

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

Present:

Supervisor: Lee James
Council Persons: Michele Conklin, Richard Patterer, Melodie Farwell
Also Present: Nancy Orcutt, Town Clerk, Aaron Appleby, Ambulance Administrator,
Chad Smith, Hwy. Supt., Michael Searle, Dog Control Officer
Absent: Lon Sweet, Council Person, Dustin Burch, Police Chief

Special Note: Due to the elevator not operating, Michele Conklin attended the meeting via Facetime from the Opera House, located on West Main Street in Cuba.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor James with the Pledge of Allegiance. There were approximately 18 people present. Several students from CRCS government class were in attendance observing local government in action.

Consent Agenda:

Minutes, Supervisor's Monthly Report, Abstract #3 were all approved with a motion from Conklin and the second coming from Patterer.

Supervisor's Report showed \$1,312,671.01 received in the general fund and \$606,059.28 for the highway fund. Disbursements for the general fund total \$344,330.29 and the highway is \$44,364.56. Totals are elevated due to the collection of taxes and said taxes paid to the Supervisor. From this total, the Lake district received \$43,596.00 and the Fire District received \$261,428.00. It should be noted only the Lake District contributes to that district while all property owners contribute to the Fire District.

James reported **Abstract #3** general fund paid out \$118,921.81 and the highway fund paid out \$24,501.98.

The Town Clerk reported Stewart Freeman has applied to renew the junk yard permit for his Route 446 location. Conklin moved to renew the application, seconded by Patterer. All members were in favor and the application was granted.

This is the last month for tax collection before they are turned over to the county in April.

Police Report

In February Cuba police answered 122 calls resulting in 46 cases. There were 29 stops conducted, 2 in the town, 6 in the village 1 on the lake, and 0 on I-86 resulting in a total of 9 uniform traffic tickets. A total of 16 motor vehicle accidents included 8 in the town, 4 in the village, 0 on the lake, and 4 on I-86. The complete report may be found online at cubany.org. The Chamber of Commerce donated \$500 to the police department and Burch has acknowledged his appreciation.

Ambulance Report

The Cuba Ambulance Service responded to a total of 22 calls to service in February of 2020. 15 of those calls were taken to Olean General Hospital, 0 was taken to Jones Memorial Hospital and 7 were sign offs, 0 were standby, 0 was taken by Mercy Flight and 0 was DOA. 10 of these calls were critical care with Cuba handling 10 and Olean 10 handling 0. 12 of these calls were in the Village of Cuba, 6 were in the Town of Cuba, 1 was on the lake, 0 was mutual aid to Friendship, 0 was mutual aid to Belfast, 3 were mutual aid to New Hudson and 0 were on I-86. Appleby thanked the Highway Dept. for changing the oil on the ambulance. The Cuba Chamber of Commerce donated \$500 to the department. Appleby said the department is greatly appreciative. The new modems have been received and are waiting to be programmed.

Highway Comments

In February, crews plowed snow 12 days, patched potholes with cold patch, worked on soft spots on dirt roads and cut brush. Smith asked people to bear with the department on the conditions of some of the roads. It is the nature of where we live to have soft roads this time of year, especially with this year's weather. As soon as it is possible, the crew will be fixing the issues with soft spots and holes.

Equipment repairs included servicing the Peterbilt, and broom. Wing blades were replaced on the 2013 Freightliner and Peterbilt. Rubber was also replaced on the dirt plow.

Sewer Committee

James mentioned there will be a check going out to the school district for the interruption in service they experienced in 2018 and 2019.

Facilities Committee

There is still an issue with the front door to Town Hall. The ground heaves and makes it difficult to open and close the door from time to time. The situation of the odor in the foyer has been addressed and this has eliminated the problem. Thank you, Frank!

Dog Control Comments

There were no calls this month. Searle and Patterer have been working on the dog kennel proposal.

Code Enforcement

Putt fielded questions concerning the install of solar panels, another about a cell tower and a third for general information. A permit was issued to the Village to re-roof at the treatment plant.

Open Issues

Patterer spoke on the **Dog Kennel Issue**. He has been checking out the building at Bull Street and will be getting quotes back from contractors to see if this is a feasible venture. He will also look into seeing if there are any surrounding towns that may be interested in using our facility if we can get something up and running.

Shared Services – New Hudson Court

It is a very involved to dissolve a court. The process will take at least one year to get everything in place to move New Hudson Court to Cuba. If/when this happens, it is possible that New Hudson will be able to put someone on the ballot for a judge residing at the Cuba bench.

Shared Services Meeting March 5

Only about 25% of the towns were represented at the meeting. There seems to be little left for the towns to be able to combine in services for further attempts to save the taxpayers money. It was questioned if the meetings even need to go on since there is nothing happening. It will still be pursued and James still has several services she would like to explore to see if there is a benefit from them for Cuba.

Town and Village Comprehensive Plan-Committee

The first meeting was held and many ideas were brought to light. Assignments were given to work on between now and the next session. There is a diversified group of people involved and this will continue to grow as things progress. Jay Morris is the most recent addition to the team.

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 of Cuba Justice Court-Internal Audit

The Annual Audit for the Cuba Town Court records is due once again. James asked the Audit Committee, Richard Patterer and Melodie Farwell to set up a time so this can be taken care of before long.

Cuba Police Department-Union Contract

After a brief discussion, James recommended the contract set before them be accepted. Farwell offered the motion to accept the five-year contract as is, seconded by Patterer. All in favor, passed.

At 7:30 PM Patterer motioned to go into executive session to discuss possible litigation. Farwell seconded, all agreed and the audience was excused.

The regular meeting reconvened at 7:44 PM and with no further business to discuss, Conklin motioned to adjourn, seconded by Patterer. All in favor, passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy A. Orcutt
Town Clerk

DRAFT