

REGULAR MEETING
October 11, 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 11th day of October 2021.

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

Attended by: Ian Gilbert – Legislator

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

RESOLUTION NO. 89 OF 2021
APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion of Councilman Becker, seconded by Councilwoman Lyndaker, the following resolution was
ADOPTED Ayes 5 Becker, Aucter, Buell, Lyndaker, Keys Nays 0

RESOLVED, the minutes of the September 13th and October 4th, 2021 meetings are approved.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Aucter

1. ARPA funds – suggested posting a notice on the towns website and to the media, stating those interested in receiving ARPA funding, should send a letter of request to the Town Board. Discussion on spending of funds followed.

Councilwoman Lyndaker

1. Tug Hill Commission is hosting a webinar on October 19th from 12 to 1 pm about the American Rescue Plan Act. Contacted other towns to see what they are spending their ARPA funds on. No one really yet.
2. Chamber of Commerce – Spoke with Kristin Aucter concerning community mural (billboard). If interested we need a building or spot for it, ideas for a design and apply by November 5th.

Councilwoman Buell

1. Lewis County Chamber of Commerce acquired four (4) murals created by artist ARCY at this year's Lewis Co. Fair. They are looking for community playgrounds within the county to display them and they chose our very own Ralph "Bub" Hall Memorial Playground. Highway Superintendent Herzig and I agreed on its placement and the highway crew will install it this week.
2. RACOG – Spoke with Mickey Detriech from the Tug Hill Commission/RACOG about joining RACOG. They have many local government resources available for members – Cooperative ZBA, access to Tug Hill Commission and their resources, website, etc. Would be able to participate in the ZBA as a Lewis County municipality with Jefferson County municipalities, which would require us finding one (1) member for the ZBA. Cost is \$450 yearly or \$650 with ZBA cooperative.

RESOLUTION NO. 90 OF 2021
TOWN CLERK'S MONTHLY REPORT

On a motion of Councilman Aucter, seconded by Councilman Becker, the following resolution was
ADOPTED Ayes 5 Becker, Aucter, Buell, Lyndaker, Keys Nays 0

RESOLVED, the Town Clerk's monthly report is approved as submitted.

COUNTY

Ian Gilbert, Legislator for District No. 4 reported on the following:

- 1. Toured the old cheese plant – Their goal is to clean up the property and sell to a private buyer. Mostly non-toxic items on-site except for asbestos, which they put out RFP’s on.
- 2. County budget – working towards a 0% increase for 2022.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Highway Superintendent Herzig reported on the following:

- 1. OSHA Violations – Mr. Herzig submitted and reviewed with the Board a list of violations we were cited for. Awaiting to receive the “notification of violation” letter before some items can be addressed; with several of the issues being completed already. Largest is the fuel tank storage building removal.
- 2. Jacob Fetterman of Trout Unlimited – They are working on improving road stream crossings, to benefit aquatic organism passage and would make the crossings more resilient to high water and flooding. They are looking at a trout stream on the Brewery Road and would consist of replacing the current culvert with a 13’ wide, open-bottom cement cast culvert at no cost to the Town and they perform the work.
- 3. Bridge NY – still waiting to hear if we were awarded a grant for the projects submitted.
- 4. Crosswalk – Discussion – Board feels it is more of a school issue and if the school feels the need for a crosswalk they need to request the Towns support in the matter.
- 5. Mowing Tractor – Submitted 2 quotes for the Board’s review for the purchase of a new mowing tractor with attachments. New Holland through Tracey Road Equipment and John Deere through Stephenson Equipment, Inc. Prices are expected to increase after the 1st of January. No action taken, will continue to review and get resale or trade in value of our 2008 New Holland tractor. Board is not interested in using CHIPS funding to offset the cost of a new tractor due to the 10-year requirement.
- 6. Sale of tandem – Discussed whether to advertise it for sale on Auctions International or advertise for bid ourselves. No action taken.

**RESOLUTION NO. 91 OF 2021
JUSTICES MONTHLY REPORTS**

On a motion of Councilwoman Lyndaker, seconded by Councilwoman Buell, the following resolution was
ADOPTED Ayes 5 Becker, Aucter, Buell, Lyndaker, Keys Nays 0

RESOLVED, the Justices monthly reports are approved as submitted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 92 OF 2021
DCO MONTHLY REPORT**

On a motion of Councilwoman Buell, seconded by Councilman Becker, the following resolution was
ADOPTED Ayes 5 Becker, Aucter, Buell, Lyndaker, Keys Nays 0

RESOLVED, the Dog Control Officer’s monthly report is approved as submitted.

REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS

Reviewed the current real property tax exemptions. Assessor Ball recommended they remain the same for 2022. After discussion, the following resolution was presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. 93 OF 2021
REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR 2022**

On a motion of Councilman Aucter, seconded by Councilwoman Lyndaker, the following resolution was
ADOPTED Ayes 5 Becker, Aucter, Buell, Lyndaker, Keys Nays 0

RESOLVED, that the Real Property Tax Exemptions are to remain the same for the 2022 year for the Town of New Bremen per recommendation by Assessor Ball.

*Copy of said exemption listing is incorporated at the end of these minutes.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Supervisor Keys presented a transfer of \$30,000.00 from A9902.9 to the equipment reserve and/or building reserve funds. After discussion, the following resolution was presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 94 OF 2021

TRANSFER OF FUNDS

On a motion of Councilman Aucter, seconded by Councilman Becker, the following resolution was
ADOPTED Ayes 5 Becker, Aucter, Buell, Lyndaker, Keys Nays 0

RESOLVED, that Supervisor Keys is authorized to transfer \$10,000.00 from A9902.9 to the Equipment Reserve Fund and \$20,000.00 from A9902.9 to the Building Reserve Fund.

INSURANCE

Supervisor Keys, Clerk Jones and a couple highway employees met with Robert Ransier, Brown & Brown insurance agents to review 2022 health and dental insurance packages and premiums as an 8.9% premium increase is projected for 2022. Discussed lowering the employee’s contribution rate from the current 30% to 25% for 2022, as the HRA plan has been excellent for the Town along with the employee participating in the insurance. The Board is in favor, but would like Supervisor Keys to be sure the amounts in the 2022 preliminary budget for insurance will be sufficient to cover the Towns share. Will review further at the November regular meeting.

EMPLOYMENT AND LIABILITY GUIDELINES

Discussed updating the guidelines to allow or give the option when hiring that the candidate may reside out of the township and/or left to the discretion of the highway superintendent when hiring. No action taken.

RESOLUTION NO. 95 OF 2021

SUPERVISOR’S FINANCIAL REPORT

On a motion of Councilwoman Buell, seconded by Councilman Becker, the following resolution was
ADOPTED Ayes 5 Becker, Aucter, Buell, Lyndaker, Keys Nays 0

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

RESOLUTION NO. 96 OF 2021

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

On a motion of Councilman Aucter, seconded by Councilwoman Lyndaker, the following resolution was
ADOPTED Ayes 5 Becker, Aucter, Buell, Lyndaker, Keys Nays 0

RESOLVED, that Supervisor Keys is authorized and directed to pay the following amounts on Abstract #8 & #10 of 2021 and also approved the report of prior to audit payments for insurance, utility and comptroller payments.

General	Voucher #105 thru #113	\$2,275.89	Insurance -	\$9,493.10
Highway T-Wide	Voucher #81 thru #86	\$10,073.41	Utilities -	\$1,541.70
Highway T-Outside	Voucher #24 thru #29	\$62,735.64	Comptroller -	\$628.00

OTHER BUSINESS

Highway Superintendent Herzig asked the Board for permission to advertise for part-time help for winter as he is running low on part-time applicants to call upon.

On a motion made by Councilwoman Buell, seconded by Councilman Aucter, Highway Superintendent Herzig is authorized to advertise for part-time winter help.

Ayes 5 Becker, Aucter, Buell, Lyndaker, Keys Nays 0

(Regular Meeting of October 11, 2021 con't.)

DRAFT

The next regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of New Bremen will be held on November 8, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Municipal Office Building.

With no further business, on a motion of Councilman Becker, seconded by Councilwoman Lyndaker, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m. Carried unanimously.

Elizabeth B. Jones, RMC
Town Clerk/Tax Collector