touch with Cayuga Power Plant regarding cinders for the upcoming winter. New contracts are being revised for the southern Towns to sign and send back with insurance forms. Looks as though we'll be hauling next week.

Frank received an e-mail from Carl Ford, from the DOT, responding to a recent letter from Frank, saying that we should be receiving a response from Albany on our bridge reimbursements soon. This is the first notification from anyone in at least 3 months. It should be interesting to hear an explanation of why we haven't received/heard anything from them in this length of time. Frank has been working with Stadium International and Henderson Truck Equipment finishing the bid sheets for purchasing a new 10-wheeler, plow, box and sander. NYS OGS has dropped the ball on their heavy equipment purchasing, so we'll be piggybacking off the Onondaga County bid specs which will carry their contract number. This contract will include the whole package, so we don't have to bid things individually.

Frank sent an email just before the meeting to inform the Board that he had talked with George Wethey who had just talked with Chris Colvert. Mr. Colvert told Mr. Wethey that he wants straight salt on the roads and nothing else.

Frank also mentioned (in his email) the yellow flag on the bridge. Lorie mentioned that the County has an engineer who could possibly look into the situation. Frank will make contact with him before contacting Fisher and Associates.

Lorie suggested that an article be written for the Tribune or the Citizen informing area residents that salt will now be applied to State Routes 34, 34B, and 90. The County will take over the salting of 34 and 34B but doesn't want to do 90 so the State will have to take care of it.

### **ASSESSOR'S UPDATE**

TOWN BOARD MEETING

October 9, 2013 Page 4

Lorie Fessenden

**Annual Seminar:** I attended the NYS Assessors Association Annual Training on Assessment Administration October 1-4. I had the opportunity to attend training on Agricultural valuation of land and buildings, green buildings, Board of Assessment Review, new legislature for the STAR program (as of 9/30/13, 59% of Cayuga County residents have registered for the Basic STAR with NYST&F) and many other interesting topics.

**Exemptions:** Renewal applications should be printed by County Real Property by the end of October. I plan to mail the renewal applications in phases this year rather than one huge mass mailing. The first group out will be the Enhanced STAR, then Sr. Citizen with limited income, Disability and lastly Ag. I plan to have all renewal mailed by the middle of December.

**Cold War Veteran Exemption:** Currently Veterans who served in the military between September 2, 1945 through December 26, 1991 are NOT eligible for a Veterans Exemption. Recently, Real Property Tax Law created the Cold War Veteran exemption to include those veterans. If the Town is interested in adopting a local law to include this exemption, it would be my recommendation to adopt the "Level A" option. An 8,000 exemption for a cold war veteran and max 40,000 exemption for a disabled cold war veteran. This option is most similar to the Alternative Veterans limits currently in place.

The Current Alternative Veteran Exemption (veteran who served during World War 1 and 2, Korean, Vietnam, Persian Gulf-present) is at level B 9,000 war vet additional 6,000 for those serving in combat zone and 30,000 max for disabled veterans.

PLEASE remember every tax dollar "one saves" is a tax dollar that everyone else must pay.

So please consider this carefully before a decision is made.

Cayuga County has NOT adopted the local law to grant the exemption.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Heather Garner, Assessor

# TOWN BOARD MEETING

October 9, 2013 Page 5

## CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT (September 2013)

Hours: 25

Miles: 96

### PERMITS ISSUED:

13 – 32	Raymond Brisson	357 Powers Rd.	New House
13 – 33(D)	Raymond Brisson	357 Powers Rd.	Demo (2) Camps
13 – 34	Chris Wilbur	734 Lake Rd.	Storage Shed
13 – 35	John Binns	960 Rt. 34B	Roof
13 – 36	Betsy Leonard	663 Cowan Rd.	Garage
13 – 37	Chris Wilbur	FL#7	Storage Shed
13 – 38	John Conner	819 Bartnick Rd.	Steel Bldg.
13 – 39	Claudette Turo	1138 Maple St.	Roof
13 – 40	Claudette Turo	1138 Maple St.	Stove Installation
13 – 41(D)	Pat Leonard	3558 Shingle Valley Rd.	Demo home
13 – 42	BUILDlab	1006 Clearview Rd(FL#6)	Porch/door
13 – 43	Elkendale Realty	384 Tupper Rd.	Mobile Home
13 – 44	Jenice Jones	372 Rt. 34B	Roof
13 – 45(R)	Joel Lewis	Lot 8 Oberon Dr.	New House

### INSPECTIONS:

J. Lewis	Oberon Dr.	S. Holden	Rt. 90
R. Carlton	Powers Rd.	T. Rejman	Rt. 34B
D. Pierce (C of O)	Brooks Rd.	R. Dalton (C of O)	Fl#7
B. Davis	Sills Rd.	J. Jones	Rt. 34B
P. Leonard	Shingle Valley Rd.	C. Wilbur	Fl#7

### COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/CONCERNS:

- Plan review for Ray Brisson's house
- Follow up on chimney fire in Genoa (Minde)
- Researched a C of O for John Berry.
- Investigated a garbage problem on Maple Street (found no garbage)
- Investigated an illegal roof, met with the contractor and owner. Problem solved.
- Continue to work with residents on future projects and bring outstanding permits up to date.

Mick showed pictures to the Board of the Shufelt residence. He sent her a letter regarding her unfinished house project.

## WATER REPORT

Dale Sellen

September total - 2,023,720 gallons

Daily average - 67,457 gallons

## DOG CONTROL REPORT

None

**WATER COMMITTEE REPORT**

Cheryl Shields

Cheryl said that a letter will be mailed soon to those residents on the water line regarding the rate hike. The Water Committee has discussed the breakdown of fees.

**BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

Al Armstrong

Mike Hingston will have estimates for Judge Bennett soon.

**PROGRAMS AND GRANTS**

Lorie Fessenden

Lorie heard from the County regarding reimbursement for the Swim Program. She will be asking for \$2000 from the other participating Towns (combined).

RESOLUTION 86-2013 **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

On a motion of Board member Shields, seconded by Board member Armstrong, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Fessenden, Sellen, Shields, White, Armstrong  
Nays 0

Resolved to accept the bills as presented.

**HISTORIAN**

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

The Towns involved in the Broadband project along with Clarity Connect are still waiting for the necessary papers to be signed by the County. Hopefully, broadband will be a reality by the end of the year.

No repair has been done on Lake Road

There was nothing new to report on the Caitlin Julia Enterprises LLC mining permit

**NEW BUSINESS**

Regarding Judge Bennett's concern that the Court isn't bonded, Lorie explained that Town employees are covered under the Town's general liability policy. Further discussion at a later date is needed to clear up this matter. Judge Bennett asked that the June 2013 minutes be changed to remove the statement "that Board approval is needed before anyone other than the Supervisor contacts Mr. Krogh".

An ad will be placed in the Citizen for another Budget Work Session.

RESOLUTION 87-2013 **APPROVAL OF SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

On a motion of Board member White, seconded by Board member Shields, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Sellen, Shields, White, Fessenden, Armstrong  
Nays 0

Resolved that the September 2013 Supervisor's Report be approved.

TOWN BOARD MEETING

October 9, 2013 Page 7

**RESOLUTION 88-2013 APPROVAL OF ACCOUNT TRANSFERS**

On a motion of Board member Shields, seconded by Board member Armstrong, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Fessenden, Armstrong, Sellen, White, Shields  
Nays 0

Resolved that account transfers be approved

Lorie stated that an override of the tax cap isn't needed this year  
GHA has requested a shed for the property  
Lorie is attending a seminar in Ithaca regarding health insurance.

Shannon Armstrong will be filling the position of building care person. She will receive \$15 per hour and will work for 2 hours every other week.

**RESOLUTION 89-2013 APPROVAL OF BUILDING CARE APPOINTMENT**

On a motion of Board member Shields, seconded by Board member Sellen, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Fessenden, Sellen, White, Shields  
Nays 0  
Abstain 1 Armstrong

Resolved that appointment of building care position be approved

Lorie received a listing of items covered by liability insurance and the value of said items. Tool coverage increased from \$50,000 to \$75,000. Insurance on anything lower than \$5000 can be eliminated.

**RESOLUTION 90-2013 APPROVAL OF LIABILITY INSURANCE REMOVAL**

On a motion of Board member Shields, seconded by Board member Armstrong, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Fessenden, Sellen, White, Shields, Armstrong  
Nays 0

Resolved that liability insurance on any Town equipment with a value less than \$5000 be removed.

The total appraisal for Town property has decreased by \$52,000

With no further business, on a motion of Board member Shields, seconded by Board member Armstrong, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40p.m. Carried unanimously.

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Susan B. Moss, Town Clerk