

REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 12, 2021

**DRAFT**

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of New Bremen, County of Lewis and the State of New York was held at the Town Municipal Office Building, 8420 State Rte. 812, New Bremen, New York on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021.

Town Officer's Present: Peter J. Keys, Supervisor  
Joseph E. Aucler, Councilman  
Casandra M. Buell, Councilwoman  
Alexis L. Lyndaker, Councilwoman  
Douglas E. Herzig II, Hwy. Superintendent  
Elizabeth B. Jones, Clerk  
David L. Becker, Councilman - Absent

Also present: Ian Gilbert - Legislator

Supervisor Keys called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge to the Flag.

**RESOLUTION NO. 37 OF 2021**  
**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On a motion of Councilman Aucler, seconded by Councilwoman Lyndaker, the following resolution was  
ADOPTED Ayes 4 Aucler, Buell, Lyndaker, Keys Nays 0

RESOLVED, the minutes of the March 8, 2021 meeting are approved.

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

Councilwoman Buell

1. Iroquois' Community Grant Program – finishing up the grant application, due May 1<sup>st</sup>.
2. New Bremen Solar Community Meeting – May 20<sup>th</sup>, awaiting formal notification from Eric Will of AES. Discussed the 94-c process, filing for intervener funds and its time frame. Ian Gilbert of Conboy Law Firm, representing the Town for the solar project, stated their firm will process and file the application, which needs to be filed within 30 days after the filing of the 94-c application.
3. Broadband Funding – working on a grant to fund the placement of wireless antennas on towers throughout the county to help reach areas that have poor or no internet access. Discussed allowing the placement of an antenna on the Town's radio tower, which was one of the goals when we purchased the tower, to lease for such services. There is an additional 20' to 30' section that was originally purchased that can be added on also.

Councilwoman Lyndaker

1. Continuing to work on the NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities (CEC) grant - Energy benchmarking and energy use reporting will be the next step.

**RESOLUTION NO. 38 OF 2021**  
**TOWN CLERK & TAX COLLECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORTS**

On a motion of Councilman Aucler, seconded by Councilwoman Buell, the following resolution was  
ADOPTED Ayes 4 Aucler, Buell, Lyndaker, Keys Nays 0

RESOLVED, the Town Clerk and Tax Collector's monthly reports are approved as submitted.

**RMC**

Supervisor Keys received notice from the New York State Town Clerks Association, that Town Clerk Jones was awarded the Association’s recertification as a Registered Municipal Clerk. This award recognizes the professional competency and fulfilling the responsibilities of her office. Certification is granted only after meeting the stringent education and experience requirements established by NYSTCA. The Board gave their congratulations in her achievements.

**COUNTY**

Ian Gilbert, Legislator for District No. 4 briefed on happenings at the County:

1. Covid vaccinations continue to be administered, but have slowed down.
2. Schools are allowed 3’ distancing instead of 6’, but are struggling with the process and procedures. Are currently surveying parents for their input.
3. Legalization of marijuana in New York – discussed dispensaries within the Town and whether or not to allow them, and the impact concerning highway employees and testing. Superintendent Herzig is concerned how the new law will affect his highway department. Legislator Gilbert stated the County had the same discussion and is also concerned, but are waiting to see how others handle the complicated situation. The process to “opt in or out” of allowing sales within the Towns jurisdiction needs to be completed by the end of the year. After discussion, the following motion was made.

A Motion was made by Councilman Aucter, seconded by Councilwoman Lyndaker, to have Attorney Farley draft a local law to “opt out” of allowing sales of marijuana within the Town.

Ayes 4 Aucter, Buell, Lyndaker, Keys                      Nays 0

**WATER TREATMENT**

Reviewed a second quote for a water treatment system from Jeffrey Schwan, Water Systems Unlimited. Quote Total - \$3,850.00. After review/discussion, the following resolution was presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. 39 OF 2021  
APPROVAL OF WATER TREATMENT SYSTEM PURCHASE**

On a motion of Councilwoman Buell, seconded by Councilman Aucter, the following resolution was ADOPTED                      Ayes 4 Aucter, Buell, Lyndaker, Keys                      Nays 0

RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of New Bremen hereby approves the purchase of a water treatment system as quoted by Jeffrey Schwan, Water Systems Unlimited for \$3,850.00.

**HIGHWAY**

Highway Superintendent Herzig reported on the following:

1. Boring for new water line was done on 3/28.
2. Trimming trees, brush and chipping along road sides, hauling stone for paving and repairing dirt roads this summer.
3. Sandblasted and painted truck #38 and found four bad tires and rims, replaced with eight new tires and rims. Replaced cracked windshield also.
4. Breakroom renovations are now complete.
5. CHIPS – received notice we are getting back 15% of the 20% they took last year and is an increase in chips funding for this year. Approximate total of \$294,000.
6. Started sweeping and will be going to 10 hr. days on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

- 7. Submitted and reviewed quotes for new pickup from Nortz & Virkler, Inc. Supervisor Keys would like to get pricing from Empire Dodge in Lowville before a formal decision is made. Will try to have for May's meeting for review.
- 8. Bridge NY Program – working on the grant with Foit Albert Associates Engineering firm. Discussion followed - Received an email this evening that the box culverts on the Lomber Road will need to be replaced with a bridge. This is per Bridge NY and will cost approximately \$1.5 million, but the program covers up to \$1 million of the project, therefore, the Town would be responsible for the remainder cost and is also required to provide proof of where the funds would be coming from with the application. Time is short as the filing date for the program is April 15<sup>th</sup>. Discussion followed - Highway Superintendent Herzig feels it's best to submit for the twin bridges on the Erie Canal Road this year. The Board agrees and is uncomfortable with being responsible for the \$250,000 to \$500,000 it could cost the Town for the Lomber Road bridge.

**STIMULUS FUNDS**

Supervisor Keys received a couple phone calls from nonprofit organizations concerning the distribution of the federal stimulus funds the Town is to receive for COVID relief. Still awaiting more information concerning the proper procedures for handling/distribution of the money. Need to create a plan and application process; Councilman Aucter will work on it.

**RESOLUTION NO. 40 OF 2021  
JUSTICES MONTHLY REPORTS**

On a motion of Councilwoman Lyndaker, seconded by Councilwoman Buell, the following resolution was ADOPTED Ayes 4 Aucter, Buell, Lyndaker, Keys Nays 0

RESOLVED, the Justices monthly reports are approved as submitted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 41 OF 2021  
DCO MONTHLY REPORT**

On a motion of Councilwoman Buell, seconded by Councilwoman Lyndaker, the following resolution was ADOPTED Ayes 4 Aucter, Buell, Lyndaker, Keys Nays 0

RESOLVED, the DCO monthly report is approved as submitted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 42 OF 2021  
SUPERVISOR'S FINANCIAL REPORT**

On a motion of Councilman Aucter, seconded by Councilwoman Buell, the following resolution was ADOPTED Ayes 4 Aucter, Buell, Lyndaker, Keys Nays 0

RESOLVED, the Supervisor's monthly financial report is approved as submitted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 43 OF 2021  
AUDIT OF CLAIMS**

On a motion of Councilman Aucter, seconded by Councilwoman Lyndaker, the following resolution was ADOPTED Ayes 4 Aucter, Buell, Lyndaker, Keys Nays 0

RESOLVED, that Supervisor Keys is authorized and directed to pay the following amounts on Abstract #2 & #4 of 2021 and also approved the report of prior to audit payments for insurance, utilities, comptroller fees for justice court and Lifetime Benefits (annual fee).

(Regular Meeting of April 12, 2021 cont'd.)

General	Voucher #42 thru #53	\$5,827.84
Highway T-Wide	Voucher #29 thru #48	\$13,832.50
Highway T-Outside	Voucher #2 thru #5	\$11,471.40
H. Insurance - \$10,122.40	Utilities - \$2,416.69	
Comptroller - \$1,647.00	Lifetime Benefits - \$275.00	

The next regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of New Bremen will be held on May 10, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Municipal Office Building.

With no further business, on a motion of Councilman Aueter, seconded by Councilwoman Buell, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m. Carried unanimously.

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Elizabeth B. Jones, RMC