

Parma Town Board meeting held on Tuesday, February 18, 2014 at the  
Parma Town Hall, 1300 Hilton Parma Corners Road, Hilton, New York.

**ATTENDANCE**

Supervisor	James Smith
Councilperson	Gary Comardo
Councilperson	James Roose
Councilperson	Tina Brown
Councilperson	Kyle Mullen
Highway Supt.	Brian Speer
Building Inspector	Jack Barton
Director of Parks and Recreation	Tom Venniro

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Assessor Don Wells, Library Director Becky Tantillo, Recreation Commissioners Al Howe and Dave Tresholavy, Mike Weldon, Lon Jacobs, Mark Bernreuther, Stan Hoy, Scott Gresko, Arda Davey and other members of the public.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Supervisor Smith called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, followed by a moment of silence. Emergency exit procedures were noted.

**MINUTES – FEBRUARY 4, 2014**

**RESOLUTION NO. 81-2014** Motion by Supervisor Smith, seconded by Councilperson Comardo to accept the Minutes of the February 4, 2014 Town Board meeting with one minor correction to remove Smith from page 8, line 8.

Motion carried: Aye 5 Nay 0

**TOWN CLERK REPORT**

The Town Clerk reported correspondence was received today from Monroe County announcing the Notice of a 30 Day Period for Inclusion of Predominately Viable Agricultural Lands into Certified Monroe County Agricultural Districts. Copies will be provided to the Board and Mr. Barton.

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Supt. Speer noted that salt is hard to come by. He has ordered another 500 ton of which 200 has been received so far. Currently, there is a minimal quantity of salt on hand. If the winter continues as it has, this could be an issue. The department is trying to conserve but at the same time keeping public safety in mind. We have reached 100% of the contract tonnage and can go over that by 20%. This will be approximately 1,000 ton more. He has just ordered half of that and we will still have another 500 ton left at the contract price. If we go over that amount we will be paying a premium rate. The salt budget is at

zero and he has spoken with the Supervisor about having to transfer funds to cover additional purchases of salt starting with this most recent 500 ton purchase. Having to purchase now will leave us with little reserve for next fall.

Supt. Speer will not be at the next Town Board meeting. He will be going to Albany to lobby for the road CHIPS program. He felt the Town has received a good return for the dollars spent to go to Albany each year. We have received a gain of \$9,000 since he has been going and felt that if we do not go the money will go to something else.

Councilperson Mullen asked where we are with salt usage as compared to other municipalities around us. Supt. Speer did not know. He noted the last time the Superintendents got together, the supply issue was not at a crisis point. He noted the state commandeered a very large amount of salt which made salt unavailable for several days to others. He felt that all communities were in the same situation and noted some towns go to sand. He felt sand does not accomplish anything, leaves a lot of debris and is not a good thing.

Councilperson Comardo asked for clarification on whether we will have a problem with salt shortages before the end of the year. Supt. Speer would like to see a supply stockpiled for the next season, the mine will continue to mine through the summer to recover and replenish their supply for the upcoming season. There was additional discussion that the Town budgets on a calendar year and the contract runs from August to August of each year. It is expected that we will not reach the premium price because of the timing. However, we may not stockpile as much salt as we might have been able to in the past if the winter had not been as bad as it's been.

### **BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Mr. Barton informed the Board that we use Sercu and Sercu primarily for zoning, code enforcement and dog control issues. Lara Badain has been the attorney representing us through Sercu and Sercu. She will be starting her own practice the first of March. He expects we will be receiving formal notice of this change before the end of the month. The Board will have to address this at their next meeting if they want to continue to use her as our representation.

### **RECREATION DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Mr. Venniro explained the AARP tax season has begun and is in full swing. They offer tax filing assistance three days a week and schedule up to 20 appointments per day. They are already fully booked through the middle of March. Hilton Rotary will be sponsoring a free Ham Dinner at the Community Center on March 6<sup>th</sup> for our seniors. There have not been evening meals held recently and this will be the kickoff to start this again. The Sweetheart Dance was well attended with about 125 participants. The Spring 2014 Program Guide will be ready for distribution to the public at the end of the month. In conjunction with this, the department will be launching new program registration and facility rental software that will coincide with the brochure. Assistant Director Jim Volkmar will be out for an extended period of time with a health issue. The department is in the process of posting for a full-time position to replace the void left by the former Senior Center Coordinator's departure. Civil service is being contacted about posting for the position. The new position will be posted later in the week.

## **LIBRARY REPORT**

Becky Tantillo reported on the January usage statistics. She highlighted adult programming which included *A Passion for Painting* and *Write It and Read It* programs. Local artists are featured each month. Last month the work of Dennis Kamp was exhibited last month in the Library meeting room. These exhibits have sparked interest from other local artists to request being able to display their work. Tomorrow will be Winter Wonderland Day at the Library. The event will include a visit from Splat the Cat, face painting, crafts, a raffle and pictures with Splat. Support for this event was provided by Friends of the Library and there has been very good publicity received. There was a good turnout for the *Take Your Child to the Library* event held earlier this month. It is hoped that more events like this will draw people to the Library. She also reported that work continues on the annual report and strategic plan.

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

Supervisor Smith opened the public forum and asked if there was any citizen present who would like to address the Town Board about their concerns.

Scott Gresko, of Henrietta, noted he feels a tie with the Town through a membership in another organization. He acknowledged receipt of the email regarding the suspension of duties by the Parma Special Police. Mr. Gresko expressed his disappointment regarding several issues including the rift between local agencies and the Special Police not being able to be fixed; the group not being used the past two to three years and was no longer going to be active; and that volunteers had dedicated their time to training, and obtaining equipment only to be let down with some not being able to achieve certifications. He noted he is retired and has had the opportunity to take courses which in turn would allow him to train others not just Special Police. He felt this was a loss and that there may come a time when they may be needed and there would not be trained volunteers to be used. With regard to comments on the shortages of available salt, he noted there were ships loaded with salt for the eastern seaboard waiting to be properly flagged so that they can go from port to port in the United States. Supt. Speer explained this does not affect our situation in that we have a contract with American Rock Salt for our salt. It may be affecting others on the east coast.

Supervisor Smith responded regarding suspending the operations of the Parma Special Police. He noted that over the past several months he had met with people from the Village, the Monroe County Sheriffs and the Fire Department and the consensus was they were not planning to use the services of the Special Police. He noted he had pleaded the case many times over the past several years and met no success. It did not seem to make sense to have a unit that trains and meets with nothing to do.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **AGREEMENT TO EXTEND INDEXED LUMP SUM MUNICIPAL SNOW AND ICE AGREEMENT**

**RESOLUTION NO. 82-2014** Motion by Councilperson Brown, seconded by Councilperson  
Roose, to accept the Amendment to Change the Estimated Expenditure for Snow and Ice  
Agreement with New York State for the Indexed Lump Sum Contract; authorize the Town  
Supervisor to enter into the agreement which will reimburse the Town of Parma

\$211,648.22 for the 2013/14 season; and extend the contract through June 30, 2016, unless changed by future update.

Motion carried: Aye 5 Nay 0

**INTERNAL AUDIT FOR REVIEW OF  
JUSTICE COURT RECORDS  
TOWN CLERK AND TAX RECEIVER RECORDS**

This is a procedure required to be done annually. The difference between what will be charged for the Court and the Town Clerk/Tax Receiver reviews is in the amount of material that will be looked at and tested. The Clerk noted that was discussed with her is appropriate for this kind of review.

**RESOLUTION NO. 83-2014** Motion by Councilperson Comardo, seconded by Councilperson Mullen, to authorize an internal audit of the Parma Justice Court's finances by Tim Hungerford, of Hungerford and Vinton, LLC as required annually by the New York State Unified Court System for the amount of \$100; and the Town Clerk and Tax Receiver finances by Tim Hungerford, of Hungerford and Vinton, LLC as required annually by Sections 62 and 123 of Town Law, for an amount not to exceed \$900 for the fiscal year ending December 2013.

Motion carried: Aye 5 Nay 0

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Supervisor Smith noted that a year-end summary of Court Attendant activity had been provided by Court Officer Attendant Joe Silivestro. Mr. Silivestro noted it was a successful year.

**LIAISON REPORTS**

\*\*Councilperson Brown reported the Conservation has had no new projects for the last couple of meetings. She attended the Planning Board meeting which included (a split/merge for) a property on North Union St. and the Plantation Party. The owner would like to sell the home on one of the parcels and in order to do so the driveway will have to be moved. When the parcel is squared up the driveway can be moved but the zoning classification for a section of the newly defined property lines will have to be changed. The owner will need to apply to the Town Board for a zoning classification change to Residential to accomplish this.

\*\*Councilperson Comardo – no report.

\*\*Councilperson Roose noted there had not been a Recreation Commission meeting since we last met.

\*\*Councilperson Mullen reported the Zoning Board of Appeals will be meeting this week. He noted there are four items on the agenda and that two of them have requested to be tabled.

\*\*Supervisor Smith reported he attended a meeting with Councilperson Mullen, Supt. Speer, the Village DPW and representatives from the state to plead our case for getting funding for the construction of the joint salt shed. Grant funding had previously been applied for but was not received. It was noted that

25% of the project work was done by the Village DPW and Town Highway Departments. The four entities (Village, Town, School District and Fire Department) who benefited from the project all contributed to the project. The state representative's response was that we met all the criteria except that it was not providing a new service and that was the purpose of the grant. In our case, funding for infrastructure was being requested for grant funding. The state was not looking for infrastructure projects but more to do with the consolidation of services. He also noted the pollution abatement portion of the project was only a tiny part of the criteria. The conclusion was that future applications need to take into consideration how we can work jointly to provide a new or consolidated shared service that will save money if we hope to receive funding in the future. Councilperson Mullen noted we did save funds by being able to purchase salt in larger quantities; we took down an old building, and did an environmental cleanup. We did all the right things but did not provide a new service and that was what they were looking for. There was further discussion on how we might do this in the future.

The last Historical Society presentation was well attended. The Town Hall meeting room was filled to capacity for a presentation on "Hilton When It Had a Railroad".

Councilperson Mullen noted that he also attended the School Board meeting where there was discussion on the Alternative Veterans Exemption which would provide veterans a partial tax break on school property taxes. He expects they will likely defer action on this. What he learned is that if they give the credit to a veteran, the school district will still have to make it up somewhere else. The reduction would come off for veterans but the remaining taxpayers bills would go up to compensate for the difference. So regardless of which STAR exemption you have you would be paying more. In addition if the veterans credit is given, the calculation for funding from the state will result in the school district receiving less STAR dollars. He noted that all districts are grappling with this issue.

Supt. Speer noted the School District, Village of Hilton, Fire Department and Town will have access to the new fuel island being built at the southeast corner of the existing bus garage. The specifics of how each will get gas have yet to be worked out.

There being no further business before the Town Board, Councilperson Comardo made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m., seconded by Councilperson Mullen.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna K. Curry  
Parma Town Clerk