

**Regular Monthly Town of Pierrepont Board Meeting, December 30, 2024**  
**County of St. Lawrence, State of New York, 864 State Highway 68, Canton, NY 13617**

**Present:**

**Jane Powers, Supervisor**  
**Julian “Olla” Filiatrault, Town Clerk**  
**Robert Moulton, Highway Superintendent**  
**Laurie Hance, Assist. to Supervisor**

**Councilpersons: Roger Murray**  
**John Glasgow**  
**Chad VanBrocklin**  
**Shawn Spellacy**

**Meeting attendees/Public:** Darren Richards – Code Enforcement.

Mercy Spellacy; Fred Green; Jamie VanBrocklin; Daniel Manor Jr., Dennis Eickhoff; Charles Dean; Susan Dean; Lauren Dean; Connie Hatch-Young; Clay Streit; Rebecca Evans; Bill Evans; Robin Huntley; Shawn Miller; Craig Smitt; Denyse Russell; Eric Wright; Cheryl Guyette

**Regular Meeting: 6:30PM Called to order.**

Supervisor Powers opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:30 PM.

**Minutes Approved:**

- Minutes of Last Board Meeting November 26, 2024. **Motion** to approve by John Glasgow, second by Chad VanBrocklin. No discussion. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried unanimously.
- Minutes of Budget Hearing, December 2, 2024. **Motion** to approve by Roger Murray, second by Shawn Spellacy. No discussion. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried unanimously.
- Minutes of Special Meeting, December 12, 2024. **Motion** to approve by Chad VanBrocklin, second by Shawn Spellacy. No discussion. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried unanimously.

**County Legislators,**

Legislator Rick Perkins submitted a report of December 2, 2024, County Legislature Board Meeting. It is available on request.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Supervisor, Jane Powers:**

- Supervisor Powers stated that this is the report for the end of November. Everything looks ok. We’ve gotten our revenue from CHIPS funding. We are still awaiting funding from the flood disaster. Most of that will come from the federal government.
- **Motion** to approve Supervisor’s report for the month of November 2024 made by Chad VanBrocklin, second by Shawn Spellacy. No discussion. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried unanimously.
- Supervisor Powers also reported that we have some property tax rate numbers that we just got from the real property office. Overall, if you look at the tax rates, they are a little less than last year.

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**Highway, Bob Moulton:**

Bob Moulton reported that we are obviously in winter weather. We have new hires that are doing well. One truck that is being worked on, under warranty, and we are getting that checked out. Laurie Hance and I have been busy with FEMA, getting all the paperwork together that is needed. We had our first initial meeting with them, that I thought went well and we have another meeting with them in January. They have said it will be multiple meetings before we get through it all. Other than that, we have been maintaining the roads and normal winter weather work.

**Town Clerk, Olla Filiatrault:**

- Written report submitted. Available for review.  
Revenue paid to Supervisor \$ 156.78  
TOTAL REVENUE DISPERSED \$ 596.00
- **Motion** to approve Town Clerk’s report for the month of November 2024 made by Chad VanBrocklin, second by Shawn Spellacy. No discussion. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried unanimously.

**Code Enforcement, Darren Richards reported:**

- 1 Building permit issued with the total \$25 collected.
- Darren Richards reported that a few Building Permits just came in and will be reported next month. I’m already enrolled in two Code Officer reup classes at the end of March and two businesses are coming to Pierrepont, an ice cream shop and physical therapist in-home business.
- **Motion** to approve Code Enforcement’s report for the month of December made by Shawn Spellacy, second by Roger Murray. No discussion. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried unanimously.

**Assessor, Amy Hunt:**

No report.

**Planning Board Report:**

No report.

Councilman Murray introduced to the board Connie Hatch-Young and James Corbett who are interested in becoming a member of Planning Board. Also, Clay Streit who would like to stay on as an alternate. Jane Powers said we will handle that at our organizational meeting next month.

**Courtesy of The Floor:**

- Dennis Eickhoff on behalf of the Union Free Church read a complaint letter that addressed to the Town Board We have a formal letter of complaint, dated December 19<sup>th</sup>, to the Assessor, Amy Hunt, Supervisor Jane Powers, and the Pierrepont Town Board. Mr. Eickhoff read the letter to the Board. A full copy of the letter is available on request. The letter outlined several complaints and concerns regarding the Town’s Assessor and her actions regarding the Union Free Church.
- Susan Dean provided the Town Board with copies of the letter.
- Donna Clark said that she, her husband, and children had in the past conducted many services at the church. She said they would like to do that again and would like to see the process expedited whatever has to be done to make this a reality. She also spoke regarding the history of the church.
- Craig Smith questioned, “Are we taxing the church currently and how many years have we taxed the

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church?” Jane Powers responded that this is the first year that the church has been taxed because it was not being used as a church. Mr. Smith also asked, how long have we had this Assessor? Jane Powers answered, five years.

*\*Laurie Hance joined the meeting at 6:55PM*

- Daniel Manor, Jr. questioned the Board regarding the Town Garage Project. Where are we with the Town Garage Project? What are we spending for Architects and are we using the original plans? It has been a year and a half.

Councilman Murray responded that the original building plan is not being used because the costs came in double what had been planned. Councilman Murray stated that we are now working with a new plan for the building. Mr. Manor questioned, “is it going to meet our needs? Mr. Manor addressed the concern that the building meets the needs for the future and if we have to spend more to do that, it would make sense to make sure it meets our needs going forward.

Councilman Murray discussed that securing financing had slowed the process and he explained why. Mr. Manor stated the building in terrible condition and asked if there was the possibility of seeking an emergency declaration that had been mentioned at a previous meeting. Laurie Hance stated she had checked with the Insurance company, and they had advised that would not work in this situation.

Mr. Manor also asked about the status of the Town hall bathroom project and was the contractor going to finish it. Councilman Murray answered that there had been delays and a lack of oversight, it seems, by the architect firm. He said the contractor is coming back to finish the job and meetings were being held with the architect to review concerns. Laurie Hance stated that the Judge had met with the Architect, due to the impact of the bathroom problems on the Court and the Judge made them aware of his concerns and what needed correction, including ADA compliance issues.

Mr. Manor also questioned about the Christmas lights on poles. Nice, but no power. Councilman Murray explained the process of working with National Grid and the delays involved. They should be lit next year. Bob Moulton said there have been many compliments on the lights even as they are at this time, and they will be very nice with power.

- Susan Dean from Union Free Church Association stated officials and representatives of the Town have been very helpful and respectful in all of their interactions with her and others from the Church Association, with one exception, she stated, the Town’s Assessor. Susan Dean read several concerns she had with a letter the Assessor had written to the Church Association. Jane Powers replied that she would need to talk with the Assessor about it and would like a copy of everything they are presenting to the Board tonight.

Councilman Murray responded that we are not opposed at all to the church and it operating as a church. Sue Dean stated they have been delayed in proceeding because of the delays caused by the Assessor. Other concerns about the Assessor were voiced by Sue Dean and others from the public.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- The Town Clerk, Olla Filiatrault provided the Town Board with a ZBA and Planning Board training record for the year 2025 to be reviewed. The training is mostly given by Code Enforcement Officer, Darren Richards.
- Motion to approve that the Town of Pierrepont Organizational meeting will be held on Tuesday January 7, 2025, at 7:00PM, at the Pierrepont Town Hall, made by Shawn Spellacy, seconded by John Glasgow. No discussion. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried unanimously.

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**GENERAL FUND VOUCHERS:**

- Councilman Murray opposed to authorize payment \$749.00, Abstract #12, Voucher #365 to Corrie Mousaw, LaBella, and requested not to pay it.  
Laurie Hance explained what that bill was about and why it possibly should not be paid at this time.
- **Motion** by John Glasgow, seconded by Shawn Spellacy. No discussion. Councilman Murray opposed payment of voucher #365 to Labella. All in favor of authorizing payment of the General Fund Abstract #12, Vouchers #343-367, Total of \$11,819.68 minus \$749.00 voucher #365.

**HIGHWAY FUND VOUCHERS:**

- **Motion** by Shawn Spellacy, seconded by Roger Murray. No discussion. None opposed. All in favor of authorizing payment of the Highway Fund Abstract #12, Vouchers #284-302, Total of \$27,927.28.

**Additional:**

- Administrative Assistant, Laurie Hance asked permission from the Board to balance the account for the year 2024. I am requesting permission from the Board to make any necessary changes to transfers or appropriations before I complete and submit the December report.  
**Motion** to approve Laurie Hance, Admin to balance the account for the year 2024 made by Chad VanBrocklin, seconded by Roger Murray. No discussion. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried unanimously.
- **Motion** to approve Laurie Hance, Admin to close the book for the year 2024 made by Shawn Spellacy, seconded by John Glasgow. No discussion. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

- **Motion** to adjourn the meeting at 7:43pm. Motion made by Chad VanBrocklin, second by John Glasgow. No discussion. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting minutes prepared by Town Clerk, Julian "Olla" Filiatrault.  
Respectfully Submitted, Julian "Olla" Filiatrault, Town Clerk