

Regular Meeting of the Town Board  
Of the Town of Cuba  
Held at the Cuba Library, 39 E. Main St., Cuba, NY 14727

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor James with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Consent Agenda:**

**Minutes, Supervisor's Monthly Report, Abstract #2** were all approved with a motion from Sweet and the second coming from Patterer.

Supervisor's Report showed \$14,236.98 received in the general fund and \$998.10 for the highway fund while interest accumulated is \$2.08. Disbursements for the general fund total \$106,823.45 and the highway is \$179,704.21.

James reported **Abstract #2** general fund paid out \$291,058.23 and the highway fund paid out \$27,323.21.

**The Town Clerk** noted the Supervisor has been paid in full for the tax levy of 2020 and the first installment has been sent to the County Treasurer. Approximately 78% of the total levy has been collected.

**Police Report**

In January Cuba police answered 110 calls resulting in 15 cases. There were 19 stops conducted, 4 in the town, 7 in the village 4 on the lake, and 0 on I-86 resulting in a total of 15 uniform traffic tickets. A total of 11 motor vehicle accidents included 2 in the town, 7 in the village, 1 on the lake, and 1 on I-86. The complete report may be found online.

**Ambulance Report**

The Cuba Ambulance Service responded to a total of 15 calls to service in January of 2020. 9 of those calls were taken to Olean General Hospital, 1 was taken to Jones Memorial Hospital and 5 were sign offs, 0 was mutual aid, 0 were standby, 0 was taken by Mercy Flight and 0 was DOA. 5 of these calls were critical care with Cuba handling 5 and Olean 10 handling 0. 11 of these calls were in the Village of Cuba, 3 were in the Town of Cuba, 0 was on the lake, 0 was mutual aid to Friendship, 0 was mutual aid to Belfast, 0 were mutual aid to New Hudson and 0 were on I-86.

Last month Appleby spoke about finding an affordable plan to have our heart monitors calibrated/serviced. We can do a service plan for Inspection only as mentioned earlier for \$444 per unit or \$888, and there is a zone charge for over 150 miles which is \$420 for a total of \$1308 per year for inspection. This entitles us to one visit for the inspections. If additional service becomes necessary, we would be billed at the above hourly rates minus 20%, plus parts.

All other plans start at \$2500 and go up. I believe the first plan is the way to go as our units aren't that old and should not require parts.

Four members are in EMT class and doing well. They will test out in June. Appleby asked the Board to hire three members- Crystal Lett, Morgan Gadd, and Robert White. The two women are both involved with the fire department and are signed up to take the EMT class in the fall. Background checks have been performed and all is clear.

Patterer motioned to accept the \$1308 package for the heart monitor maintenance, and to also hire the three applicants recommended. Sweet seconded, all in favor, passed.

### **Highway Comments**

In January, crews plowed snow 19 days, patched potholes, cut brush on Summit Road, started working on soft spots on the dirt roads and piled sand.

Equipment repairs included new solenoid and sander light on Sterling, install belt and flip wing blade on Pererbilt, and changed plow blade on 2019 Freightliner

Smith addressed a complaint from someone on Stowell Hill Road concerning plowing methods. Because it is a dirt road and the current freeze, thaw conditions, it cannot be treated as a paved road is treated.

### **Facilities Committee**

Smith reported the front door to Town Hall needs some type of repair. The door sticks in the colder months due to the ground freezing and heaving. This will be looked into further.

There is a foul odor in the front foyer of the building from probable dead animals and it has been apparent for several months. After a brief discussion, Sweet offered the resolution to have Frank Schostick schedule two days where he would like to work at the municipal building during which time he would disassemble, clean, sanitize and perform preventive maintenance on the Univent air circulation system. In order to prevent or minimize future issues he will install a fine wire mesh around the roof top portion of the system. This will stop animals from getting in and becoming trapped. Once they do, they die and the odor last for quite some time. He will cut and replace multiple drop ceiling tiles that are damaged and inspect for water leaks in the area of tiles being replaced. The building on demand hot water heater, to the best of our knowledge has never had the required maintenance performed which includes flushing and descaling. He will also compete this. The approximate cost of materials for these tasks equals \$300.00. Approximately 20 to 25-man hours over 2 days (overnight stay) will be required. Patterer seconded, all agreed and the resolution was passed.

### **Dog Control Comments**

One call was in connection to two beagles running at large. Dogs were located and returned to owner. Another case had a dog running at large on Keller Hill Road. Unable to locate the dog. Spoke with dog owner on Union Street about their dogs excessive barking. Allegedly the dogs were in the house at the time of the complaint and the owners were away.

### **Code Enforcement**

A permit was written for enclosing a porch on Spring Valley Road.

### **Open Issues**

Patterer spoke on the **Dog Kennel Issue**. A more serious discussion took place on using a portion of the old Town building to set up a kennel. A drainage area for the water after cleaning the kennel floor may be one of the biggest challenges, but not impossible. With the collaboration of Smith, Searle and Patterer, possible plans will be presented at the March meeting. Within the conversation, Sweet mentioned the possibility of being able to share the facility with area towns. By having our own shelter/kennel, the Town would avoid hefty daily fees charged by our current shelter, which does not give us an opportunity to recoup the fees we are charged.

### **CRCS Sewer Reimbursement**

After deep consideration, Sewer District #5 will reimburse the school for 25% of 2018 and 20% of 2019 sewer bill for a total of \$4,574.52. The longtime, ongoing issues with the faulty equipment have now been resolved for about a year at their location. One new account will be added, SS5-8136.4, Discount on Sewer Rents. Money would be transferred from ss1990.4 to the new account for reimbursement.

Sweet motioned to move forward with the money transfer and reimburse the school the amount discussed. Patterer seconded, all in favor, so moved.

On the topic of services with the school, James was given a copy of shared services contracts that were started, but never signed, originating in 2018. Many issues were still being worked out and changes being done so the contracts served both the Town and the School needs. These will be reviewed by the Board and brought up to date for final approval.

#### **Shared Services – Court**

Town of New Hudson will now look into the next steps in dissolving their court and merging it into the Cuba Court.

**Board of Elections** has approached James about building a handicap ramp at the front of the Cuba Grange for our handicapped voters. This would be done for the convenience to those voters, it is not that the building is not up to code. The handicap access is on the side of the building. She explained to Mr. McCormick the Town does not wish to jump on this as we are making improvements to a building we don't own and we are not aware that the Grange wants this ramp installed. The Town will look into other polling places in the event this becomes necessary.

In order to save the Town money on the April Primary and the General Election, the two districts for Cuba will be merged. Voters will not experience any difference in polling sites or voting process.

#### **New Business**

##### **Code Enforcement Consortium**

The pitch was once again given to try to get the Town of Cuba in the consortium. It is not less expensive for us to do code enforcement this way, but it may offer other, more efficient aspects on how codes are being enforced and building permits are handled.

##### **Town and Village Comprehensive Plan**

There is a need to update our comprehensive plan. The last one was done in 2011 and mainly focused on downtown development. There is a need to involve village, town, school, lake district and Chamber of Commerce just as a start to the plan. Cuba has so much to offer with our trails and lake area just to mention a couple of assets. The following resolution was adopted tonight, February 11, 2020 as it was offered by Sweet and seconded by Patterer.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2-20                      DATED 02/11/2020**

In accordance with Town Law 272-a, The Town of Cuba Board hereby appoints and direct a “special board,” hereafter referred to as the “Comprehensive Plan Committee”, to develop a Comprehensive Master Plan of the Town and Village of Cuba. The Town of Cuba Board will appoint members to the Comprehensive Plan Committee in consultation with the Village of Cuba Board. The Comprehensive Plan Committee will include one or more members of the Village of Cuba Board of Trustees, one or more members from each municipality’s Planning Board and additional members may be appointed to the Comprehensive Plan Committee over time. Through inter-municipal agreement with the Village of Cuba the Comprehensive Plan Committee will create a plan that, according to General Municipal Law 119-u may be adopted independently by each municipality. The planning activity will have a target date of completion of June 2021.

Some of the committee members will be, Lee James, Melodie Farwell, Michele Miller, Tom Taylor, David Crowley, Mike Doyle, Kevin White, a representative from the school and Cuba Lake District as well.

It was recommended that solar farms be taken into consideration. There are several in the area already. James was given a copy of the Town of Burns local law to use as an example for adapting one for Cuba.

**Allegany County STOP DWI** – The contract remains the same, James asked for approval to sign and continue the program. Farwell offered the motion, seconded by Sweet. All in favor, passed.

**Comp Alliance** – sent a request to provide workers compensation quote. The Board agreed to allow them to do a risk assessment.

Two notes for the end of business are 1.) Chad Smith will look at the boundary maps to make sure there have been no changes. This is for the 2020 Census. And 2.) The DEC mining permit for the Freeman property on Route 305, to be used by the Town of New Hudson, to use as a gravel pit. The public comments period is available on line. The Town has no qualms as the road being used is not a Town road.

A request at 8:28 pm by James for an executive session was approved by Sweet and Patterer.

At 8:36 PM the regular meeting resumed where it was adjourned by Farwell's motion and Conklin's second. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy A. Orcutt  
Town Clerk