

Minutes of January 27, 2014 Germantown Town Board meeting, held at the Germantown Town Hall, Germantown, NY, commencing at 7:00pm

Present: Supervisor Joel Craig
Councilman Don Westmore
Councilman Michael Mortenson
Councilman Matthew Phelan
Councilwoman Andrea Dunn

Recorded by: Town Clerk Joyce Vale

Supervisor Craig opened the meeting and led the Pledge to the Flag.

Supervisor Craig introduced new Town Clerk, Joyce Vale and new Town Board members, Matthew Phelan and Andrea Dunn.

Motion to approve the December minutes made by Councilman Mortenson, second by Councilwoman Dunn, with all in favor and none opposed.

Motion to pay Town audited bills with changes on abstract in mind made by Councilman Mortenson, second by Councilman Westmore.

Supervisor Craig: Aye
Councilman Westmore: Aye
Councilman Mortenson: Aye
Councilman Phelan: Aye
Councilwoman Dunn: Aye

Written Communication- None reported by Town Clerk

Supervisor Craig said, that Town Historian stepped down and is being replaced by Sue Raab. A presentation for Marguerite Riter will be held at a later date.

Resolution: WHEREAS, Marguerite Riter has faithfully served as Town Historian for many years and
WHEREAS, she has shared her knowledge of local history of our town and been a tireless advocate for the preservation and maintenance of the Germantown Parsonage and
WHEREAS, she contributed much of her time and energy to the 300th Anniversary Celebration
Therefore be it RESOLVED that on the 27th day of January 2014 the Germantown Town Board does hereby name Marguerite Riter Historian Emeritus for the Town of Germantown.

Motion made by Councilman Mortenson and second by Councilman Phelan.

Supervisor Craig: Aye
Councilman Westmore: Aye
Councilman Mortenson: Aye
Councilman Phelan: Aye
Councilwoman Dunn: Aye

A personal note from Supervisor Craig, that when he moved to Germantown, he went to the Parsonage, for a quick tour and ended up spending the whole morning with Marguerite Riter. We appreciate her enthusiasm over the years.

Department Updates

Maintenance -reported by Anthony Cidras

- Quiet month
- Removal of all Christmas decorations
- Winter cleanup
- Inventory in the Activity Building

-Putting together orders for Spring and Summer

Supervisor Craig mentioned he heard the Garden Club was donating an Arbor Day Tree. Anthony is not sure.

Highway-reported by Councilman Westmore

- Plowing and sanding
- Keeping culvert pipes and ditches open for ice thawing
- Load of sand 2 times
- Used 212.13 tons of salt for season so far
- Routine maintenance
- Brush and tree trimming, as temperature rises

Sewer- reported by George Sharpe Jr.

George has made a list, will read off smaller term repairs.

- Replace bar screens in the grit chamber
- Panel box supports need to be reinforced, welded
- Cat walks, railing need welding

Talk to an engineer for these projects. George has gotten estimates. Supervisor Craig stated they will put together to go out to bid.

Police- reported by Roger Rekow

-115.5 hours of patrol time were logged in for December.

- 11 Traffic tickets
- 15 Warnings
- 1 Auto accident with property damage
- 1 Dead deer in the road
- 1 Injured deer in the road
- 1 Vehicle blocking roadway
- 2 Attempted assaults
- 2 AUO's (Aggravated Unlicensed Operation)
- 1 Suspicious person
- 1 Court transport
- 1 Assist other agencies

Park Patrols: Cheviot –32 times, Anchorage – 25 times, School –29 times,
Palatine Park – 29 times, Dales Bridge – 21 times

Sue Rabb said, Thank you for the appointment of Town Historian. Has hard shoes to fill. Has a good team to work with. There are quite a few projects in the works.

Supervisor Craig mentioned that at the Re-Organizational meeting they disbanded all of the committees. Tonight we are going to re appoint some of these committees.

New committees are as followed:

--Community, Arts and Tourism Committee--Corinne Curry (Chair), Norman Mintz, Virginia Sibbison, Billy Kimmell

--Business and Economic Development Committee--Roy Brown (Chair), Patricia Hinkein, James Lawlor, Otto Lueschel

--Parks and Recreation Committee--Brittany Dufresne (Chair), Liz Bathrick, Ranee Snow, Richard Mayr

--History Committee--Jeremy Smith (Chair), Helen Henderson, Ruth Decker, Joan Burger, Nancy Balazs, Alvin Sheffer, Richard Coons, Hank Himelright, Marguerite Riter

--Disaster Preparedness Committee--Andrea Dunn (Chair), Michael Mortenson, George Sharpe Sr., Linda Sharpe, Robert Beaury, Roger Rekow, Stan Pollard

--Independence Day Committee--

Supervisor Craig said, Germantown will be bringing back the fireworks this year for the Independence Day celebration.

Jeremy Smith said, looking at the list, that each committee is dependant on each other. Are the committees going to be liaised by the Town Board. Supervisor Craig said, that each Town Board member will liaison with a committee. Jeremy said, that each committee will be talking and working with each other. Each committee will submit a list of what they want to accomplish this year.

Roy Brown said, Thank you for his appointment. Everyone on the committee is excited to get going. The signs are waiting for a font from Norman, then the signs can be begin to get carved. It should take about 6 weeks.

Corinne Curry said, she is excited about the committee, it's very focused. Arts are going to bring people to this town. She is looking forward to it.

Motion made by Councilman Westmore, second by Councilman Mortenson.

Supervisor Craig: Aye
Councilman Westmore: Aye
Councilman Mortenson: Aye
Councilman Phelan: Aye
Councilwoman Dunn: Aye

Old Business

Supervisor Craig said, the week before last, we attended the Association of Towns training in Albany for newly elected officials.

Councilman Phelan said, the training was very helpful in understanding the rules and policies as a council.

Councilwoman Dunn said, it was full of information. Very proud of the Town of Germantown the way everyone gets along, that it's not like that in some of the towns. The Comptroller's office was very helpful. They also looked up towns for found monies.

New Business

Supervisor Craig said, that Councilman Phelan came to him asking if he could attend the annual conference for additional training. Training consists of building budget documents, internal controls, municipal grants. The conference is April 3rd and 4th. Tuition is \$295.00 for 2 days. Councilman Phelan asked if there was enough money in the budget for the training. Supervisor Craig said, it would be well worth sending Councilman Phelan.

Councilman Westmore commented, if we don't send Councilman Phelan we won't have enough money.

Motion made by Councilman Phelan, second by Councilman Mortenson.

Supervisor Craig: Aye
Councilman Westmore: Aye
Councilman Mortenson: Aye
Councilman Phelan: Aye
Councilwoman Dunn: Aye

Supervisor Craig said that the Town of Germantown has a new Face Book page. We should encourage people to sign up and like our page. This will be a way of keeping people informed of the goings on in town.

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Craig has been busy at the County level. He is very impressed with the other supervisor's from Southern Columbia County, Ray Staats and Jim Guzzi, and that he looks forward to working with them.

Supervisor Craig said, that the Town of Germantown has new accountants. The Town Board will be meeting with the accountants prior to the next Town Board meeting at 6:00pm to go over financial reports. This meeting is open to the public.

Supervisor Craig also brought up the wake of Lenny Helsley, which many attended this evening. Mr. Helsley was long-time resident of Germantown, WWII veteran and more than 50 years of service on the Germantown Fire Department. We will mourn the loss of this community servant.

Open to Public

Kay Abraham said, Thank you for a short meeting. Mrs. Abraham welcomed new Town Board members and Town Clerk. She will be sending her notes to be put on the town website.

Reminder the next Town Board meeting will be held, February 24, 2014 at 7:00pm, with a 6:00pm meeting with the accountants.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilwoman Dunn, second by Councilman Westmore, with all in favor and none opposed.

Respectfully submitted,