

REGULAR MEETING
May 13, 2019

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 13th day of May 2019.

Town Officer's Present: Peter J. Keys, Supervisor
Joseph E. Aucler, Councilman
David L. Becker, Councilman
Marcus Bush, Councilman
Casandra M. Buell, Councilwoman
Elizabeth B. Jones, Clerk
Nicholas Astafan, DCO

Absent: Jonathan M. Bush, Hwy. Superintendent

Attended by: Approximately 4 people

Supervisor Keys called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. with the Pledge to the Flag.

**RESOLUTION NO. 48 OF 2019
APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

RESOLVED, the minutes of the April 8, 2019 meeting are approved.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Aucler and Bush are having scheduling conflicts with the Highway employees to review the Employment & Liability Guidelines.

Michael Tabolt, 8352 Dicob Road, Town of New Bremen submitted an application to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names proposing the naming of a falls on Black Creek in the Town of New Bremen "Dicob Falls". The U.S. Board on Geographic Names is asking the Town Board to either fully support the proposal or not support it. After discussion, the following resolution was presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. 49 OF 2019
APPROVAL OF PROPOSED NAMING OF DICOB FALLS**

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

WHEREAS, the U.S. Board on Geographic Names received an application to name the falls located on Black Creek in the Town of New Bremen "Dicob Falls", and now therefore be it

RESOLVED, the New Bremen Town Board approves of the proposed name Dicob Falls.

Councilwoman Buell reported on the following:

1. The playground cleanup with the leadership academy had twenty five (25) people assisting.
2. Didn't receive the Youth Development Funds Grant we applied for on behalf of the NBCIA – didn't qualify.
3. Would like to apply for a \$1000 grant for municipal funding through the Lewis County Youth Bureau to cover the remaining cost for the playground project.
4. Secured a community stewardship grant of \$1000 for the playground.
5. Ordered the playground equipment and should arrive in June.
6. Not having much luck with the CFA to help cover the cost of a salt storage unit. The Northern Regional Community Funds are only for economic development.

After discussion of all items, the following resolution was presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. 50 OF 2019
MUNICIPAL FUNDING – LEWIS COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU**

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

RESOLVED, Councilwoman Buell is hereby authorized to apply for municipal funding through the Lewis County Youth Bureau for the playground.

**RESOLUTION NO. 51 OF 2019
TOWN CLERK & TAX COLLECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORTS**

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

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

YOUTH REC CONTRACTS

Clerk Jones presented three (3) Youth Recreation Contracts for 2019 summer as budgeted. The New Bremen Community Improvement Association (NBCIA), Beaver River Recreation Association and Village of Croghan are to provide structured educational and recreational activities and instructional and recreational swim for the youth of the Town of New Bremen for the 2019 summer as stated in the contracts. After discussion, the following resolution was presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. 52 OF 2019
APPROVAL OF SUMMER YOUTH RECREATION CONTRACTS**

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

RESOLVED, the New Bremen Town Board does hereby enter into a contract with the NBCIA for \$2,000.00, Beaver River Recreation Association for \$2,500.00 and the Village of Croghan for \$4,000.00 and are required to provide structured educational and recreational activities and instructional and recreational swim for the youth of the Town of New Bremen for the 2019 summer. Complete contracts are on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent Bush submitted a written report to the Board on the following:

1. Need resolution from the Board in support of extending the speed zone on Snell Road as requested by Gracey's at last month's meeting.
2. Leadership Academy group cleaned up the park and walking trails, etc. and would like to come again next year.
3. Submitted two applications for summer youth to assist in mowing, trimming, flagging, etc. and is funded through the summer youth program.
4. Installing new flag pole in New Bremen Rural Cemetery to replace broken one.
5. Sweeping is progressing.
6. Lighting upgrade in municipal buildings started and will be finished tomorrow.
7. Small group of highway superintendent's are trying to get the state to bring back a CDL testing site in Lewis County. Looking at utilizing the old Climax facility as a test site, this would benefit the people of Lewis County and surrounding areas.
8. Asked for thoughts from the Board what direction they would like to move in regards to the equipment replacement plan and whether to pursue a sand/salt storage facility.

Discussion followed with no action, but will keep in mind how to proceed with the equipment replacement plan. After discussion, the following resolution and motion were presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. 53 OF 2019
IN SUPPORT OF EXTENDING SPEED ZONE**

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

WHEREAS, the Town of New Bremen received a request to extend the 35 mph speed zone on Snell Road due to high traffic volume and farming operations in which large farming equipment crosses/travels the road frequently, and

WHEREAS, it is a county highway and a formal request must be submitted by the County Highway Superintendent to the New York State Department of Transportation along with the Town Boards approval, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, the New Bremen Town Board does support extending the 35 mph speed zone on Snell Road from the beginning/ending point as currently marked and extending it southerly past the Gracey farm towards the Benton Road intersection.

REPORT

A Motion was made by Councilman Aucter, seconded by Councilwoman Buell, accepting the Highway Superintendents monthly report. Ayes 5 Becker, Aucter, Bush, Buell, Keys Nays 0

**RESOLUTION NO. 54 OF 2019
JUSTICES MONTHLY REPORTS**

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

RESOLVED, the Justices monthly reports are approved as submitted.

DCO

Mr. Astafan submitted his monthly report and discussed the following:

1. Met with Annette Holowka, inspector from Ag & Markets – equipment is adequate and well maintained, paperwork was in order, discussed issues in regards to receiving information from LCHS on disposition of dogs in a timely manner. They have been working with them to resolve the issue. Learned that the maximum time the town is required to be liable for a seized dog that is unidentified is 5 days as per Section 117 paragraph 4 of Article 7. Current contract with the LCHS lists 10 days. She noted that is fine, however is NOT required by Ag & Markets.
2. Fostering of dogs – consider adding a section to our local dog law to exempt dogs being fostered by a “qualified fostering organization” from being licensed. He submitted a sample law for the Board’s review.
3. Exempt dogs – consider adding a section to our local law to exempt dogs with health issues that should not receive the rabies vaccination per a veterinarian’s request.
4. Late fee – consider adding a section to our local law for a late fee for delinquent licenses.

Discussion followed with no action on suggested amendments to local dog control law and licensing law. Will need to contact the LCHS pertaining to item 1 above if the Board wishes to pursue. After discussion, the following resolution was presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. 55 OF 2019
DCO MONTHLY REPORT**

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

RESOLVED, the DCO monthly report is approved as submitted.

AUDIT OF SUPERVISOR RECORDS

Auditing Committee finished their audit of the Town Supervisor’s 2018 records, look to be in good order. After discussion, the following resolution was presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. 56 OF 2019
AUDIT OF SUPERVISOR RECORDS**

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

RESOLVED, the New Bremen Town Board did audit and approve books of accounts for the Town Supervisor for the 2018 year and found them to be in good order, correct and true.



*Copy of said audit is incorporated at the end of these minute proceedings.

STREET LIGHTING CONVERSION PROGRAM

Supervisor Keys received an invoice from National Grid for the LED Outdoor Street Lighting Conversion Program. Once paid the conversion will be completed.

ASSESSOR

Supervisor Keys spoke with Assessor Ball – he didn’t realize that a reval should be completed in 2019. We did not budget for it; unsure of the total cost to complete – postage, envelopes, etc. Councilwoman Buell will contact Lewis Co. Real Property Tax Office to possibly consider it as shared services with the postage. According to Assessor Ball, if we don’t go through with a reval in 2019 the Town’s equalization rate would drop to 97% for 2020. No action at this time.

SOLAR

Supervisor Keys spoke with Brett Hastings from Geronimo Energy discussing the development of a potential solar farm and interested land owners in the Town. Discussed community fund project they are interested in assisting with if the potential solar farm comes to light. In early stages.

**RESOLUTION NO. 57 OF 2019
SUPERVISOR’S FINANCIAL REPORT**

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

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 58 OF 2019
AUDIT OF CLAIMS**

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

RESOLVED, that Supervisor Keys is authorized and directed to pay the following amounts on Abstract #4 & #5 of 2019 in the following amounts.

General	Voucher #53 thru #68	\$10,518.54
Highway T-Wide	Voucher #48thru #61	\$6,157.00
Highway T-Outside	Voucher #5 thru #9	\$3,675.78

FLOOR

Resident Sue Sauer, 8319 Mattis Road, Town of New Bremen questioned why the committee needs to meet with the Highway employees to discuss changes to the Towns Employment and Liability Guidelines. Feels it’s unnecessary and puts the Board in a bad position. The Board feels it helps create a good working relationship and keeps the lines of communication open.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT TRAINING

Supervisor Keys informed the public that the Board, Clerk and DCO will be completing the required sexual harassment training at this time and are welcome to stay. The public left the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

The next meeting of the Town Board of the Town of New Bremen will be held on June 10, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Municipal Office Building.

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

Elizabeth B. Jones, RMC
Town Clerk/Tax Collector