

Regular Meeting
Of the Town Board of the Town of Cuba
Held at the Cuba Library, 39 East Main Street, Cuba, NY

Present:

Supervisor: Barbara Deming
Council Persons: Robert Carney, Joseph Miller, Jeffrey Dahill
Also, Present: Nancy Orcutt, Town Clerk, Dustin Burch, Police Chief & Ambulance Administrator, Steven Nease, Highway Supt.
Via Skype: Lynnford Sweet, Council Person

Supervisor Deming called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00pm.

Public Comments: Lynn Volk asked if the assessors could start submitting a monthly report as they do not attend the meetings. Deming replied she would put in a request.

Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting 12/10/2013: Carney motioned to accept the Minutes as presented. Dahill seconded, all in agreement, motion passed.

Approve Supervisor's Report for December: The Supervisor's Report showed the General Fund received \$40,717.15 and disbursed \$59,146.98; Highway Fund received \$36.63 and disbursed \$42,241.22. Dahill motioned to approve the Supervisor's Report as presented, seconded by Carney. All in favor, motion passed.

Approve General & Highway Abstracts for January: Dahill motioned to approve the Abstract seconded by Miller. All in favor, motion passed. The General Fund is \$43,759.62, Highway Fund is \$39,422.74.

Board Comments: Miller will be setting up a meeting with the DA, the Town Justices and himself to discuss the probability of hiring a Town Prosecutor to help defer funds being paid to the state to come to the Town of Cuba. This is due to an article published in the Olean Times Herald. It caught the attention of the DA and he is finally acknowledging the Town's request to at least discuss the matter. After some discussion, Sweet motioned to have the meeting date set and proceed with the possibility of having a Town Prosecutor. Carney seconded the motion, all in favor, passed.

Clerk's Comments: The DEC is now operating on a new program. The Town will be receiving a slightly higher commission on sales. There are problems in getting the DEC printer to operate properly. Orcutt has spent many hours on the phone trying to resolve the problem and so far has not had any success. This seems to be a common problem throughout the state.

Taxes have been mailed and payments are coming in at a steady rate.

Police Department Comments: Cuba Police responded to 311 calls to service in December and developed 19 cases. The Police Department handled 14 motor vehicle accidents, 7 in the Town, 5 in the Village, 1 on the Lake and 1 on I-86. There were 50 traffic summons issued (10 in the Town, 20 in the Village and 7 on the Lake and 2 on I-

86). The Department also handled 6 motorist assists, 8 vehicle lock-outs, 0 parking tickets, 11 other agency assists, and 3 domestic disputes. The department assisted the Ambulance on 9 calls. The annual report has been posted on the police portion of the Town's website and a copy is attached to the Minutes in the book.

Resignations have been accepted from Gary Fries and John Waide.

Ambulance Comments: Cuba Ambulance responded to 30 calls for service in the month of December. Twenty-seven patients were taken to Olean General Hospital, 1 was taken to Jones Memorial Hospital and 1 was a sign off. Thirteen calls were in the Village of Cuba, 6 in the Town of Cuba, 2 were on Cuba Lake, 7 were in New Hudson and 2 were on I-86

Highway Department Comments:

Worked performed in December included the following services:

- Plowing and sanding as needed
- Cold patch in holes on Jackson Hill, Spring Valley, and Stout roads
- Mack rear axle went out, used backup truck (International) to plow and sand.
- Sander went on International and used a spare sander, if it wasn't for the Freightliner truck being able to haul more sand and make one pass up and back on the roads instead of two, work would have been greatly delayed

Equipment Repairs:

- Sterling serviced
- Mack rear axle repaired
- Minor repairs to snowplow equipment

Dog Control Officer Comments:

- ❖ New village resident inquired about dog laws
- ❖ Unidentified dog running at large transported to Joyful Rescues

Code Enforcement Comments:

- Permit written to the Cuba Lake Authority for a pole barn
- Permit written for a single mobile home at 4005 Youngs Road

Old Business:

Town Hall Progress: The survey is complete and now the DEC is doing a SEQR study.

Sewer District #5: Long term loan has been finalized. The inter-municipal agreement with the Town of Ischua has been signed.

New Business:

Attorney Retainer: The hourly rate on a three year contract has gone up by \$25 to \$150/hour. Pullen is still lower than most Town Attorneys. After a brief discussion, Carney motioned to retain Pullen's services. This was seconded by Dahill, all in favor, motion passed.

Appointment of Assessor: There was an oversight in the November election for assessors. David Crowley's term was up and his position was not on the ballot. There was some discussion to reappoint him or advertise for the position at the last meeting. The subject was tabled because the vote was 2-1. On a Board with 5 members, votes must

have at least 3 either yea or nay to be legal. After some discussion this month, Dahill motioned to appoint David Crowley to the position until the end of 2014. If decides to pursue the position he will have to run in November for the remainder of the term which will expire in 2017. Carney seconded, all in favor, passed.

Med-Ex Billing: It was discussed to either raise the rates or keep them the same. Sweet motioned to keep the same rates as there is no need for more money to maintain the Ambulance billing at this time. Dahill seconded the motion, all in favor, passed.

Bridge Rehab: The County has already stated the schedule for bridges that are in need of repair for 2014 and no suggestions need be made.

A motion to adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel was made by Carney and seconded by Dahill at 7:25pm. All in favor, passed.

At 8:15 pm, the meeting reopened where Miller motioned to raise Lorie Sweet's monthly pay from \$75 to \$100 for her cleaning services at the Court House and Police Station.

Dahill motioned to temporarily hire Jeff Schoening as a part-time police officer for a short period of time to enable him to combine his retirement time from two agencies. He will be paid the lowest rate, must be on light duty, will have part-time status, and not allowed to drive Town vehicles. Carney seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

At 8:20pm the meeting was adjourned by Dahill's motion, Carney's second and agreement of the Board.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy A. Orcutt
Town Clerk, Town of Cuba

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**TOWN OF CUBA
APPOINTMENTS AND DESIGNATIONS
2014**

Depository: Five Star Bank for all accounts, with the exception of the Town Clerk's account, which will remain with Community Bank.

Monthly Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month at Cuba Library

Official News Paper:	Cuba Patriot
Attorney:	David Pullen
Deputy Supervisor:	Rob Carney
Registrar of Vital Stats:	Nancy Orcutt
Deputy Registrar	Jeff Orcutt
Deputy Town Clerk:	Jeff Orcutt
Police Commissioner:	Barbara Deming
Historian:	David Crowley
Dog Control	Richard Patterer
Ambulance Administrator	Dustin Burch

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Police Committee:	Rob Carney & Dustin Burch
Highway Committee:	Jeff DaHill & Chad Smith
Ambulance Committee:	Lynn Sweet & Dustin Burch
Equipment Committee:	Rob Carney, Chad Smith & Dustin Burch
Budget Committee:	Entire board
Board of Ethics:	Barb Deming, Joe Miller & Nancy Orcutt
Grievance Committee:	Mike Miller, Bill Allis, Jerry Scott

**TOWN/VILLAGE OF CUBA
ANNUAL HISTORIANS REPORT – 2013**

When the calendar rolled over from 2013 to 2014, many people, world-wide, were delighted to see the old year gone. The year 2013 had been filled from start to finish with many events that were difficult to deal with for many. Ranging from such things as the Boston Marathon bombing to more school shootings, and weather related events such as hurricanes, typhoons, forest fires, and severe tornadoes which destroyed entire communities, it was a rough year for many Americans.

- February 10, 2013 was the last Sunday services were held in the First Presbyterian Church at 38 East Main Street. The church was first organized in 1827 with services being held in homes in the then sparsely settled area. In 1838 the first church structure was erected and later replaced in 1871 by the present structure. The church is closing due to the low attendance. In 1927 there were 220 members of the church compared to 42 in 2013. The Rev John Woodring has been the pastor for nearly 10 years.
- The Cuba Village board of trustees held hearings on a proposed 25% rate increase for usage of the village sewer system. Sewer fees are tacked on to the quarterly water bills issued by the village. The increase was adopted effective with the March billing.
- Cuba Village Elections were held on March 19, 2013 when Mayor Thomas Taylor was re-elected to his third consecutive term. Incumbent Trustee Judy Zayac was re-elected and Lon Sweet was elected to a trustee's position defeating incumbent Patricia Patroni.
- Cuba Garlic Festival enjoyed record crowds for the 9th annual event held at Empire City Farms (Block Barn) Grounds. Rainy weather put a damper on the first day of the two-day event, but a reported attendance of just under 8,000 people pleased planners of the annual festival.
- Brooke Jordan, a 2011 graduate of Cuba-Rushford High school and a sophomore at SUNY Geneseo, was honored with the National Cabella's and Safari Club International Young Hunter of the Year award at the SCI's annual convention January 23-26 in Reno, Nevada.
- One of the largest drug and weapons finds in recent history took place when Southern Tier Regional Drug Task Force the Cuba Police Department and several other police agencies made to felony arrests in February at 4206 Route 305 South in the town of Cuba.

DRAFT

- In April Area police conducted an active-shooter drill at the Cuba Rushford Middle-High School. The session was the Cuba Police Department's response to the December massacre in Newton, Connecticut when 22 school children were shot by a crazed gunman. Thirty C-R Youth Court played the parts of victims during the drill.

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On the economic side, the economy for the nation was still struggling throughout the year, but the stock market showed strong gains, bringing hope that the economy was on a good road to recovery. The unemployment rate for Allegany County hovered at around 7%.

Locally, the following items were of note:

- The NYS Comptroller's office released at audit in March after review of the Cuba Village Sewer fund which would help village officials make up a \$54,000 deficit and pay back about \$70,00 to other village funds.
- South St. Mart (former Uni-Mart building) opened by John Freeman was closed in late summer and subsequently sold and re-opened in December.
- Running Haven Tack Shop – 32 West Main Street owned by Bonnie and James Cobado was closed due to health reasons for the owner.
- Big John's Tavern; 43 W Main Street; owned by John Ringleberg and family was closed and the business is for sale
- The Cuba Chamber of Commerce put the finishing touches on renovations to the building at 5 West Main Street, for Chamber offices and plans are to move into the office in very early January.
- The small brick building at 30 East Main Street was sold to Robert Sprague. This historic building is thought to date back to the 1850's and has, for the past several years been home to Life Science Laboratories, a water and soil testing business. At one time in the early 1960's it housed the Cuba Police Department and had also been the home of the Cuba Historical Society Museum when the society was first organized..
- Work continues on the restoration of the Palmer Opera House building on West Main Street and the nearly completed second story opera house has been used for several local events and concerts. The Cuba Cheese Museum and Cuba Friends of Architecture have located the cheese museum artifacts in the ground floor lobby area of the opera house.

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2013 – 2014 Village Officials

Mayor, Thomas Taylor;

Trustees, Judith Zayac, Lon Sweet, Michael Doyle, Andrew Swift

Deputy Mayor, Judith Zayac

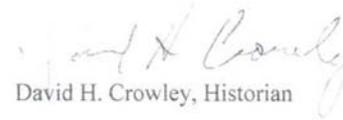
Village Attorney, John Cappellini

Clerk/Treasurer, Diane Wilson

Public Works Superintendent, Richard Hall

Deputy Public Works Superintendent, Randy Snyder

Respectfully Submitted



David H. Crowley, Historian