

December 9, 2008
Regular Meeting of the Town Board
Of the Town of Cuba
NOT YET APPROVED

Present:

Supervisor: Barbara Deming

Council Persons: Jerry Scott, Robert Carney, Lynnford Sweet, Gary Gluck

Also Present: Nancy Orcutt, Town Clerk, Steven Nease, Highway Supt.

Absent: Gary Fries, Police Chief & Ambulance Administrator

Supervisor Deming called the meeting to order at 7 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

15 Minutes for Public to Speak: No comments.

Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting 11/11/2008: Two corrections to October Minutes, the increase in the budget is 2.95%, not 2.59% and the ambulance building should be reconsidered in the future months, not years. It was also clarified that the documents that code enforcement is housing is currently not stored in a fire-safe environment, but there is a back up at Atlantic Inland, which is stored in a fire-proof environment. Sweet motioned to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by Gluck, all in favor, motion approved.

Approve the Supervisor's Report for November: The General Fund received \$17,055.96, disbursed \$45,888.26 while the Highway Fund received \$1,019.09, and disbursed \$63,146.19. Sweet motioned and Scott seconded to approve the abstract. All in favor, motion passed.

Approve General & Highway Abstract for December: Total for the General Fund is \$45,076.21, Highway Fund is \$21,069.62 Seven additions should be made, they arrived late. They are included in the amount given. A motion was offered by Scott and seconded by Sweet to accept the Abstract with the additions. Motion passed with the agreement of all Board Members.

Clerk's Correspondence: A new Windows updated program has been installed for tax collection. The program is faster running, can compile more reports, and store more information as the years progress.

Board Comments: Deming read a letter from the Cuba Fire Dept. thanking the Town Highway Dept., in particular, John James, for the use of a Town Vehicle for refueling one of their trucks during the fire that destroyed Echo Lanes. Without their cooperation, the Fire Dept. would have been in dire straights for fuel. It was also stated that it is nice to live in a community that cooperates with each other during emergencies and other programs.

Deming also commented that Bob McGarvey would like to be present when the bids are opened for the Sewer District #5. Deming told him he would be contacted at that point.

Sweet inquired if the Town would be participating in the economic stimulus program. Deming said yes, the Sewer Project and the new Town Hall and Ambulance Building are included and has been submitted. Carney thanked the Police Dept. for taking care of the parking problem on Hamilton Hill Road.

December 9, 2008

Police Department Comments: Chief Fries was not present but submitted the following totals for November - UTT, 25, YTD, 521, MVA, 12, YTD, 88, calls for service, 301, YTD, 3372 and number of cases, 41, YTD, 343.

Ambulance Comments: There were 33 calls to service for November. Of these, 13 were critical care calls with Cuba handling 7, Olean-10, 6.

Fire Department Comments: Cuba 3, the 1993 KME Pumper, is back and fully refurbished. It now looks like a new truck. The deteriorated water dump shoot was replaced by a compartment, bodywork was completed, and the truck has been repainted, new reflective stripe and new lettering. With Cuba 3 now back and both pumpers having the capabilities of carrying 4 air mask m=personnel as well as a driver, the trucks are now being alternated every other month as the first out pumper. This procedure will keep more even use on the trucks. The first 200 Club party was in conjunction with the Ham & Turkey Party last month. With the idea, coming one week prior to the event, the Department was still able to sell all 200 tickets and greatly increased the attendance. There were 13 incident responses for the month of November: MVA, 6, structure fire, 3, vehicle fire, 1, mercy flight, 1, chimney fire, 2.

Highway Department Comments: Shoulders on a section of North Branch Road has been repaired. Also several holes on Collier Road repaired. Plowing and sanding as needed, 18 out of 26 days. Equipment repairs: replaced the water pump on the 2003 Sterling, Replace alternator on the 1995 tool truck, replaced the air intake duct to the turbo on the F-550, replaced broken u-bolts on the 1999 Mack and repaired the center pin on the F-550 plow. Two yellow-flags have been posted to the W. Main Street Bridge. One is for "scour", it comes and goes depending on the water flow and the second is for a hole that needs filled in where a tree was removed. Rick Hall has been notified and as weather permits, these will be repaired.

Dog Control Officer Comments: Botens submitted the following report to be read by the Clerk. From November 6 and December 4, 2008, there were 12 major incidents with 141.2 miles covered to complete these calls. There were six dogs reported as straying; however, upon completing the calls, several dogs within the limits of their own properties. The SPCA Serving Allegany County took in one stray. There were several reports concerning barking dogs within the village. All owners notified of the village law. In addition, numerous owners were notified concerning their expired licenses.

Code Enforcement Officer Comments: Some permits are being closed out and a few new ones written. Several certificated were issued on completed permits. A fire report was issued to the Fire Chief on a chimney fire. In past years, Klein received two sets of code enforcement books, one for Village and one for Town. Since he held both positions, one set was donated to the library as reference books. Now that Klein is retired from the Village, he has requested the set of books back from the library for Town use.

Old Business:

Sewer District #5 Update: The final approval from the DEC is still needed. They state the project is approved, it is just a matter of completing paperwork on their end.

December 9, 2008

Reval Update: There was a meeting held to discuss the Lake District. Updates are still being done and a great deal of sales information has been compiled.

Loader: The new John Deere loader will be available mid January. A discussion was held on the financing. Deming is going to check with Pullen's office to see which is more beneficial, a R.A.N. (revenue anticipation note) or a B.A.N. (bond anticipation note).

Highway Contract Update: Scott spoke with Stocker and activity is at a standstill. No proposals have been submitted as of yet. This is the case with other Highway Departments also. No action can be taken until Stocker is given a proposal to work with. This information comes from the Highway union.

January Meeting Reminder: The first meeting for 2009 will be held on Wednesday, January 14, 2009 at 7:30 PM at the Library.

New Business:

Cemetery Needs: Scott and Deming attended a Cemetery Association Meeting. The Cemetery is in need of money. With their income being low at this point, they do have some fundraisers planned. At this meeting they Association asked the Town if it comes down to it, will the Town help them out? NYS law reads that if the Cemetery cannot support itself, the care will revert to the Town. Deming stated that if it comes to that point, helping them financially would be less expensive than having to take over the cemetery.

2008 Budget Amendments: Deming asked permission to amend the current budget. She explained that none of the funds is short, but some of the lines may be short. Sweet motioned that Deming be allowed to make the necessary amendments. It was seconded by Gluck, all in favor, motion passed.

Highway Outside Reserve: The Highway Outside has a surplus, and Deming suggested to set up a reserve fund for an emergency. After December's bills are paid, about \$48,881 will be left. This money could help in a situation such as a flood or if the CHIPS money does not come through. Carney motioned to set up a reserve fund, seconded by Scott. All in favor, motion passed.

Transfer Funds To Highway Town Wide: The Town Wide account is short \$35,000. Money needs to be moved from the A Account to the DA Account. There is sufficient funds to do so. Gluck motioned to allow Deming to do the transfer, seconded by Carney, all in favor, motion passed.

Dog Control Alternate: Botens asked that Claudette and Matt Haynes be appointed as her alternates when she is unavailable. They have helped out in harboring animals in the past and have also assisted the SPCA. After some discussion, it was decided that Botens and the Haynes should appear at the Board Meeting and submit their request in person.

December 9, 2008

Taiser Demonstration: Jamie Deck gave a demonstration and informative explanation on Taisers. All police personnel require an eight-hour annual certification course before the officer has clearance to carry one on duty. There are different combinations of Taisers available. Some come with a video camera so there can be no cover-up of abuse. The camera is activated as soon as the safety is turned off. It is shot into an open area of the body, not into thick clothing such as a puffy coat, but maybe the leg or arm. There are two probes with barbs on copper wires that are shot into the body. The electricity is in the body before the probes hit, when they hit it sends the electricity into the body. It is instant pain and is gone just as quickly. It is a deterrent, disabling the perpetrator so the officer can take control of the situation. Councilman Jerry Scott volunteered for a one-second jolt. He was instantly brought down to his knees. If he had been the perpetrator, it is easy to see how the police officer could cuff him and take control of the situation. A lengthy discussion took place following the demonstration. Jamie Deck was invited back next month for a public question and answer period. All are welcome, and please jot down your questions or just come and listen.

15 Minutes For The Public to Speak: Tony Tatham voiced his opinion on Taisers and felt that the Town of Cuba, being the small and friendly community that it is, has no real need for the use of such a tool.

At 8:40 PM Gluck motioned to adjourn to executive session to discuss Police business, seconded by Scott, all in favor, motion passed.

At 9:21 the regular meeting reconvened where Scott motioned to start charging for fingerprinting with the fee to be determined at a later date. Gluck seconded the motion, all in favor, motion passed. Scott motioned to accept the new scheduling for the Police Department. Sweet seconded the motion, all in favor, motion passed.

At 9:22 PM Carney motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Sweet, all in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy A. Orcutt
Town Clerk, Town of Cuba