

**Regular Meeting**  
**Of the Town Board of the Town of Cuba**

Held at the Cuba Library, 39 East Main Street, Cuba, NY

**Present:**

Supervisor: Robert Carney  
 Council Persons: Michele Conklin, Timothy Ramsey, Lon Sweet, Joseph Miller  
 Also Present: Nancy Orcutt, Town Clerk, Chad Smith, Hwy. Supt.  
 Dustin Burch, Police Chief & Ambulance Administrator,  
 Richard Patterer, Dog Control Officer

Supervisor Carney called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 pm.

**Public Comments:** Melody Farwell from the Patriot questioned the intent of the previous month's minutes. There were comments inserted about the Patriot that she states were not true. The clerk responded that portion of the minutes she is referring to were meant for the board members only. They were not to be made public and are not a part of the official minutes. Farwell said they had been published to the website for all to see. The part not meant to be seen by the public pertains to Farwell's published article on January's meeting which had two inaccuracies. She was made aware of those and did not publish a correction. Farwell argued the fact that Dana Harvey submitted his resignation but he still works for the Town (inaccuracy number one) and that Terry Forward had been appointed to mow the Cuba Cemetery (inaccuracy number two.) Included in the copy were the emails sent between Orcutt and Farwell. Only after Supervisor Carney corrected her on these items, did she believe she may have been mistaken. The clerk said she would correct the minutes on line. They also touched on the topic of her recording the meeting.

Jeff Giampa expressed his appreciation for the Cuba community. He is the Pastor of the Church Project and has become involved with the community and the police department. He feels the police department is doing a very fine job. Serving an internship with the department and being their Chaplin has given him the opportunity to see the positive impact our officers have on the community and the students at our schools as School Resource Officers. Giampa expressed his feelings on the recent school shootings and commended Chief Burch on the way he handles the department and the measures taken to insure our students stay safe.

**Board Comments:** Conklin relayed information from a telephone call regarding something to do with a deed and the Sewer District #5. She is unsure of whom the caller is and his point was unclear. She requested he send documentation to her so she may better understand the situation and she would respond as soon as she was able.

Miller agreed with Pastor Giampa's comments and feels our Police Department is doing a great job. He would never hesitate to send his children to the Cuba schools.

Sweet wanted to clear up a misunderstanding about emails and his Facebook posts made about the extra security being provided at the schools after the Florida shooting. Burch did so without spending any additional funds. After a lengthy discussion between Sweet and Burch, who seem to have opposite views on what the content means, they decided on a private meeting between the two of them to resolve the issue and discuss expenditures or the lack thereof. Burch also said if you need clarification on something, come to him first before putting things like this on Facebook for the public to see.

Ramsey weighed in by saying he understands the need for a show of force. He supports Chief Burch.

Miller stated he has never had someone comment to him that the Town is spending too much on fire or police protection. Those who may feel that way may be those who no longer have children in school. Miller has always stood behind Burch.

Carney will back Burch on his decisions. He has gone toe-to-toe with the Chief in the past, and they always come to a reasonable agreement after airing their grievances.

**Approve Minutes for 02/13/2018:** Sweet made the motion to accept the minutes with the exception of the Clerk's additional comments and revise Sweet comments to reflect he would like to see CMH on the agenda and on the tax roll. Seconded by Miller. All in favor, passed.

**Approve Supervisors Report for February:** The income for the General Fund totaled \$611,577.19. Disbursements totaled \$341,736.45. The Highway Fund's income is \$320,446.67 and disbursed \$36,015.89. Miller motioned to accept the report as presented. It was seconded by Conklin. All in favor, the motion passed.

**Approve General & Highway Abstracts for March:** The General Fund totaled \$83,564.14. Highway Fund totaled \$28,277.70. Conklin motioned to approve, seconded by Miller. All Board Members voted yea and approved the Abstract.

**Clerk's Correspondence:** The taxes are winding down. Approximately 86% of the tax roll has been collected.

#### **Police Department Comments:**

Cuba Police responded to 171 calls to service in February and developed 20 cases from these. The Police Department handled 11 motor vehicle accidents 5 in the town, 3 in the village, 0 on the Lake and 3 on I-86. There were 30 Traffic stops conducted with 22 Traffic Summons issued (6 in the town, 8 in the village 3 on the lake and 5 on I-86). The Police Department also handled 2 noise complaints, 4 motorist assists, 0 funeral escorts, 3 vehicle lock-outs, 12 parking tickets/complaints were issued, 4 other agency assists, and 13 domestic disputes. The Police Department assisted the Ambulance on 13 calls. 8 safety car seat installations. 10 Pill/needle drop offs were completed. 0 gun locks were handed out to residents. 14 business funds escorts were completed. Patrols checked Cuba businesses and property's 25 times. The department completed yearly blood borne pathogens training and workplace violence training. The department is in complete evidence compliance. Burch thanks Chad Smith and his crew for the great work done during/after the storm. The officers on duty also did an excellent job on assisting motorists who were stranded or in an accident.

#### **Ambulance Comments:**

The Cuba Ambulance Service responded to a total of 18 calls to service in February of 2018. 14 of those calls were taken to Olean General Hospital, 0 was taken to Jones Memorial Hospital and 4 were sign offs, 1 was mutual aid, 0 were refusals, 0 were standby and 0 was taken by Mercy Flight. 14 of these calls were critical care with Cuba handling 14 and Olean 10 handling 0. 6 of these calls were in the Village of Cuba, 11 were in the Town of Cuba, 0 were on Cuba Lake, 0 were New Hudson, 0 was mutual aid to West Clarksville, 1 was mutual aid to Friendship, 0 was mutual aid to Belfast and 0 was on I-86.

Burch suggested Adam Cassata as an ambulance driver. He has a clear background check. Sweet motioned to hire Cassata, seconded by Ramsey. All in favor.

#### **Highway Department Comments:**

Work performed in February included the following services:

- Plowed 11 of the 28 days

- Put up 8 ton weight limit signs and issues 3 permits
- Cut trees on Mount Monroe Road
- Checked for debris blocking sluice pipes
- Piled salt/sand

### **Equipment Repair**

- Serviced broom
- Replaced compressor on 2013 freightliner
- Replaced heater motor on 2013 freightliner
- Serviced 2013 freightliner

Smith would like to thank those who helped out during the storm by cutting trees and clearing debris from the roadways. To mention a few, Justin Pastor, Farnsworth Road, Chris Clayson, Munger Hollow, Chris Blake and Aaron Jahnke, Beebe hill and Jim law, Health Camp Road.

Someone has been putting up signs for free firewood and says to call Chad Smith at a number that is not his. This has been going on for some time and Smith and Chief Burch will speak to this person. His identity is known to them because of the security cameras at the Laundromat. They would like to resolve this quietly. When a tree needs to be removed by the Town, it needs to go somewhere and if someone asks for the wood, the Highway Department tries to oblige. This is not being sold by Smith or the Town.

### **Code Enforcement Comments:**

February 27<sup>th</sup>

Received a call from 5564 Smith Road wanting an inspection on work that was done.

March 6<sup>th</sup>

Received a call from the clerk that I had a permit application in my mailbox.

March 7<sup>th</sup>

Stopped at the office to pick up the permits.

Received a call from Allegany County Child Protection Services. They wanted an inspection at 9940 Shaffer Road. Went to the home of 9940 Shaffer Road found several violations. Then I faxed the list of violations to Child Protection.

March 8<sup>th</sup>

Spoke Allegany County Child Protection Services. There was an unsafe wood stove at 9940 Shaffer Road. They have decided to remove the children until fixed.

March 12<sup>th</sup>

Attended school in Rochester, NY.

### **Dog Control Comments:**

-01/10/18- complaint from resident concerning his neighbor's dog. Spoke with both parties and remedied the situation

-02/02/18- resident stopped in to PD and filled out a deposition on a complaint

-02/13/18- received complaint of two loose dogs by Abbots Rd and North Shore, unable to locate after two attempts

-02/16/18- received complaint of a neighbor's dog, attempting to remedy complaint

### **Facilities Report:**

The center flag pole needs repair or replacing. It was taken out in a wind storm. When the weather breaks, it will be either repaired or replaced.

A \$27,000 distance learning grant was applied for. This will allow training to take place in house rather than having to travel. It is geared toward police or ambulance training and also presenting evidence in the Court. It may two months before we know if we are accepted.

**Old Business:**

**Tracewell/Seneca Update:** Tabled until Carney returns.

**Shared Services Update:** A memo received basically says there is nothing new happening.

**Street Lights:** There are 13 street lights on the I-86 that the Town and Village have been paying for over the last many years. Only 2 of these lights are in the Town. Carney requested a copy of the bill from the Village when we are invoiced for our portion. It seems we are paying one-half the bill and not being billed proportionately. This is something Carney is looking into to get remedied.

**Census/Luca:** Information received states we did not send information materials in on time.

**New Business:**

**Town Attorney Contract:**

The only change in the contract is the rate increased \$10 per hour. Sweet motioned to allow Carney to sign the contract seconded by Ramsey. All in favor, approved. The motion was repeated due to incorrect information in last month's copy.

**Route 446 Flooding:** A discussion took place on resolving the flooding issue on Route 446. Carney inquired of Charles Cranston of the NYS DEC on the issue. There is a lot of debris along Oil Creek, Griffin Creek, and Olean Creek. These all seem to affect this situation. It is near to impossible to get into the clogged areas to remove the debris. Certain areas require a permit. Ramsey inspected the area and showed pictures of the problem.

**NYS Municipal Energy Program:** After review, it was decided it is not for us at this time.

**Southern Tier West Renewal:** The Town will renew our contract with STW at the same level as 2017.

At 8:38 pm Ramsey motioned to adjourn, seconded by Sweet. All in favor, adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Nancy Orcutt, Town Clerk