

**Town of Ancram
Town Board
Regular Meeting
April 19, 2018**

Present: Supervisor Arthur Bassin Councilman Hugh Clark
 Councilman David Boice Councilwoman Madeline Israel
 Councilwoman Bonnie Hundt
 Town Clerk Monica Cleveland
 Highway Superintendent James Miller

The regular meeting of the Ancram Town Board was called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Arthur Bassin with a salute to the flag.

Mr. Bassin asked if there were any items on the agenda which would cause a board member to recuse themselves. There were none.

Mr. Bassin asked that all board members review the Ancram Emergency Management Manual and the Columbia County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Councilman David Boice suggested that the town look into acquiring a highband radio system in case of an emergency as well as a defiberator and have the town personel be trained on both.

Mr. Boice shared that durring the storm on Monday, the winds were clocked at 70mph with 100mph gusts.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Israel and seconded by Councilman Clark to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2018 as read and placed on the record. Motion carried.

Supervisors Report

1. Financial Report – No financial surprises in March. We have been notified that the first mortgage tax check will be about \$18,000, which is about 50% of the 2018 budget of \$35,000. Sales taxes for the last quarter have been running about 5% ahead of last year, suggesting our 1Q sales tax check will be about \$70,000. General fund spending through March was about flat to last year, while Highway spending was up about \$20,000 caused by higher repairs, snow removal and fuel costs. Highway received about \$16,000 from FEMA for 2017 snow removal costs, and will be getting about \$197,000 in CHIPS and other highway aid this year, which is about \$27,000 better than budget. As you know, Highway received the new grader last month, and we will be paying for it this month. The \$240,000 cost of the grader will come from a combination of highway general repairs money and fund balance. Cash on hand as of the end of February was \$1,384,000. We currently have about \$1 million on deposit with TD Bank in their liquid investment account earning 1.5%, which is 1% more than we had been earning from BOGC

2. Tin Smith House – We have been notified by our attorney that we should do a phase 1 environmental review of Tin Smith before we decide whether or not to accept it, and that we may have to do a permissive referendum before we demolish it. I am asking for bids on the phase 1, and am looking into how to avoid the permissive referendum.

3. 82/7 Intersection – Will meet with the NYSDOT and County Highway on 4/16 at 10 to discuss the intersection. Will report on this at the TB meeting.

4. Comp Plan Review Process – We have completed the workshops, Hamlet, Fire Company and board/committee discussion groups. Next step is the survey, which should be going out in late May.

5. FAC Audit – FAC is targeting to complete the Audit by the end of April. Court, Building Department and Planning/Zoning have been audited. Town Clerk/Tax Collector and Town Supervisor are left to do.

Councilman Clark spoke of the alleged dumping of sewage incorrectly on Sawchuk Road. DEC will be inspecting on Friday. The company who is doing the dumping does have permits issued to do so. The permit is up for renewal in May.

Board Member Comments

Councilwoman Hundt has volunteered to work on the LUCA census address updating process.

Councilwoman Israel announced that a newsletter will be hitting mailboxes next month. She also reported that the sign company will be putting up the Town of Ancram sign once the weather complies.

Councilman Clark made note of the garbage along the roads this spring. Mr. Bassin will ask the group that volunteers each year to take on this task of cleanup if they are planning to do the roadside cleanup this year.

Highway Department

The department took possession of the new road grader on March 21st and have begun using it. They are working on cold patching pot holes.

A motion was made by Councilman Boice and seconded by Councilwoman Hundt to allow Mr. Miller to attend Highway training. Motion carried.

Mr. Mike Citrin asked if the Highway Department could look at the library driveway and give an estimate on how much it would cost for them to have it fixed.

Town Clerk

The town clerk will be out of the office April 22-25th to attend the Town Clerk Conference in Albany.

Ethics Board

The board will be meeting in June.

Camp/Pool Board

The board will meet on the 21st of April to continue to set up the 2018 camp.

Historian

There will be a public meeting on the proposed Ancramdale Hamlet Historic District on May 19th.

CAC

The committee took part in a culvert assessment trip around the town. They are preparing a summary of the Natural Resources Conservation Plan and are looking for comments.

A motion was made by Councilman Clark and seconded by Councilwoman Israel to approve the following budget adjustment:
-Move \$140,000 from fund balance to 5130.2

A motion was made by Councilwoman Hundt and seconded by Councilman Boice to approve the warrant and pay the bills. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Clark and seconded by Councilman Boice to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Monica R. Cleveland
Ancram Town Clerk