

REGULAR MEETING  
September 14, 2015

**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 14<sup>th</sup> day of September 2015.

Town Officer's Present: Peter J. Keys, Supervisor  
David L. Becker, Councilman  
Susan J. Sauer, Councilwoman  
Joseph E. Aucter, Councilman  
Steven Brooks, Councilman  
Jonathan M. Bush, Highway Superintendent  
Elizabeth B. Jones, Clerk

Attended by: Approximately 5 people

Supervisor Keys called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. with the Pledge to the Flag.

### **MINUTES**

Supervisor Keys clarified that the cost of the Town Clerks new computer was taken out of the Contingent Fund A1190.4, via decision made by himself and the accountants, instead of splitting between the Clerks Contractual and Contingent Funds, as previously discussed.

Councilwoman Sauer would like it clarified in the minutes of the August 27, 2015 special meeting, that Supervisor Keys did not state that he asked her to obtain a list of people interested and willing to serve on the planning board, but to come up with a re-worded law. Discussed past issues with keeping a full five member planning board, required training and to consider amending the Site Plan Review and Zoning Law to give more authority to the Planning Board. To be discussed further with Attorney Farley at our next board meeting. After discussion, the following resolution was presented.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 88 OF 2015 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

RESOLVED, the minutes of the August 10<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015 meetings are approved with the above suggested revisions being made by the Clerk.

### **PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR**

Supervisor Keys opened the floor for comments from the public. Randy Aucter of the Soft Maple Road complained about the purchase of the 2016 Tandem and that the money was not budgeted for, etc. Supervisor Keys explained the need to purchase the new tandem and that the Board looked at several financing options before agreeing to purchase it. Councilman Aucter also stated that it was budgeted for.

**COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS**

Councilman Becker obtained information from local cemeteries on fees they charge for the purchase of burial plots and distributed copies to the Board. Supervisor Keys stated the NYS Cemetery Association will be forwarding information on cemeteries to Attorney Farley. Once received, the Board can work on putting together a policy.

Councilwoman Sauer reported that the fit trail stations are stained and had help from several community members.

Councilman Aucler and Councilman Brooks have been reviewing the towns Dog Law and have a few suggested changes, which Councilman Aucler reviewed with the Board. He will contact Attorney Farley to get a proposed amended law together for review at the next board meeting.

Councilman Brooks contacted Frank Pace, County Planner, concerning training programs and its potential to be used as shared service credits. Michael Seelman, Dept. of State Division of Cemeteries did a walkthrough of the New Bremen Rural Cemetery. He suggested that fencing would be a good use of the grant funds and recommended obtaining quotes and refilling for the grant. Also, spoke with Mitch Fidler and the Constableville Historical Society, pertaining to the cleaning of old headstones in the New Bremen Rural Cemetery by students of the Beaver River Central School during their community service day event.

**RESOLUTION NO. 89 OF 2015  
TOWN CLERK'S MONTHLY REPORT**

On a motion of Councilman Becker, seconded by Councilwoman Sauer, the following resolution was  
ADOPTED Ayes 5 Becker, Sauer, Aucler, Brooks, Keys Nays 0

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

**RESIGNATION OF DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

Clerk Jones reported that Deputy Town Clerk, Aimee Murphy has resigned as Deputy Town Clerk with her last day being September 3, 2015. Clerk Jones has not yet appointed a new Deputy but will notify the Board when she does.

**RESOLUTION NO. 90 OF 2015  
JUSTICES MONTHLY REPORTS**

On a motion of Councilwoman Sauer, seconded by Councilman Aucler, the following resolution was  
ADOPTED Ayes 5 Becker, Sauer, Aucler, Brooks, Keys Nays 0

RESOLVED, the Justices monthly reports are approved as submitted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 91 OF 2015  
DOG CONTROL OFFICER'S MONTHLY REPORT**

On a motion of Councilman Aucler, seconded by Councilman Brooks, the following resolution was  
ADOPTED Ayes 5 Becker, Sauer, Aucler, Brooks, Keys Nays 0

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

**HUMANE SOCIETY**

Supervisor Keys received an inspection report on the Lewis Co. Humane Society from NYS Department of Ag & Markets and it was found in satisfactory condition.

**REASSESSMENT PROJECT**

Supervisor Keys received information from the state on the reassessment project and forwarded copies to the Board and Assessor.

**REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS**

Reviewed the current real property tax exemptions and whether they should remain the same for 2016. Councilwoman Sauer asked if the Board should look in to adding a solar exemption. It was decided to wait and see what the County does and research it further. After discussion, the following resolution was presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. 92 OF 2015  
REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR 2016**

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

RESOLVED, that the Aged, Business and Veterans Real Property Tax Exemptions are to remain the same for the 2016 year for the Town of New Bremen. Copy of said exemption listing is recorded at the end of these minutes.

**ASSESSOR**

Assessor Ball submitted a report to Supervisor Keys explaining his work thus far on the Town Wide Reassessment Project along with property sales and transfers within the town.

**DATA COLLECTOR/ASSISTANT**

Assessor Ball received four (4) resumes and contacted three (3) of those candidates for the Part-Time Assistant/Data Collector position. Only one returned for the interview, David Jones of Beaver Falls. Assessor Ball recommended Mr. Jones for the appointment. After discussion, the following resolution was presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. 93 OF 2015  
APPOINTMENT OF PART-TIME ASSISTANT/DATA COLLECTOR**

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

RESOLVED, that David G. Jones is hereby appointed as Part-Time Assistant/Data Collector, to fill the term held by Mr. Pinkham. Term of Office - 9/14/15 through 12/31/15.

**NBCIA**

Robin Grunert, President of the New Bremen Community Improvement Association, will be retiring at the end of this year and is looking for someone qualified and interested in filling her position. She asks the Board if they hear of any interested persons to send them her way.

**ZONING**

Supervisor Keys received a letter from Annette Halko and Paul Brown, 8826 Van Amber Rd., pertaining to the removal of the vacant trailer located on their property and their receipt of Supervisor Keys letter requesting a plan of action. They stated they are making considerable progress and plan to continue as their schedules and time allows.

Supervisor Keys stated he did not receive a response from Eugene Cady pertaining to the cleanup of his property located at 8476 State Rte. 812. Discussed what the next step by the Board should be. Supervisor Keys will ask Attorney Farley to attend the next board meeting to discuss what direction to take with both properties.

**BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW**

Terry Opela's term of office on the BAR ends September 30, 2015. After discussion, the following resolution was presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. 94 OF 2015  
BOARD OF REVIEW REAPPOINTMENT**

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

RESOLVED, that Terry Opela is hereby reappointed to the Board of Assessment Review, term of office October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2020.

**AUDIT**

Supervisor Keys received a letter from the Unified Court System requesting copies of the Justice's 2014 annual audit reports and resolution of adoption by the Board. Clerk Jones will prepare copies and forward to the Unified Court System.

**RESOLUTION NO. 95 OF 2015  
SUPERVISOR'S MONTHLY REPORT**

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

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



**RESOLUTION NO. 96 OF 2015  
AUDIT OF CLAIMS**

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

RESOLVED, that Supervisor Keys is authorized and directed to pay the following amounts on Abstract #8 & #9 of 2015 in the following amounts.

General	Voucher #112 thru #121	\$5,042.66
Highway T-Wide	Voucher #83 thru #96	\$4,931.64
Highway T-Outside	Voucher #18 thru #21	\$71,441.05

**TENTATIVE BUDGET 2016**

Clerk Jones submitted copies of the 2016 Tentative Budget to the Board. Supervisor Keys gave a brief overview and set budget workshops for October 19<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. and October 26<sup>th</sup> (if needed) at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Municipal Office Building.

**TAX CAP**

Supervisor Keys suggested setting a public hearing date to consider a local law to override the tax levy limit. After discussion, the following resolution was presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. 97 OF 2015  
SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED  
LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2015 - TO OVERRIDE THE TAX LEVY LIMIT**

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

RESOLVED, to hold a Public Hearing of proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2015, A Local Law to Override the Tax Levy Limit Established in General Municipal Law 3-c at the October 12, 2015 regular monthly meeting at 6:00 p.m at the Town Municipal Office Building.

The next regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of New Bremen will be held on October 12, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Municipal Office Building.

With no further business, on a motion of Councilman Becker, seconded by Councilman Brooks, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m. Carried unanimously.

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Elizabeth B. Jones, RMC  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector