

REGULAR MEETING
August 8, 2022

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 8th day of August 2022.

Town Officer's Present: Joseph E. Aucter, Deputy Supervisor/Councilman
Casandra M. Buell, Councilwoman
Thomas J. Schantz, Councilman
Douglas E. Herzig II, Hwy. Superintendent
Elizabeth B. Jones, Clerk
Absent - Peter J. Keys, Supervisor and Alexis L. Lyndaker, Councilwoman

Attended by: Approximately 4 individuals

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

RESOLUTION NO. 71 OF 2022
APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion of Councilwoman Buell, seconded by Councilman Schantz, the following resolution was
ADOPTED Ayes 3 Aucter, Buell, Schantz Nays 0

RESOLVED, the minutes of the July 11, 2022 meeting are approved.

FLOOR DISCUSSION

Lindsey Buckingham asked for more information on the County's proposed Rails to Trails project. Supervisor Keys left a note that Deputy Supervisor Aucter read pertaining to his conversation with County Manager, Ryan Piche and his response on the matter, as follows: There is "not much information to share and is why there is not much information out there. A court date is set in September to negotiate a purchase price". If this is not favorable for the county, they will proceed with eminent domain. Mr. Piche is convinced this is a great plan for Lewis County. Councilwoman Buell put out feelers to the public, for their input on the proposed project. She received many responses, some not wanting to have their name out there. Many were in favor of non-motorized use of the rails, but against use of it for ATV's or snowmobiles. Joanne Dicob, State Rte. 812, New Bremen remains fighting the rails to trails project and feels the eminent domain the county is trying to obtain the land by is wrong. Where do they stop? Who's to say they don't want more land, etc. down the line.

NBFD

Jeff Duffer, President of the New Bremen Fire Department questioned why the fire department either needs to have Highway Superintendent Herzig or Shane DeRycke present to fuel their equipment. Mr. Herzig explained that due to PESH requiring the Town take down the fuel shed that housed the diesel and gas fuel tanks, they now are exposed, so the power is shut off in the highway garage for the pumps until new fuel switches he ordered arrive and are installed. Once installed keys for access can issued to the NBFD. Until then Mr. Herzig is available anytime along with Mr. DeRycke as he is in the fire department.

NOISE COMPLAINT

Jeff Duffer, Patty Street, New Bremen asked the Board if it was possible to look into a noise ordinance for the Town or for certain events. The stuck in the muck events held at AIS on Artz Road have been extremely loud, especially late in the evening to early morning. Is it possible to have a set time where no engines at such events are to be shut off? Discussed the possibility of such an ordinance, the Board will need to contact Attorney Farley for guidance.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Aucter

1. LCHS Shelter Contract – still have not received an updated contract. Will follow up on.

- 3. Village of Croghan – sent a thank you note to the Town for supporting their 2022 summer recreation program.
- 4. Employment & Liability Guidelines – Supervisor Keys submitted proposed changes as previously discussed by the Town Board and employees. Resolution to follow.
- 5. Budget Requests – a reminder to submit by August 26th.

RESOLUTION NO. 76 OF 2022

ASSESSOR LAPTOP PURCHASE VIA COUNTY INITIATIVE

On a motion of Councilman Aucter, seconded by Councilwoman Buell, the following resolution was ADOPTED Ayes 3 Aucter, Buell, Schantz Nays 0

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves payment of \$500 to be made to the County of Lewis to cover the towns portion of a new laptop for the Town Assessor.

RESOLUTION NO. 77 OF 2022

AMENDMENT TO EMPLOYMENT & LIABILITY GUIDELINES

On a motion of Councilwoman Buell, seconded by Councilman Schantz, the following resolution was ADOPTED Ayes 3 Aucter, Buell, Schantz Nays 0

RESOLVED, that the proposed changes to the Employment and Liability Guidelines as submitted by Supervisor Keys and reviewed by the Board are hereby approved and listed as follows:

- 1. Section 1.9
 - a. Add: During this probationary period the Highway Superintendent may at his/her discretion upgrade the pay rate to that of the current full time employees. This decision will be based on new employee’s experience and work ethic.
- 2. Section 2 - New Employees
 - a. Add: New full-time employees
 - b. Contribution rates - eligible employees to contribute 25%
- 3. Section 2.2 Holidays
 - a. Martin Luther King Day to become a floating holiday
 - b. President’s Day to become a floating holiday
- 4. Sub-section “B” Hourly pay rates
 - a. increase MEO rate by \$1.00 per hour
 - b. increase Deputy Supt. hourly rate accordingly
 - c. other hourly rates set with input from department heads

*New copies to be issued after changes are complete.

**RESOLUTION NO. 78 OF 2022
SUPERVISOR’S FINANCIAL REPORT**

On a motion of Councilwoman Buell, seconded by Councilman Schantz, the following resolution was ADOPTED Ayes 3 Aucter, Buell, Schantz Nays 0

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 79 OF 2022
AUDIT OF CLAIMS**

On a motion of Councilwoman Buell, seconded by Councilman Schantz the following resolution was ADOPTED Ayes 3 Aucter, Buell, Schantz Nays 0

RESOLVED, that Supervisor Keys is authorized and directed to pay the following amounts on Abstract #7 & #8 of 2022 in the following amounts, approved the report of prior to audit payments for insurance, utilities and comptroller fees for justice court as follows:

DRAFT

(Regular Meeting of August 8, 2022 con't.)

General	Voucher #97 thru #101	\$1,107.09
Highway T-Wide	Voucher #69 thru #74	\$1,911.61
Highway T-Outside	Voucher #17 thru #19	\$20,529.81
H. Insurance - \$9,801.59		
Utilities - \$1,932.34		
Comptroller - \$1,990.00		

The next meeting of the Town Board of the Town of New Bremen will be held on September 12, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Municipal Office Building.

With no further business, on a motion of Councilwoman Buell, seconded by Councilman Schantz, the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted
Elizabeth B. Jones, RMC
Town Clerk/Tax Collector