

**TOWN OF COVERT
TOWN BOARD MEETING AND
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
JANUARY 13, 2014**

The organizational and regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, January 13, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Present

Others Present: Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Town Clerk, Colleen Freese, Highway Superintendent, Jeffrey Mac Cheyne, Reporter Aneta Glover, and other interested citizens.

Call to order

Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

A moment of silence was held in memory of Richard Bauer a veteran, who was responsible in getting the Veteran's Memorial in the front yard of the Town of Coverts municipal building.

Public Hearing:

Supervisor Reynolds opened the Public hearing at 7:30.

The said purposes of the public hearing was to hear comments on the variance request under the Land Management for Peter Muschamp 9765 Savercool Rd. Trumansburg, New York 14886, for an 18'x 22' residential building that does not meet the 940 square feet requirement.

Mr. Muschamp shared that he wanted to build a smaller home and had original applied for a four hundred square foot cabin. I have changed my request to nine hundred square feet. This would be four hundred and fifty square feet for ground level and four hundred and fifty square feet for basement. The basement would also be living space.

Councilman Vann asked, if the basement would have windows and proper ground elevation what size of bedroom.

Councilman Waid state that the Town has a Land Management Ordinance and the board need to refer the change for the building permit back to the Planning Board.

Supervisor Reynolds closed the Public Hearing at 7:06 and opened the Organizational Meeting.

Approval of Minutes:

Waid moved, seconded by Bosman, that the minutes from December 27, 2013 yearend meeting be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

Presenter:

Eileen Schmidt the Outreach Coordinator for Seneca Towns Engaging People for Solutions (STEPS) introduced herself. She shared that the Greater Rochester Health Foundation award the southern end of Seneca County a Neighborhood Health Improvement Grant. The grant is sponsored by the S2AY Rural Health Network in Corning, NY. There are five residential min-grants that can be used to help improve the physical, social, or economic health of our neighborhood. If anyone has any idea on how to make the community a better place to live, please be sure to fill out a min-grant application. The deadline for grant applications is February 28, 2014

ORGANIZATIONAL

Waid moved, seconded by Bosman, that for the year 2014, the Town Board sets 50 cents per mile reimbursement as mileage allowance for personal vehicles used by Town Officers while performing official duties, other than attendance at Town Board Meetings or Town Court Proceedings. Vote: Aye- Bosman, Aye-Waid, Aye- Vann, Aye- and Aye-Hunt.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to authorize that Community Bank, N.A., Interlaken Branch, be designated the official bank of the Town of Covert, and Town Justice William Shaw or successor and the Supervisor be authorized to invest town monies consistent with the requirements of New York State and with appropriate consideration given to elements of safety, liquidity and yield. Vote: Aye- Waid, Aye- Vann, Aye-Bosman, and Aye-Hunt.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to authorize Highway Superintendent MacCheyne to spend up to \$500.00 per purchase to acquire equipment, tools, and implements and \$1,000.00 for repairs during 2014 without prior approval of the Town Board. Vote: Aye- Waid, Aye- Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Vann.

Waid moved, seconded by Bosman, to designate the Interlaken Review as the official newspaper of the Town of Covert for the year 2014. Vote: Aye- Waid, Aye- Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Vann.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to appoint Christopher Austin as Dog Control Officer at the budgeted salary. For the year 2014, the Town of Covert agrees to lease the private kennels of Dog Control Officer for \$55.00 per month; additional \$5.00 per day fee for each dog will be charged to the owner upon redemption of impounded dog, or to the n. Town in the event of euthanasia and \$.50 cents a mile for transportation. Vote: Aye- Waid, Aye- Vann, Aye-Bosman, and Aye-Hunt.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to appoint John Poludniak as Code Enforcement Officer for 2014 at the budgeted amount and 50 cents per mile. Vote: Aye- Waid, Aye- Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Vann

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to appoint Patrick Morrell as Town Attorney for 2014-budgeted amount. Vote; Aye-Vann, Aye -Bosman, Aye- Hunt

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to appoint Ralph Jones as cleaner to the Town of Covert Municipal Building at the wage of \$8.50 per hour for the year 2014. Vote: Aye- Waid, Aye- Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Vann.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to appoint Ralph E. Jones as cleaner at the Town of Covert Highway Department, at the wage of \$8.50 per hour for the year 2014. Vote: Aye- Waid, Aye- Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Vann

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to appoint Charles R. Freese as maintenance man of the Town of Covert Municipal Building, at the wage of \$8.50 per hour for year 2014. Vote: Aye- Waid, Aye- Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Vann

Waid moved, seconded by Hunt, to allow Supervisor Reynolds to file his 2013 annual report with the Town Clerk by the same date and in the same matter as Annual Report is required to be filed with the State Comptroller. Such authorization is allowed by Town Law Section 29 (10a). Vote: Aye- Waid, Aye- Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Vann.

Bosman moved, seconded by Hunt, to appoint Mr. Raymond Zajac to mow the lawns at the Municipal Building Town Hall and Covert Cemetery for an amount not to exceed \$2,080.00 for the year 2014. Aye- Hunt, Aye-Waid Aye- Vann and Aye-Bosman.

Waid moved, seconded by Vann, that the salaries of all elected and appointed officers shall be the amount indicated by the currently effective resolution or the amount budgeted in the 2014 budget. The Highway Superintendent shall set wages of hourly highway employees with concurrence by the Town Board within the limits of the Highway Budget. Payment of salaries and wages shall be at times and dates that are legally permissible and mutually acceptable to the Supervisor and the recipients. Vote: Aye- Waid, Aye- Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Vann.

Bosman moved, Seconded by Vann, to approve the Town of Covert Procurement Policy and to reviewed and make any necessary changes to the Internal Policies and Procedures Handbook for the Town of Covert. Vote: Aye- Waid, Aye- Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Vann

APPOINTMENTS BY ELECTED OFFICIALS

Highway Superintendent MacCheyne appoints Glenn Boyes as Deputy Highway Superintendent for 2014.

Town Clerk appoints Leslie Adams-Compton as Deputy Town Clerk and Registrar of Vital Statistics, Tax Collector. Wage shall be \$8.65 per hour.

Town Justice William Shaw appoints Angela Champions Clerk to the Town Justice. Salary shall be as budgeted.

SUPERVISOR REYNOLDS MAKES THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS FOR 2014

Bookkeeper and Secretary to the Supervisor -- Diane Bassette Nelson

Budget Officer -- Michael Reynolds

Deputy Supervisor -- Gary Hunt

The Town Assessment Committee -- Duane Waid and Michael Reynolds

Historian for the Town – John Hunt

Highway Committee -- Gary G. Hunt, Chairman and Jeffrey Vann

Courts, Ordinances & Law Enforcement — Charles Bosman, Chairman and Gary Hunt

Utilities & Insurance -- Duane C. Waid, Chairman and Gary G. Hunt

Personnel -- Duane C. Waid, Chairman and Charles Bosman

Planning and Buildings -- Gary G. Hunt, Chairman and Jeffrey Vann

Fire and Ambulance -- Jeffrey Vann, Chairman, Michael G. Reynolds and Charles Bosman

Any appointment which may have been over looked shall continue to be filled by the incumbent subject to review by the appropriate appointing authority.

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING

OATH OF OFFICER:

Town Clerk Colleen R. Freese swore in the following officials in office, Michael Reynolds Town Supervisor, Jeffrey Vann, Charles Bosman, Gary Hunt, Duane Waid,

Approval of Minutes: Vann moved, seconded by Waid, that the minutes from December 30, 2013 yearend meeting and January 6, 2014 special meeting minutes be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

Petitioner to Board:

Kristina Cook addressed the board about the problem of dogs running loose on Shire Road. I have called the Dog Control Officer and he has not been able to get a hold of anyone. These dogs are unlicensed and can be mean something needs to be done. This property has junk and garbage all over. County Code Enforcement has been down gave them two weeks to clean it up and they start to but never finfish cleaning the property up. Its time something legal is done to solve this situation for good. There were others also concerned with the dogs and the garbage situation.

Highway Superintendent: Highway Superintendent MacCheyne gave his highway report and shared that he talked with the State and the County Code Enforcement Officer about the overhang for the gas tanks. They stated that the tanks would need to be moved and brought up to code. There was discussion to move the tanks to a separate area and build a covering over them.

Councilman Bosman shared that there are some trainings for a new Justice come up in March and it would be good for the Town to have a new Justice in place so they could attend the trainings.

Councilman Bosman also share that he would like to see the Town Board to endorse the bid of the Wilmont Corporation to build casino resort. The casino will be an added attraction to the current tourist and winery operations in Seneca County and will increase the economy.

There was discussion about a property in the Village maybe donated to build a habit home. The property would need to be demolition. The question was asked could the town employees do the demolition. Town Attorney Morrell stated if the board feels it is in the benefit of the community, it could be consider.

Councilman Vann shared there are two efforts for the assessor group. One is to work with the Town Board to replace and hire an assessor. The other is for a group of elected and appointed being the Town Clerk, two Planning Board Members, two Councilman, the Code Enforcement Officer doing in part their job to meet and review all the operational components and job responsibilities of others that has impact on the assessor's job . It will include taking any given Covert resident's project, requiring a building permit and following its through the require requirements from beginning until the end. The end results would produce a flow chart that defines all responsibilities and gives the public more assurance it is being done properly and fairly with equity.

Mr. Ford asked Councilman Vann if he would be willing to open the group meeting to the public.

There was discussion about the Towns Committee meeting being publish. Other residents would like to attend these meeting.

Supervisor Reynolds share that they have interview with Tompkins County Assessment Group and their group is very qualified and will be a good fit as the Town of Covert Assessor.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to enter into executive session at 9:30 p.m. to discuss prospective Assessor for the Town of Covert. Aye-Vann Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid and Aye -Bosman.

Councilman Waid reported that the personnel committee interviewed two candidates for the assessor position. Both applicants were very qualified and have good references.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to close executive session at 10:45 p.m. and return to the regular meeting. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid and Aye –Bosman and Aye-Vann

RESOLUTION No. 1-14

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF COVERT TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT FOR ASSESSMENT SERVICES WITH TOMPKINS COUNTY

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Covert that, in accordance with the provisions of Section 1537 of the Real Property Tax Law and Article 5-G of the General Municipal Law, the Town Board is hereby authorized to negotiate an agreement with Tompkins County for the provision of assessment services.

This resolution shall be subject to permissive referendum.

Motion: Councilman Vann, Seconded: Councilman Hunt Vote: Councilman Vann-Aye, Councilman Hunt-Aye Councilman Waid-Nay, Councilman Bosman- Nay and Supervisor Reynolds-Aye.

RESOLUTION No. 2-14
2014 Highway Hourly Resolution

WHEREAS the Town of Covert in preparing their 2014 budget included an amount equal to a 2% increase in the Highway Department personnel lines, and

WHEREAS the Town of Covert Highway Department appointed employees have all maintained acceptable work levels, now **THERE FORE BE RESOLVED** that the Town of Covert Town Board does hereby accept the recommendation of the Highway Superintendent that the following full-time employees will be given a 2% increase in their hourly rate; part-time employees rates will remain unchanged.

Employee:	2013 Reg./hour	2% increase	2014 Total Reg.	2013 O.T.	2% increase	2014 Tot.O.T.
Edward Turk	\$19.36	.39	19.75	29.04	.58	29.62
Chris Bulmahn	\$12.24	.24	12.48	18.36	.37	18.73
Roger Ike	\$14.56	.29	14.85	21.83	.44	22.27
Ralph Jones	\$8.50		8.50			8.50
Glen Boyes	\$10.00		10.00			10.00
Kenneth Favreau	\$10.00		10.00			10.00

Hunt moved , seconded by Waid that the Highway pay be retroactive from January 1,201.Vote: Aye- Hunt, Aye- Waid, Aye Vann and Aye-Bosman

RESOLUTION No. 3-14

Bosman moved, Seconded by Hunt, **Whereas:** Voters in New York State passed during the 2013 November 5th election a resolution to construct 7 Casino Resorts in New York State

Whereas: 4 licenses were to be issued during 2014, one in an area stretching from Lake Ontario to the Pennsylvania border, including Seneca County

Whereas: The Wilmot corporation, builders of malls in the Rochester area and owners of casinos on the Mississippi river have proposed to build a facility in Northern Seneca County adjacent to the New York State Thruway in the Town of Tyre.

Whereas: 70% of the scoring for awarding of the Casino license is to be awarded on economic impact, 20% on local impact and 10% workforce related

Whereas: Seneca County is one of the most economically depressed county in New York State and has some of the highest unemployment rates

Whereas: Wilmorite has proposed to build a \$350 million dollar facility, putting up \$1 million for the privilege to bid, and putting up 20% of the bid to insure it will be completed and operational within 2 year

Whereas: In addition to 1200 construction jobs, the Casino will employ over 1800 good paying permanent jobs

Whereas: In addition to over 7.8 million dollars in gaming tax, the operation will bring property, sales and room tax to Seneca County and the Town of Tyre to relieve the tax burden on local tax payers

Whereas: The casino will be an added attraction to the current tourist and winery operations in Seneca County thus increasing the economy. It will also attract people to its facility for conventions and shows

Whereas: It will not be run by outside Indian interests that have been a problem in the past

Therefore: The Town Board of the Town of Covert does hereby endorse the bid of the Wilmont Corporation and urges the committee set up to award the license to accept their bid.

A copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Wilmot Corporation to be attached to their application. Also it should be sent to all town boards in Seneca County and the Seneca County Board urging them to adopt similar

resolutions Vote: Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid, Aye-Bosman and opposed-Vann.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to refer Peter Muschamp , 9765 Savercool road for a 18x 22' square foot residential building back to the Town of Cover Planning Board. To consider his new request for a 900 square foot residential building. Aye-Vann, Aye Waid, Aye, Bosman and Aye-Hunt.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, that "no Smoking" within 25' of any Town of Covert building and no smoking signs will be posted. Aye-Vann, Aye Waid, Aye, Bosman and Aye-Hunt.

Bosman moved, seconded by Hunt, to set the date to audit Town Clerk, Bookkeeper books for February 10, 2014 at 6 O'clock. Councilman Bosman will audit the court books. Aye-Vann, Aye- Waid, Aye- Bosman and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to approve Councilman Bosman to spend the budget amount o\$4,000.00 from budget line item B820.4 for house signs. Aye-Vann, Aye- Waid, Aye- Bosman and Aye-Hunt.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Highway Superintendent, report for the month of December 2013 with the Board. Aye-Vann, Aye Waid, Aye- Hunt and Aye-Bosman

Bosman moved, Seconded by Waid, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for December 2013. A total of \$441.16 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye -Bosman, Aye- Hunt, and Aye -Waid.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to loan the Village Police Department an eyebolt that the Town Court is not using at this time. Aye -Bosman, Aye- Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye -Waid.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, that Highway Fund Vouchers #1-15, in the amount of \$ 111195.33 and General Fund Vouchers #1-20, in the amount of \$111870.30 be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye -Waid, Aye- Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

On the motion of Waid, the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

TOWN OF COVERT
EMERGENCY TOWN BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 6, 2014

The Town Board of the Town of Covert held a Special Meeting Monday, January 6, 2014 at 6:00 P.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call: Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
Councilman: Duane Waid	Present
Councilman: Charles Bosman	Present
Councilman: Jeffrey Vann	Present
Town Clerk Colleen Freese	Present

Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to enter into executive session for interviewing prospective assessor for the Town of Covert.

Vann moved, seconded by Bosman, to close executive session at 6:00 p.m. and return to the regular meeting.

There was no action taken at this time.

Councilman Vann moved, seconded by Councilman Waid, to adjourn the meeting.

**TOWN OF COVERT
INFORMATIONAL TOWN BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2014**

The Town Board of the Town of Covert held an informational meeting Friday, February 21, 2014, at 9:30 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call: Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
Councilman Duane Waid	Present
Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
Councilman Gary Hunt	Absent
Councilman Jeffery Vann	Absent

Others Present: Bookkeeper Diane Bassette Nelson, Town Clerk Colleen Freese, and reporter Aneta Glover and Greg Chwiecko, Kathy Sayadoff, Ron Gunsalus and Ted Jones.

Call to Order:

Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 9:30a.m.

The purpose of the informational meeting was a presentation from Williamson Law representative on their Municipal Accounting and Budget Preparation Software and Payroll software.

Williamson Law Books Company has been offering minute books, municipal forms and custom printing to New York State municipalities since 1870. In 1985, they began developing software to meet the increasing needs of technologically advanced systems. Their software specialists design their computer programs. All programs offer Disaster Recovery Protection with their on-line, offsite program backup feature at no additional cost.

Ted Jones, Tech from Williamson gave a presentation of the municipal accounting and the budget preparation software. The program is a full featured accounting system designed to meet the generally accepted accounting principles required by New York State.

Greg Chwiecko president of Williamson shared about the Budget preparation and the different features. The program will easily view fund appropriations, expenditures/revenues for the year and to date; adopted, modified and proposed budget with percent changes.

Attached is the proposal for the Williamson Software. They have also offer the Town Clerk software at no cost. There would be a yearly fee and training cost if clerk were interested in the program.

Meeting adjourned 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted Town Clerk Colleen Freese

**TOWN OF COVERT
TOWN BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 10, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, February 10, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Present

Others Present: Attorney for the Town Patrick Morrell, Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Bookkeeper Diane Bassette Nelson, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Reporter Aneta Glover, Planning Board Member Rob Schoffel and other interested citizens.

Call to order:

Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Public Hearing:

Supervisor Reynolds opened the Public hearing at 7:05.

The said purpose of the public hearing was to hear comments on the revised variance request under the Land Management for Peter Muschamp, 9765 Savercool Rd., Trumansburg, New York 14886, for a residential building that does not meet the required square feet per floor as stated in the Land Management Ordinance.

Mr. Muschamp shared that he increased the square footage of his original variance request plan from 396 square feet for the upper and lower floor to 1000 square feet. That is 60 feet over the required 940 square feet total as requested by the Land Management Ordinance. This is still short 100 square feet on the first floor requirement of 600 square feet, but the total square footage is 1000.

There was much discussion on the Land Management Ordinance and how it is written and how it is interpreted. Councilman Vann shared that the Land Management Ordinance should be coordinated with the word definitions of New York State Building Code. There was discussion that the footprint is usually determined by measuring the exterior of the building and that a basement is not referred to as a storey but a basement.

Rob Schoffel from the Planning Board shared that the Planning Board met and the vote was three to two to deny the Variance request. In this case, Mr. Schoffel stated that Mr. Muschamp has a beautiful lot and no restrictions for building. He believes that when the Land Management Ordinance was written, it did not include a basement as living space. He has encouraged that Mr. Muschamp to ask the Board to consider making changes to the Land Management Ordinance.

Supervisor Reynolds closed the public hearing and returned to the regular meeting at 7:45

Approval of Minutes: Hunt moved, seconded by Bosman, that the organizational and regular meeting minutes from January 13, 2014 and minutes from January 6, 2014 special meeting be approved. Motion carried.

Diane Bassett Nelson asked for support from the Town Board in her effort to apply for a grant through the STEPS program for the purchase of hardware to display artwork, quilts and photos on the walls of the Town Municipal Building each month. Once a month, they would like to hold a reception to encourage people to come in and meet the local talent.

There was discussion about the liability to the Town and to check with the insurance company on the Town Municipal Building being used to display different items and being open to the public.

Councilman Bosman shared that Habitat for Humanity is an organization that builds homes for lower income people. They are required to work 100 hours on the house. Habitat has built three houses down in the Southern end of the county and has built five or six houses in the Northern end of the county. Habitat for Humanity has been given a site on Lakeview Ave to build a house. The house on it will need to be demolished and volunteers are needed to build this home. He asked for support from the Town Board to tear this building down.

Douglas Mount shared with the Board that the dog situation on Schire Road has been taken care of and the people are no longer living there. He understood that it would be the owner's responsibility to clean up the property. Supervisor Reynolds shared that he had made some phone calls after the last meeting to get the dogs taken care of. No one is supposed to be living on the property now.

Councilman Bosman shared that he has ordered house number signs and it will take 156 signs to finish the lake property. He is waiting to hear where the ambulance company would like the next house signs to be put up.

Councilman Hunt shared that they had a Highway Committee meeting and they discussed the gas tank and different options to see if they can do away with the gas tank in the future. The Vehicle fuel tanks are not up to code at this time.

Councilman Vann stated that he would be looking over the meeting guidelines and would like to see some overseeing by the Town Board as to what is being posted on the town web site.

Councilman Waid shared that the Personnel Committee had five applications for the Town Justice and have interviewed three candidates for the Town Justice position. He would like to see the Board move forward and make a decision from the applicants that have been interviewed for the Town Justice.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that the results from the audit performed by The Bonadio Group were good. A few changes need to be made, but nothing major. Some changes are already in place.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to deny the variance request as recommended by the Town Planning Board for Peter Muschamp , 9765 Savercool Road for a 1000 square foot residential building. In addition, the recommendation was that the Planning Board might consider making changes to the Land Management Ordinance. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Hunt

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Supervisor's income and expenditure report for the month of January, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Hunt

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of January, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman

Bosman moved, Seconded by Waid, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report and the 2014 Town and County tax report for January. A total of \$347.50 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye-

Bosman, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Waid

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the audit performed by the Town Board for the 2013 Books for the Town Bookkeeper and Town Clerk. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Waid.

Vann moved seconded by Waid, to approve the 2014 Trumansburg Ambulance contract and the 2014 Trumansburg fire contract. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Waid

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, that the Town Board has agreed that, in order to benefit the community, the Highway Department will conduct the demolition to tear down a house where a new Habitat for Humanity home will be constructed, provided there is no asbestos present and that there is no liability to the Town. Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Reynolds, Nay-Vann and abstained-Bosman

2014 Truck Purchase Resolution 4-14

WHEREAS the Town of Covert sold the 2011 truck in favor of purchasing a newer model, and
WHEREAS the funds from the sale were added to the fund balance [total available \$98,364] when the 2013 accounts were closed on December 31, 2013, and
WHEREAS the budget for both appropriations and expenses need to be amended to record use of appropriated fund balance to increase available funds to pay for the truck, and the expenses of the truck purchase also need to be increased

NOW THEREFORE IT BERESOLVED that the Town of Covert Town Board does hereby amend the 2014 DA budget line DA9599 appropriated fund balance from \$30,000.00 to \$50,000.00 and the expense budget item DA5130.2 from \$70,000.00 to \$90,000.00.

Motion by: Bosman

Second by: Vann

Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid and Aye-Bosman

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to support Diane Bassette Nelson to apply for a grant from the STEPS program for hardware to display paintings and quilts on the walls in the Town Municipal Building. This is contingent upon liability and what the insurance company says. Aye- Hunt, Aye-Waid, Aye-Bosman, Nay-Vann

Vann moved, Seconded by Hunt, to declare the following Highway items as surplus: 1970's Water Pump, 1970's Snow T170 Salamander heater, three bottle jacks, 2 air jacks, and a five gallon sand blaster # 155341. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to approve spending up to \$1,000.00 for the Town Clerk to purchase a new computer for the Town Clerk's office and to get the DEC Licensing system up and running. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Waid

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to go into executive session at 9:10 to discuss personnel matters for the Town Justice position. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to come out of executive session at 9:25 and return to regular meeting.

Waid moved, seconded by Bosman, to appoint Eileen Schmidt as Town Justice. The requirements are that she attends the training for Justice Court from March 31- April 4, 2014, and that she sits in on Court with Justice Shaw and that she fills her term. If these requirements are not met, she will reimburse the Town for any monies spent by the Town of Covert for training, lodging, food, finger printing and mileage. Aye-Waid, Aye-

Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Vann

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, that Highway Fund Vouchers #16-31, in the amount of \$ 28,929.22, and General Fund Vouchers #21-36, in the amount of \$186,780.73, be approved for payment.

Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman

On the motion of Waid, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

**TOWN OF COVERT
TOWN BOARD MEETING
MARCH 10, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, March 10, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Present

Others Present: Attorney for the Town Patrick Morrell, Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Reporter Aneta Glover, Planning Board Member Rob Schoffel, Code Enforcement Officer John Poludniak, Juris Basens and Jessica Johnson and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Bosman moved, seconded by Hunt, that the February 10, 2014, February 5, 2014 and the February 21, 2014 minutes be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

Presenter: Juris Basens, Vice President of gaming for Wilmorite, stated that he has been in the gaming business for seventeen years. Mr. Basens wanted to give a view of what is being done in Region Five (Known as the southern end). The Wilmorite proposal will include a hotel with two hundred rooms, five restaurants, slot machines and table games. The nearness of the location is the reason they can filter the size of the project and generate the revenue. The casino will be located between Syracuse and Rochester. In full operation, there will be eighteen hundred jobs; they are looking to train and hire within the region.

Councilman Bosman gave a report on the House number signs project. They have material for about 250 signs. They are looking for volunteers to help drill holes and put numbers on the signs. There is also a need for volunteers to help put the signs up.

Councilman Waid shared that New Heart Insurance is offering training on insurance liability. "I am considering attending this meeting." The last training he attended a year ago gave a lot of information. The Board was able to implement some of the suggestions to help protect the town from liability.

Code Enforcement Officer John Poludniak addressed the Town Board about the Town's Land Subdivision Ordinance that was adopted January 12, 1981. He shared that the Land Subdivision Ordinance needed some updating and clarification of the definitions. He suggested that the Town Board have the Planning Board meet to look at the Subdivision Ordinance and also the definitions of the Land Management Ordinance and bring back to the Town Board the necessary changes they felt needed to be made. The Town needs to make the public aware that there is a Subdivision Ordinance in the Town of Covert.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that the Assessment Group of Tompkins County is ready to start work. Attorney for the Town Morrell said he has reviewed the agreement and has made changes with a Tompkins County attorney and the

agreement is ready to be approved by the Town Board. Assessor Jay Franklin will be meeting with the public April 14, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. before the Town Board meeting.

Councilman Waid commented on the Williamson Law Book Accounting, including budget preparation, and Payroll Software Program for the bookkeeper and shared that he was impressed with the demonstration of how the program works and the reports it is able to provide. He shared that maybe the board could consider waiting until next year to purchase the program; it is early in the year to use the surplus.

There was discussion about the Williamson Law Book Program. Councilman Vann asked about forms and what the program would provide; he also liked the software and felt it would be good for payroll. Councilman Bosman is very much in favor of the Williamson Law Book Program.

Supervisor Reynolds stated that he talked with Nick Sciotti, the County Treasurer, about accounting programs and his recommendations and he highly recommended the Williamson Law Book program. He stated that the price for the program, for what they offer, is very good and most towns have the Williamson Law Program for Bookkeeper and Town Clerk. Supervisor Reynolds also talked with other Town Supervisors to see what they used for accounting programs and they also said they use Williamson Law.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that he received the energy audit from NYRSERDA and was a little disappointed they said it would take 42 years to get our money back if we insulated the exterior of the building. They gave suggestions to insulate rim joints, to install an indoor/outdoor controller for the oil-fired boiler, to install pipe insulation on pipes and to replace some lights fixtures.

Councilman Bosman stated that the Town Board members could get together and have a work bee to insulate and change out lights as suggested by the NYRSERDA audit. We may want to consider insulation for the south end wall of the building; that would save us some money because that office is used regularly.

Councilman Vann shared that he was disappointed that the NYRSERDA audit didn't mention anything about the attic insulation or required ventilation. It doesn't mention replacing the windows in the basement. They should have gone into the attic to look at it and suggested replacing the basement windows. In general, he doesn't feel the report is acceptable because it doesn't have an engineering stamp.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that he talked with the Dog Control Officer for the Town of Covert about writing tickets for overdue dog licenses. The Dog Control Officer wants to resign from the job. He also stated that the Town of Covert is the lowest paying Town for the Dog Control Officer's job.

There was discussion about the Town Justice needing a Cell phone for Town of Covert Court business. She does not want to use her own phone for Town business and does not have a home phone.

Williamson Law Book Accounting and Payroll Software Purchase Resolution -- #5-14

WHEREAS, the Office of the New York State Comptroller is requiring definitive fund accounting for all municipal governments, including easily identified payroll accruals, and

WHEREAS, these reports are not easily, or necessarily correctly, created using the QuickBooks program, and

WHEREAS, one of the comments made during the recent procedural audit included reference to the need for cleaner reports and the lack of this function within QuickBooks, and

WHEREAS, the fund balance at the end of 2013 for the General Fund was \$122,687.00 with \$29,263.00 allocated toward expenses, leaving a fund balance of \$93,424.00 and

WHEREAS, the cost of the Williamson Law Book programs for both Payroll and Accounting/Budgeting including first year technical support is \$7,455.00

WHEREAS, the budget for both appropriations and expenses would need to be amended to record use of appropriated fund balance to increase available funds to pay for the software, and the expenses of the software purchase also needs to be increased, now; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Town of Covert Town Board does hereby approve the purchase of the Williamson Law Book Payroll and Accounting/Budgeting software packages including the first year of technical support, and amend the 2014 General Fund budget line A9599 appropriated fund balance from \$29,263.00 to \$36,700.00 and the expense budget item A 1320.2 from \$100.00 to \$7,537.00. Motion by: Bosman, Second by: Vann, Vote: Hunt-Aye, Waid-Aye, Vann-Aye and Bosman-Aye

JOINT SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR APPRAISAL SERVICES, EXEMPTION SERVICES AND ASSESSMENT SERVICES BY THE COUNTY OF TOMPKINS-RESOLUTION 6-14

THIS AGREEMENT made as of the 26th day of February, 2014, by and between the County of Tompkins, organized and existing pursuant to the County Law of the State of New York, with offices at 125 E Court St, New York, (hereinafter the "County"), the Town of Covert, a municipal corporation organized and existing pursuant to the Town Law of the State of New York, with offices at 8469 South Main St, Interlaken, New York, (hereinafter "Covert") (collectively, the "Parties"),

WHEREAS, the County and Covert are each Assessing Units as that term is defined in Real Property Tax Law section 102(1); and

WHEREAS, the County, and Covert are empowered to enter into a joint services agreement whereby the County will provide appraisal services, exemption services and assessment services to Covert pursuant to section 1537 of the Real Property Tax Law and Article 5-G of the General Municipal Law; and

WHEREAS, the Parties have determined that an agreement pursuant to section 1537 of the Real Property Tax Law and Article 5-G of the General Municipal Law is advantageous to both the County and Covert providing for the opportunity for a more efficient assessment process and a more equitable assessment roll, and

WHEREAS, this agreement will further the coordination and cooperation between government entities, and

WHEREAS, the terms and conditions of this Agreement have been approved by a majority vote of the Town Board of the Town of Covert and the County Legislature of Tompkins County;

The parties hereto agree as follows:

- (1) (a) The County shall appraise all real property within the Town of Covert for assessment purposes.
- (b) The County shall employ appraisers and other technical personnel to make the appraisals of such properties. No person shall be employed by the County and assigned professional appraisal duties, that relate to the

assessment of real property for purposes of taxation unless such person meets the minimum qualification standards established by the New York State Office of Real Property Tax Services (hereinafter "ORPTS"). Such appraisal personnel shall attend courses of training and education prescribed by ORPTS.

(c) In any administrative or judicial proceeding to review an assessment which is based upon a County appraisal, the County shall make available its appraisers and other technical personnel to provide testimony and shall provide any evidence contained in its files as may be necessary to assist in the defense of any administrative or judicial proceeding. Covert shall be responsible for the defense of any administrative or judicial proceeding against the Town, including, but not limited to, legal counsel, accountants, and/or independent appraisers, and it retains its right to choose legal counsel, accountants, independent appraisers, and other experts or witnesses in such defense. Whether to defend, compromise or settle a particular administration or judicial proceeding shall be in the Town's sole discretion.

- (2) The dates applicable to the assessment process in each party to this Agreement including taxable status date, and the dates for the filing of the tentative and the final assessment rolls, shall be the standard dates as outlined in the provisions of the Real Property Tax Law.
- (3) The County shall review applications for exemptions and determine the eligibility of the applicants for such exemptions. In any administrative or judicial proceeding to review an assessment in which the denial of an exemption is at issue, the County shall make available its personnel to provide testimony and shall provide any evidence contained in its files as may be necessary to assist in the defense of the denial of exempt status. Covert shall be responsible for the defense of any such administrative or judicial proceeding against the town, including but not limited to, legal counsel, independent appraisers, accountants, independent appraisers, and other experts or witnesses in such defense. Whether to defend, compromise or settle a particular administration or judicial proceeding shall be in the Town's sole discretion.
- (4) The cost of providing this service shall be \$15/parcel based upon the total parcel count of the presiding assessment roll.
- (5) The Tompkins County Department of Assessment shall bill the Town in quarterly payments based upon the prorated share of the total amount due. Covert hereby agrees to pay to the County no later than forty-five days from the date each quarterly statement is rendered.
- (6) This Agreement shall be amended or modified only upon approval by a majority vote of the *Covert* Town Board and the County Legislature of the County, except that there shall be no right of termination by any party prior to July 1 of any year. Any unilateral termination of this agreement will only be effective 6 months from the date of the approval of such termination by majority vote of the municipal board of the terminating party.
- (7) Pursuant to the provisions of Real Property Tax Law §305 all real property shall continue to be assessed at a uniform percentage of value. In addition, such percentage of value shall be annually printed on the tentative assessment rolls.
- (8) A copy of this Agreement shall be filed with the Commissioner of Taxation and Finance and the State Office of Real Property Tax Services on or before the taxable status date of the first assessment roll to which it is to apply.
- (9) This Agreement shall take effect as of February 26, 2014 and shall terminate on July 1, 2015 or until an It is agreed upon that Jay Franklin shall be appointed the assessor for the Town of Covert, pursuant to the terms of Real Property Tax Law section 1537(4). In the instance that Jay Franklin leaves the Department of Assessment, his successor as Director of Assessment shall be appointed assessor for the Town of Covert. Such person shall then be approved by a majority vote of the Town of Covert. The assessor appointed under the terms of this

agreement will at all times be an employee of the County and in no case be deemed an employee of Covert.

- (10) It is agreed that the County shall keep office hours at the Town of Covert at a minimum of four hours a week. Additionally a dedicated phone line will be issued so that phone calls can be taken by the County from 8:00-4:30, Monday through Friday, with the exception of holidays.
- (11) This agreement shall take effect as of February 26, 2014 and shall terminate on July 1, 2015 or until party withdraws from the Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.
Motion by: Vann, Second by: Hunt, Vote: Hunt-Aye, Waid-Aye, Vann-Aye and Bosman-Nay

Vann moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the purchase of a cell phone with a monthly cost of \$30.00. To be used solely for town business. Bosman-Aye, Waid-Aye, Vann-Aye and Hunt-Aye

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Supervisor's income and expenditure report for the month of February, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Hunt

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of February, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman

Hunt moved, Seconded by Bosman, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report and the 2014 Town and County tax report for February. A total of \$258.50 was remitted to the Town Supervisor for the month of February 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Waid.

Vann moved, seconded by Waid, that the Highway Fund Vouchers # 32-45 in the amount of \$24,800.86 and General Fund Vouchers #37-56 in the amount \$20,045.51, be approved for payment. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Waid.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to pre-approve payment for town credit card, electric bills, water bills and bills that accrue interest because they are due before Town Board Meeting. Aye- Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Vann moved, Seconded by Hunt, that the meeting adjourns at 9:00 P.M. Aye- Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Freese, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF COVERT
TOWN BOARD MEETING
A R I 14, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, April 14, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Present

Others Present:, Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Reporter Aneta Glover, Planning Board Member Rob Schoffel, Code Enforcement Officer John Poludniak, Assessor Jay Franklin and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, that the March 10, 2014 minutes be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

Presenter: Supervisor Reynolds introduced Jay Franklin, new Assessor for the Town of Covert . Tompkins County and the Town of Covert are sharing assessment services. Mr. Franklin shared that they have employees that will be working together to provide services for the Town of Covert. March 18 was a “game changer” for the town when records, sketch cards, deeds, and tax maps were lost in the fire in Ovid; they will need to be recreated. This year they will need to take a look at how to recreate the lost paper work. Mr. Franklin suggested that the Board consider aerial photographs that will provide the information needed to recreate these documents.

Petitioner: Meg Jastran shared that she has been attending the Seneca Town Engaging People for Solutions (STEPS) meetings and wanted to report that there have been some mini grants awarded. One grant will be used for a hiking trail through the Interlaken cemetery, another one for the Farmers’ Market here in Interlaken.

Peter Arena, a Town of Covert resident, presented a pulpit to the people of Covert for addressing the Town Board from. It was donated by Covert Counts citizens. The Town Board thanked Mr. Arena for the nice pulpit.

Councilman Bosman gave a report on the House number signs project; the Interlaken and Trumansburg Fire Departments have agreed to put up the House number signs. Councilman Bosman stated that by end of May, the 250 house signs should be done.

Councilman Bosman stated that the first day of Court with the new Justice went smooth. The Town Board thanked the former Justice William Shaw and Court Clerk Angela Champion for all the help they have been to the new Justice Eileen Schmidt.

Councilman Bosman attended a lunch for Seneca County Transportation. Right now there are four runs for transportation. There are three runs in the North end of the county and one run in the South end of the county. They

are going to terminate the run in the South end and go to “dial-a-run”, where you call the day ahead and then they will come and pick you up for the cost of \$3.00. There was discussion about why they can’t have transportation to the South end, to the Town of Covert town line. This would allow people to get a ride on the TCAT to Ithaca. They will not establish a program for a run unless they have confirmed riders. Councilman Vann stated that it was his understanding that public transportation has failed in the last ten years and how can we overcome not having enough users? There needs to be more advertising to let the community know that a bus will be available.

Councilman Bosman shared about Habitat for Humanity; they are building a house in the North end of Seneca County and one down here in the South end of the County. Habitat, is trying to finalize paper work for the property on Lakeview Ave. here in Interlaken to build the Habitat house. Community support is needed for this project; they need volunteers to build and to help with fundraisers.

Councilman Waid shared that there were two applications for the Dog Control Officer and he has excused himself from the decision because he is related to one of the applicants. Councilman Bosman recommends Melody Ray as the new Dog Control Officer; he has worked with her before: she is a hard worker and will be more available. The job will include mileage and the purchase of two magnetic signs for use on the Dog Control Officer’s vehicle.

Code Enforcement Officer John Poludniak discussed the Mobile Home Ordinance for the Town. The purpose was for homeowners or farmers to be able to have a trailer on their property for an in-law or farmhand. New York State Code changed and the trailers were up to the State’s manufacture codes, so they didn’t need to be renewed each year. The question was, what was supposed to happen to the trailer when the hardship was over, was the trailer to be removed? There is a variance request this month where an old trailer is still on the property and this property is not one acre as required by the Land Management Ordinance; the property owner wants to remove the trailer and put in a double-wide. It is being referred to the Planning Board. People are asking the questions, why do we have to have an acre of land or build a house with 940 square feet ?

Code Enforcement Officer also asked if the Town would pass a resolution that stated what the flood levels are for the Town of Covert. This would be able to be used in situations when insurance company’s want proof on the flood levels.

Supervisor Reynolds reported that there are two variance requests: one for Timothy Megivern , 3792 County Rd. 141, Interlaken, to build a 22’x24’ garage that does not meet the sideline setback of 20’, the other variance application is for David Georgia, 9574 State Route 89, Trumansburg, to put in a 27’x 48’ doublewide that does not meet the Land Management Ordinance requirement for one acre of land. They need to be referred to the Planning Board.

There was discussion on the new contract that Town Attorney Morrell wrote for the use of the Town Municipal Building. He has included a “hold harmless” agreement to protect the Town.

There was discussion on the improvements to be made to the municipal building as recommend by NYSEDA energy audit. Phase one will be insulating between joists and pipes, windows, as well as, replacing some lights outside on the porch with LED lights. The total estimated cost will be about \$1,000.00.

Bosman moved, seconded by Hunt, that variance request application #2-14 for Timothy Megivern, 3792 County Road 141, Interlaken, to build a 22’x 24’ garage that does not meet the sideline set back of 20’, and the variance application #3-

14 for David Georgia, 9574 State Route 89, Trumansburg, to put in a 27' x 48' doublewide that does not meet the Land Management Ordinance requirement for one acre of land, be referred to the Planning Board. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bosman, to approve the Supervisor's income and expenditure report for the month of March, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of March, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Waid moved, Seconded by Bosman, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report and the 2014 Town and County Tax report for 2014. A total of \$414.70 was remitted to the Town Supervisor for the month of March, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Waid.

Vann moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the Interlaken Public Library agreement in the amount of \$1,400.00 for 2014. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Waid.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Historical Society agreement in the amount of \$1,400.00 for 2014. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Waid.

Vann moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the new application for the use of the Town of Covert Municipal Building affective April 14, 2014. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid and Aye-Vann.

Waid moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Beverly Animal Shelter agreement for 2014. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid and Aye-Vann.

Bosman moved seconded by Hunt, to approve spending up to a \$1,000.00 on the building improvements including insulating between joists and pipes, windows in the basement and replacing the lights on porch which were recommended by NYSERDA in the energy audit they performed. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, that the Highway Fund Vouchers #46-64 in the amount of \$16,789.16 and General Fund Vouchers #57-79 in the amount \$29,071.08, be approved for payment. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Waid.

Vann moved, Seconded by Hunt, that the meeting adjourn at 9:00 P.M. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Freese, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF COVERT
TOWN BOARD MEETING
MAY 12, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, May 12, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Present

Others Present: Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Reporter Aneta Glover, Planning Board Member Rob Schoffel, Code Enforcement Officer John Poludniak, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Dog Control Officer Melody Ray and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Waid moved, seconded by Vann, that the April 14, 2014 minutes be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearings: Supervisor Reynolds opened the public hearing at 7:05. The purpose of the first Public hearing was to hear any comments on variance request application #2-14 for Timothy Megivern, 3792 County Road 141, Interlaken, to build a 22'x 24' garage that does not meet the sideline set back of 20'. Mr. Megivern stated he want to build a garage next to the side walk that is accessible to the handicap walkway and that he had received approval from the neighbors to build.

Supervisor Reynolds closed first public hearing at 7:10 and opened the second public hearing.

The purpose of the seconded public hearing was to hear comments on variance request application #3-14 for David Georgia, 9574 State Route 89, Trumansburg, to replace the single mobile home on the same foot print or replace with a doublewide with the proper setbacks. There was much discussion on the division of the property and that the owners had received legal counsel before dividing the property, but the issue was never raised about Sub-Division Ordinances. Councilman Bosman shared that the lot size was 1/3 the size required by the Land Management Ordinances. He is concerned there will be a problem down the road if the property is sold. Councilman Vann asked what the square footage of the trailer would be. Code Enforcement Officer Poludniak stated there are two options and they both meet the required footage according to the Land Management Ordinances. Councilman Hunt stated, this is a preexisting structure and the replacement of a new structure would improve the property and we should approve the request as the Planning Board has suggested.

Planning Board Member Rob Schoffel shared that the sub-division happened four years ago and the attorney never checked with the town about a Land Management Ordinance and went right to Seneca County. Part of the problem is it never went through the process. The single wide is around forty years old and needs to be replaced. Supervisor Reynolds closed the Public hearing at 7:30 and returned to the regular meeting.

Supervisor Reynolds introduced Melody Ray the New Dog Control Officer for Town of Covert. Melody reported that she attended a two day seminar in Webster, NY the end of April. The seminar focused on dog safety first and how to handle different situations. On April 28, 2014, she picked up a dog for biting and delivered it to Beverly Animal shelter.

Highway Superintendent MacCheyne shared that he had checked around to get prices for the flag pole pipes out in front of the Municipal Building and Seneca Iron works will cut pipes for the poles for \$328.86. This is a stronger pipe that will hold up for a long time.

Highway Superintendent stated that he checked on prices to have the Volvo Grader model 946G repaired. The best price was from George and Sweed. The estimated price to repair the grader is \$3,750.00.

Town Clerk Freese share that Fred Schmidt, who is a dealer for Gardall safe, could get one for his cost of \$650.00 for the Town Clerk's Office. There was discussion about the safe being bolted to the floor.

There was discussion about the web-site and the changes that have been made. It will cost \$7.50 per update or items to be posted on the website. The Budget line item for this year does not have funds for the increase. There was discussion on other options for a website and who would be responsible for posting items.

Supervisor Reynolds reported that there are two variance requests: one for Timothy Megivern, 3792 County Rd. 141, Interlaken, to build a 22'x24' garage that does not meet the sideline setback of 20', the second variance application is for David Georgia, 9574 State Route 89, Trumansburg, to put in a 27'x 48' doublewide that does not meet the Land Management Ordinance requirement for one acre of land.

There was discussion about the use of the Municipal building by the public and the liability to the Town of Covert should something happen on the town's property. Supervisor Reynolds shared that he had contacted the town's insurance company to see what they say about having the municipal building used by the public. Town attorney shared that the agreement to use the municipal building requires insurance by the user. Mr. Kenyon stated that as a taxpayer he does not feel \$100,000.00 in insurance is enough and is concerned that the town should not take on any liability beyond what it is required to take on. There was a rule in the past that the building was only for government use. At this time, the use of the Municipal building is tabled.

Councilman Bosman reported that he and Councilman Hunt have insulated the pipes and walls in the basement as recommended by the NYSERDA audit. He thinks that there should be lattice put around the building in back to keep cats out and he would like to see the two main doors in the basement have locks on them.

Bosman also stated that he will look over the audit report from Bonadio to see if the Town has done what was recommended in the audit. Then, the personnel policy and procedures handbook needs to be reviewed and approved by the Town Board.

Councilman Hunt shared about the defensive driver safety course being offer NYMIR insurance company for \$20.00. He thinks the Highway guys should take this class.

Councilman Vann shared that he has been working on the process for the Land Management Ordinance and needs to go to the County Code Enforcement and talk with them about the process. He requested that the Code Enforcement Officer would email his report to all Town Board Members and Planning Board Members.

Waid moved, seconded by Bosman, to approve variance request application #2-14 for Timothy Megivern, 3792 County Road 141, Interlaken, to build a 22'x 24' garage that does not meet the sideline set back of 20'. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman

Hunt moved, Seconded by Waid to approve variance request application #3-14 for David Georgia, 9574 State Route 89, Trumansburg, to replace the single mobile home on the same foot print or replace with a doublewide with the proper setbacks. Nay-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt, Nay-Bosman and Aye- Reynolds.

Bosman moved, seconded by Hunt to approve the Town Clerk to purchase a Gardall safe, Item # GASS1913GCK for \$650.00 through Fred Schmidt, for the Town Clerks Office. The old safe is not repairable and needs to be disposed of. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve South Seneca Vinyl to replace eight basement windows with hopper windows for the estimated cost of \$1,760.00. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Vann.

Waid moved, seconded by Bosman, to approve the Supervisor's income and expenditure report for the month of April, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of April, 2014.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the purchase of aluminum pipes from Seneca Iron works for \$328.86 to replace the Flag Poles in front of the Municipal Building and to use existing hardware. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Waid moved, Seconded by Hunt, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report. A total of \$434.86 was remitted to the Town Supervisor for the month of April, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Waid.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Cayuga Lake Triathlon event to be held on the Town of Covert public roads on August 3, 2014. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to have Charles Freese paint the court room at the Town Municipal Building for \$900.00 which includes labor and material. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve Highway Superintendent MacCheyne to have George and Sweed repair the Volvo Grader model 946G for the estimated price of \$3,750.00. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Waid moved, seconded by Vann, that the Highway Fund Vouchers #65-70 in the amount of \$ 2,599.75 and General Fund Vouchers #80-100 in the amount \$25,788.54, be approved for payment. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Waid.

Hunt moved, Seconded by Vann, that the meeting adjourn at 8:50 P.M. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Freese, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF COVERT
TOWN BOARD MEETING
JUNE 9, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, June 9, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Present

Others Present: Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Reporter Aneta Glover, Planning Board Member Rob Schoffel, Code Enforcement Officer John Poludniak, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, that the May 12, 2014 minutes be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Bosman shared that the Town Justice needs to attend training in Albany on July 10, 2014. It is a follow up of the training she took earlier this year. There will be the cost of a motel room and mileage.

Councilman Bosman reported that Councilman Hunt and he finished up insulating the basement as recommend by NYSERDA audit and it was done for less than \$1,000.00. He also shared that he has received information for a grant from the Greater Rochester Health Foundations, which has grants for \$25,000.00 and up. He would like to apply for a grant for The Town of Covert for the house sign project for around \$15,000.00. If awarded this grant, we could buy the material and hire someone to help put the signs up to finish this project.

Councilman Bosman reviewed the recommendation Bonadio made when they performed the Town audit. The Town needs credit card and expense reimbursement policies and to establish a standard mileage rate/food expense reimbursement policy. They also recommend the Town to implement a policy whereby the highway is comparing fuel pumped to fuel usage, and that the Bookkeeper develops an accounting manual for the Town of Covert.

There was discussion on the Municipal building being used by the public and the liability risk to the Town of Covert should something happen on the town's property. Town attorney shared that the municipal building, with the required insurance, could be used. Use of the building does put the town at risk.

Councilman Vann, Hunt and Waid stated they would like the taxpayer to be able to use the building but the liability risk is too high and they do not want to put the Town at risk. Councilman Bosman stated it's the taxpayers' building; they should be able to use it.

Town Attorney Morrell stated that it is up to the Town Board to make the decision on the use of the Municipal Building but he strongly advised the Board that they cannot pick and choose who can or can't use the building.

Councilman Waid shared that he would like to thank Councilman Bosman and Councilman Hunt for all the work they did in insulating the basement for the Town.

Councilman Vann talked with the Seneca County Code Enforcement Officer and they recognize that there are weaknesses in the assessment data. They are willing to meet and discuss these issues.

Supervisor Reynolds reported that the new County Manager, Mr. Smith, is looking forward to working with the towns and he has some ideas to develop this end of the county. He would like to bring in some new business down to this area.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that Melody Ray, the Dog Control Officer, has resigned as Dog Control Officer. We have appointed Chris Bulmahn as Dog Control Officer; he was the second applicant that applied for the position.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that the Town received a proposal from FDR Ungleich Hardwood Floors to refinish the hardwood floors in the Town of Covert's Court Room for the amount of \$2,710.00. The schedule to do the floors would be in September or October. The funds will come from the court grant and municipal building improvements' accounts.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that there are two variance requests: one from #11-14 Peter Muschamp, 9765 Savercool Road, Trumansburg and variance request application #09-14 for Louis Adis, property located at 9695 Rt. 96, Trumansburg, they do not meet the 940 square feet as required by the Land Management Ordinance. There have been a few requests for seeing smaller home, due to the cost to build and to maintain homes.

Town Attorney Morrell asked is this Peter Muschamp the one who lost home in a fire. This is very relevant to the Boards consideration under the Land Management Ordinance section six which deals with variance and appeals. There are eight considerations under this section to be considered in this matter from the board.

Ms. Adie shared that she has lived in Trumansburg most her life. She would like to build a yurt; she is very familiar with yurts. The yurt that she wants to build will have a loft inside and that will give her more living space. She has talked with the Seneca County Code Enforcement and the well and septic on the property are up to code. A yurt is more cost efficient to build and heat.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, that the variance request applications # 11-14 for Peter Muschamp, 9765 Savercool Road, Trumansburg and variance request application #09-14 for Louis Adis, property located at 9695 Rt. 96, Trumansburg, do not meet the 940 square feet as required by the Land Management Ordinance and be referred to the Planning Board and the public hearings will be held July 14,2014. Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman and Aye-Vann.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, that the Planning Board would review section three, number eight of the Land Management Ordinance and consider that people want to build small homes, with the rising cost to build and maintain a home. Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman and Aye-Vann.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, that due to the liability to the Town of Covert, the Municipal Building will not be used for public use but solely for official government business. Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Vann and Bosman –Nay.

Waid moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve Justice Schmidt to attend training in Albany on July 11, 2014 to include cost of hotel room for \$215.52 and mileage. Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Bosman.

Vann moved seconded, by Waid, that Councilman Bosman pursues applying for a grant from the Greater Rochester Health Foundation for around \$15,000.00 to finish the house sign project. Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Bosman.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Supervisor's income and expenditure report for the month of May,2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bosman, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of May, 2014.

Waid moved, seconded by Bosman, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report. The total revenue was \$1,746.75 and \$1,532.77 was remitted to the Town Supervisor for the month of May, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Waid.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, that FDR Ungleich Hardwood Floors, 9420 Rt. 96, Trumansburg, NY be approved to refinish the Courtroom floors in the Municipal Building for the amount of \$2,710.00; part of the funds will come from the A1110.42-Justice grant and the remaining funds from A-1620.44-Building Improvements. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Waid moved, seconded by Vann, that William Bishop was appointed to the assessment review Board May 9, 2014 for a five year term which expires May 9, 2019. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman AND Hunt -abstained.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer report for the month of May 2014. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bosman, to appoint Christopher Bulmahn as Town of Covert Dog control Officer. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Waid- abstained.

Waid moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve Americana Vineyards Firework Permit for July 5, 2014 with rain date for July 6, 2014. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, that the Highway Fund Vouchers #71-76 in the amount of \$ 4,526.28 and General Fund Vouchers #107-126 in the amount \$13,737.45 be approved for payment. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Waid.

Hunt moved, Seconded by Waid, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 P.M. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Freese, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF COVERT
TOWN BOARD MEETING
14, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, July 14, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

R C	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Present

O Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Reporter Aneta Glover, Planning Board Member John Swanson III, Code Enforcement Officer John Poludniak, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell and other interested citizens.

C Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Supervisor Reynolds opened the public hearings at 7:03 to hear the applicants and the public.

Purpose of the public hearing was for two variance request under Land Management Ordinance. The first one is for Peter Muschamp 9765 Savercool Road, to construct an 812 square footage conversion residence over an existing garage. The second variance request was for Louise Adie, 9695 Rt. 96, to construct an 846 square footage residence (yurt). These variance requests do not meet the required 940 square feet requirements.

Peter Muschamp shared that he feels it is time for a change; small homes are the trend and more affordable. He did not see the point of the board rejecting his proposal; it is an existing dwelling and he believes he can make it into a nice little home. He stated that The Planning Board should consider changing the code to be more open to smaller homes, because it is happening all around the county. Councilman Vann asked Mr. Muschamp if he recognized that he would have to bring everything up to code. Mr. Muschamp stated 'yes', it would be all brought up to code.

Councilman Waid stated that he heard on the radio a report that seniors would prefer to stay in their large homes but can't afford to with the cost of everything and the upkeep. He thinks that the board should take a look at the Land Management Ordinance and see if it's time to consider a change.

B A : Distinguished Board Members and interested members of the community: You've heard of my plans for putting up a yurt in the Town of Covert. I have answered your questions and offered my plans freely and without restraint. Tonight, what I'd like to address is the unique opportunity you have to help make this a reality. I can only speak to the goodness that resides in all of you, and in us, as a community.

Our parents before us would like us to remember to be kind and to be good to each other, to help when we have the ability to do so and to be strong in these convictions. The inherent goodness that is in all of us is what brings us together as a community where we can help and support each other.

You have before you the unique ability to bring this about. To be kind and to share is the highest level of human compassion and empathy, you know this in your hearts, and otherwise you wouldn't be sitting where you are this evening. With a majority vote of YES to my request for a variance you are offering to assist in providing a safe and affordably economical place to live.

The 940 square foot ordinance that exists in Covert is outdated, as most of you will agree. There are very few other townships in the state with this ordinance. It appears to discriminate against and turn away the poor, including the growing community of retirees who are living longer due to healthier lives but are now faced with more financial challenges. The divorced and widowed seniors who are seeking smaller housing and are experiencing dwindling resources, more now than ever before, are not being served.

Others in the working class are also not being served. The population is aging and staying healthier and living longer but with more financial challenges ahead these seniors will be looking to put up tasteful, lovely smaller houses which allows seniors to age in place and live through to the ends of their lives.

To test the ability of seniors to downsize in old age, one only needs to look at a senior retirement community such as Kendal at Ithaca. For instance, these units range in size from 450sf to 850 sf. Some of these retirees have moved from farm sized properties with up to 2,000sf of living space, down to the above sizes, which are well below the square footage ordinance of this Town, yet allowing them to live quite comfortably.

And what about those who wish to establish mother-in-law cottages for their aging parents...this ordinance effectively excludes this as well. And still we know, the statistics are clear, there is simply not enough housing for these aging citizens. If square footage determines the tax assessment, then wouldn't it be better to have smaller houses that ARE paying taxes as opposed to none of these smaller houses at all?

It's not mandatory, necessary nor is it required that you follow the recommendations of the Planning Board.

These are recommendations only, regardless of intention. You have it in your power and authority to make a different choice, based on your very own value set of principles. Here's your chance to choose to make a difference and to vote YES for this variance request.

The future will bring many more requests of this nature, it may be best to be prepared for them. Those of you still on the fence need only put yourself in this position. This could be any one of us in the coming years....who knows what life and livelihood disasters await any of us?

You're all aware for the potential of a change to your current physical and financial health...we see it all around us, among our friends and neighbors and within our families...it could be any one of us at any given time.

The ordinance in question can and may be changed easily and quickly in the future...a newspaper announcement, community input and put up for vote by the citizens you represent. This particular ordinance does very little to help those in our community who might need it the most.

I urge you to take this matter deep into your hearts and find the grace that will allow you to pass this variance request, not only for my benefit but the benefit of the others next in line who may approach this Town Board with these honorable intentions.

Thank you. Louise Adie

Mr. Vann asked if the land owner where she is putting this yurt realize that his land taxes will be higher on his property. Ms. Adie answered, Yes, he does know the taxes will be higher on his property. Mr. Vann asked, are you able to put the loft in for more spaces? She answered, I cannot build a loft because there will not be enough head space. Mr. Vann asked, does this yurt have an engineer stamp? Ms. Adie stated the yurt is designed by engineers and does have a certified seal.

There was discussion that there are other yurts in the Town of Covert. Mr. John Swanson talked with the Town Assessor about the dollar amount of taxes. The smaller you make the houses, the less the taxes are, and the more other people have to carry the tax burden.

Supervisor Reynolds closed the Public Hearing at 7:45 and returned to the Regular Meeting.

Approval of Minutes: Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, that the June 14, 2014 minutes be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne gave his monthly report and reported that the Frontenac Bridge over Trumansburg Creek was red flagged by the State of New York and needs to be repaired. Hager Engineering Company proposes to design and draw repairs to Frontenac Bridge to eliminate the current red flag for \$4,500.00. The total bridge repair should cost around \$7,500.00.

There was some storm damage on the lower end of East Bates Road. A telephone pole and wires were across the road. In clearing away the debris, the pay loader had a tree branch come back and hit the pay loader and a piece broke that came back and cracked the windshield. It will cost about \$1,600.00 to fix the pay loader.

Supervisor Reynolds introduced the Dog Control Officer Christopher Bulmahn to the Public. He gave his monthly report to the Town Board.

Councilman Waid stated that the Personnel Committee met with Justice Schmidt and she informed the board that Terri Sandifur is filling in for the Justice Court Clerk until they hire a new Court Clerk. It is up to the Justice to hire a Court Clerk.

Councilman Bosman reported that he has applied for a grant from the Greater Rochester Health Foundations, for a little over \$17,000.00 dollars. The grant is for the Town of Covert house sign project. If awarded this grant, it will be used to buy the material and hire someone to put the signs up to finish this project.

Councilman Bosman shared that the Fire Departments are putting up the house signs and he thanked them for the great work.

There was discussion on the Mileage, Travel and Reimbursement for Training Policy, as well as, a Credit Card Policy. The Town audit performed by Bonido recommended that the town have these policies in their Personnel Policy Handbook. It was tabled until next month's meeting.

Councilman Vann stated at one time there was a request that the Town have a disaster plan. Do we have any kind of disaster plan? Superintendent MacCheyne shared that they do have information on file with the Seneca County Office for the Highway Department. Town Clerk stated that we should have a disaster plan for the Town of Covert.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that the dog impoundment fee plus the \$10.00 fee for pick up have not been raised since February of 1990. The Animal Health Inspector Division of Animal Industry suggests that the Town raise these prices to help cover the cost of these fees.

There was discussion on how to pay the temporary Court Clerk, whether with a salary or by an hourly pay rate of \$10.00 an hour. Councilman Bosman recommended that they set the Court Clerk salary for \$5,000.00 prorated for the rest of the year. Attorney for the Town Patrick Morrell suggested they pay the Court Clerk an hourly pay and then when they hire someone they don't have to wait until the end of the month and they can address the salary then.

R 14 R D D R A T

WHEREAS the payment of wages and/or salary earned by the employees and elected officials of the Town of Covert is an important and timely function of the offices of the Supervisor and

Bookkeeper, and WHEREAS the Town of Covert purchased the Williamson Law Book accounting and payroll programs earlier this year, and WHEREAS one of the features noted at that time was the availability within the program to easily process direct deposit of payroll checks to the appropriate employees personal banking accounts, and WHEREAS Community Bank NA (the Town's banking partner) can easily accommodate these transactions upon completion of an Electronic Banking Application and designation of appropriate personnel to initiate the transactions, now therefore be it RESOLVED that the Town of Covert will begin offering Direct Deposit of payroll to all personnel, both elected and appointed, effective with the payroll dated August 7, 2014, and be it further RESOLVED that the Supervisor will enter into the Agreement with Community Bank NA for this service, including the issuance of security codes and related banking practices necessary to accomplish the transfer of funds from the General and Highway Fund to the Trust and Agency Fund.

It is also noted that this is a voluntary offering and each person has the right to select direct deposit or continue to receive a paper check, or at their option, a fixed amount directly deposited to an account and the net amount paid as a paper check. Check stubs will be issued each pay period to those persons having their funds directly deposited. An employee may submit a written request to terminate their direct deposit with their timesheet or one week prior to the next paycheck. Employees wishing to begin direct deposit after the August 7th start date will need to submit the required paperwork two weeks before their next payroll date.

As the banking transfers must be initiated two business days before the payroll date, all time cards will need to be delivered to the Bookkeeper by mid-day Monday of the week when payroll will be issued. Motion by: Councilman Hunt, Seconded by Councilman Waid. Aye-Waid, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Vann.

R 14 - A T

WHEREAS circumstances have caused overages in the Justice contractual funds (A1110,400) for Fiscal Year 2014 such that the fund is over spent by almost \$1,470.00 already, and WHERRAS no further purchases are planned from the Justice Equipment Fund (A110.200) which has a current balance of \$970.00 and WHEREAS the budget for the procedural audit (A1320.41) has an available balance of \$500.00, and WHEREAS good municipal accounting practices advise that accounts should be reviewed and balanced as needed, now therefore be it RESOLVED: that the 2014 Justice Contractual account (A1110.400) be increased to \$3,470.00 and that the available balances noted in the Justice Equipment Fund (A1110.200) and the Procedural Audit fund (A1320.41) be transferred to provide the necessary funds. Motion by: Councilman Waid, seconded by Councilman Hunt. Vote by Councilman: Waid-Aye, Hunt-Aye, Bosman- Aye and Vann-Aye.

R 14 G

WHEREAS the Town of Covert has received a 2014 Justice Grant in the amount of \$2,200.00 which funds were received in March, as noted in the Miscellaneous Revenue category, and WHEREAS these funds are being spent as designated in that grants and should be shown in the budget and accounting of the Town, Now Therefore Be It RESOLVED that the budget line A1110.42 Justice Court Grant be increased from \$0.00 to \$2,200.00. Motion by: Councilman Bosman, seconded by Councilman Vann. Vote by Councilman: Waid-Aye, Hunt-Aye, Bosman-Aye and Vann-Aye.

Bosman stated that as former member of the Planning Board, he moved to deny the variance request application #11-14 for Peter Muschamp, Savercool Road, Trumansburg as recommended by the Town of Covert Planning Board. It does not meet the 940 square feet as required by the Land Management Ordinance. Motion by:

Councilman Bosman, Seconded By: Councilman Vann. Vote by Councilman: Waid-Aye, Hunt-Aye, Bosman-Aye and Vann-Aye.

Bosman stated, as former member of the Planning Board, he moved to deny the variance request application #09-14 for Louis Adis, property located at 9695 Rt. 96, Trumansburg, as recommended by the Town of Covert Planning Board . It does not meet the 940 square feet as required by the Land Management Ordinance. Motion by: Councilman Bosman, Seconded By: Councilman Vann. Vote by Councilman: Waid-Aye, Hunt-Aye, Bosman-Aye and Vann-Aye. So noted that Councilman Waid and Councilman Hunt stated that they wanted the Planning Board to take a look at the Land Management Ordinance and consider lowering the square footage for a home.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report. The total revenue was \$1,002.00 and \$733.54 was remitted to the Town Supervisor for the month of June, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Waid.

Waid moved, seconded by Bosman, to approve the Supervisor's income and expenditure report for the month of June, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bosman, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of June, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer report for the month of June, 2014. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the Dog Control Officer report for the month of June, 2014. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to approve Terri Sandifur as temporary Court Clerk at the hourly rate of \$10.00 retroactive from June 18, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid and Bosman- abstained.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Hager Engineering Company to draw repairs for Frontenac Bridge to eliminate red flag condition for the amount of \$4,500.00 and do bridge repair including engineering fees not to exceed \$8,000.00. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid and Aye-Bosman.

Vann moved, seconded by Bosman, that the Highway Fund Vouchers #77-91 in the amount of \$8,829.46 and General Fund Vouchers #127-157 in the amount \$28,336.81 be approved for payment. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Waid.

At this time the Board tabled the Credit Card Policy and decision on dog impoundment rates until next month's meeting.

Hunt moved, Seconded by Waid, to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 P.M. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Freese, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF COVERT
TOWN BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 8, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, September 8, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Present

Others Present: Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Reporter Aneta Glover, Code Enforcement Officer John Poludniak, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Public Hearing: Supervisor Reynolds opened the public hearing at 7:03 p.m.

Purpose of Public Hearing was for a variance request under the Land Management Ordinances for Molly Covert, 9135 Lodi-Covert Townline Road, in regards to the 185 feet road frontage which does not meet the required 200 feet.

Molly Covert shared with the board about the trailer that she had moved where it sits now and it has some damage. She wanted to move it on to the lot so she has a place for her and her granddaughter can come and stay on the weekends. Supervisor Reynolds shared that Paul Stevens, Code Enforcement Officer, said the lot was good, has septic and is ready to go.

Petitioner to the Board: Eva VanGelder spoke regarding the public hearing after the Board had closed the public hearing; Eva was sworn in to speak: The Board is taking testimony; please state your name and address. "My name is Eva VanGelder, 9129 Lodi-Covert Townline Road, Interlaken, NY." Do you swear that this is the truth? Eva answered: "Yes", "I signed over my property to my son with the stipulation for me for life use of it. Shortly after that, they didn't have a place to live because he was living with Molly (Covert),... and they had this trailer, so they moved it up there and it was there for a few years. She (Molly) decided she didn't want to live there and she took it (the trailer) back down to Seneca Road... Judy Boyce told us that Jim could not have the trailer on the two properties and I had to sign over the property. So, seeing they were living together and doing fine, I decided to sign it into Molly's name, with the stipulation, which I foolishly did not put it in writing, that if anything happened to her and Jim, that it was to come back to me...They have parted ways and it was to come back to me, but she (Molly) has decided to take it upon herself to move the trailer in there and do other work in there, telling everybody she had a permit to do that..." "The trailer is not 14x70 feet; it is 12x56 feet."

The Town Board discussed the size of the trailer and that the Land Management requirement is 940 square feet. Town Attorney Morrell shared that the board had options and shared that a decision can be made based on the information on the permit; Code Enforcement Officer John Poludniak will have to measure the trailer to confirm. Councilman Hunt said he would make the motion to approve the variance request contingent upon the Code Enforcement Officer measuring the trailer and if it is in compliance with the Land Management Ordinance, it will be approved. If the trailer does not meet the 940 sq. ft. requirement, then the variance request will be denied because it does not meet code.

Approval of Minutes: Bosman moved, seconded by Hunt, that the August 11, 2014 minutes be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

There was discussion about the Highway Barn roof. Two bids were received: Zooks would just put a roof on with plywood and rubber for \$9,500. The "peak" has a history of leaking. Cooley would not tear the entire roof off, but would put a peak

on the flattened center, bringing the sides out 8 ft, a total of 16 feet across for \$8,650.00. Cooley would require 1/2 payment at start, the rest on completion.

The Town Board received one sealed bid for the 2015 Lawn Maintenance Contract from Raymond Zajac, Sr. (Greased Lightning) for \$2,210.00.

Highway Superintendent: Jeffrey MacCheyne gave his monthly report: They put a round of cold patching on all roads, hauled and laid milling on Towline, Burdick and Dunn Roads, did repairs on the roadside mower, regarded on Low Point, Hatch Road and South Frontenac, hauled stone for roadwork, built drop box for Bookkeeper, did regular maintenance on all equipment, worked with the Towns of Lodi, Romulus and Ovid on paving projects, started fall mowing, as well as, made materials list and worked on getting price quotes for bridge.

Councilman Waid shared that New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal is getting new members and has money in reserves and are operational and growing.

Councilman Hunt said He tried to pass a resolution last month to New York State requesting that the surplus money be put toward paying the unfunded mandates for New York State.

Councilman Vann reported he made contact with the people who have our assessor files and we will be having a meeting to see where we are and how to move forward in our assessments.

Councilman Bosman shared that they are receiving some material now for the House Sign Project. We have received a bill and not the material yet. He asked that the board approve the voucher to be paid, and it will be held until we receive the material.

Supervisor Reynolds shared on the use of the Town of Covert Municipal Building and that Town Attorney Morrell has added that the building will be available for use to the public.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that the Interlaken Fire contract was the same as last year. Councilman Hunt shared that there was a clause in the contract about the display or use of such fire equipment for parades, conventions, etc. that they shall be restricted to the Town of Ovid and Covert. They do participate in other parades so this clause should be removed from the contract.

RESOLUTION No. 10-14 Use of Town of Covert Municipal Building

WHEREAS the Town of Covert uses the property at 8469 Main Street, Village of Interlaken, County of Seneca and State of New York as the Town of Covert Municipal Building, which serves as the location of the Town Clerk's Office, the Town Court and Town Meeting meetings; and

WHEREAS the Town holds title to the property by deed dated April 8, 2002 and filed in the Office of the Seneca County Clerk at Book 647 of Deeds at Page 117; and

WHEREAS that deed reserves to the Grantor therein, Interlaken Post 462 American Legion, Inc., the right to use the premises subject to certain limitations; and

WHEREAS that deed also contains the following: "The upstairs Meeting Room will be available for municipal and community use for all non-commercial activities. Included in permitted activities are the Legion's Memorial Day ceremonies and fund raising dinners as well as any other scheduled activities approved in advance by both the Legion and the Town Board. . . .Any organization wishing to use the building will provide a Certificate of Insurance to the Town in advance and comply with the Town's Facility Use Requirements."

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Covert Municipal Building will be available for community use pursuant to the terms of the deed noted above; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Town of Covert hereby adopts Facility Use Requirements, which set forth the terms of use and insurance requirements for the community use of the premises at 8469 Main Street and will be used for the remainder of the year 2014. Such Facility Use Requirements will be reviewed and updated as deemed necessary and advisable by the Covert Town Board at its reorganizational meeting held in January of each year. Motion: Bosman Seconded by: Waid Vote: Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Vann and Aye -Waid.

Resolution # 11-14

2015 General Fund B accounts

WHEREAS Town of Covert now has two account categories (Planning and Dog Control) that are currently in the General Fund A Town-wide budget and rightfully belong in General Fund B Outside the Village budget, and

WHEREAS good accounting practices require these account lines to be properly reported to the board, citizens and New York State in the General Fund B budget, now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Town of Covert Town Board does hereby approve the use of the following General Fund B accounts in preparing the 2015 budget, as well as accounting for these funds in the future

Dog Control Personnel Services B3510.1

Dog Control Contractual B3501.4

Planning Board Contractual B8020.4

Employee Benefits: Social Security B9030.8.

Motion: Waid Seconded by: Vann, Motion: Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Hunt.

Resolution #12-14

Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Covert, hereby establishes the following standard work days for these titles and will report the officials to the New York State and Local Retirement System based on time keeping system records or their record of activities:

Title	Standard Work Day (hrs/days) Min. 8 hrs Max. 8 hrs	Name (First and Last)	Social Security Number (Last 4 digits)	Registration Number	Tier 1 (Check only) If member is in Tier 1	Current Term Begin & End Dates (mm/dd/yy-mm/dd/yy)	Participates In Employer's Time Keeping System (Yes/No-If Yes, do not complete the last two columns)	Record of Activities Result'	Not Submitted /Check only if official did not submit their Record of Activities)
Elected Official:									
Town Justice	6	Eileen Schmidt				4/01/2014-12/31/2014	N	8	

Colleen Freese Town Clerk of the governing board of the Town of Covert, of the State of New York, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing with the original resolution passed by such board, at a legally convened meeting held on the 8th day of September 2014 on file as part of the minutes of such meeting, and that same is a true copy thereof and the whole of such original.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the Town of Covert on this 8th day of September, 2014 Colleen R. Freese.

Affidavit of Posting: I, Colleen R. Freese being duly sworn, deposes and says that the posting of the Resolution began on September 8, 2014 and continued for at least 30 days. That the Resolution was available to the public on the 9th day of September, 2014. Motion by: Bosman, Seconded by: Hunt Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bosman, to approve variance request for Molly Covert, 9135 Lodi-Covert Townline Road which does not meet the 200' road frontage, contingent upon the rest of the project being in compliance with the Land Management Ordinance. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid, Aye- Bosman and Aye-Vann.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to request that a letter be written to New York State asking for the surplus money to be put toward paying the unfunded mandates for New York State. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid, Aye- Bosman and Aye-Vann

Hunt moved, seconded by Bosman to approve the proposal from Cooley Construction Corporation to repair the highway barn roof for the amount of \$8,650.00. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid, Aye-Bosman and Nay-Vann.

Bosman moved, seconded by Hunt, that the Interlaken Fire contract be approved upon the removal of the second sentence of paragraph two in the fire contract. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Hunt

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the 2015 JCAP Grant application for \$31,289.57 to be used for security, computer software, office equipment, furniture, office supplies, air conditioning, and video surveillance. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Hunt.

Bosman moved, seconded by Reynolds, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report. The total revenue was \$2,007.50 and \$654.20 was remitted to the Supervisor for the month of August, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Waid.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Supervisor's income and expenditure report for the month of August, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of August, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer report for the month of August, 2014. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Waid moved, seconded by Bosman, to approve the Dog Control Officer report for the month of August, 2014. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Waid moved, seconded by Bosman, that the Highway Fund Vouchers #106-118 in the amount of \$27,693.70 and General Fund Vouchers #174-194 in the amount \$20,494.33 be approved for payment. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Waid.

Vann moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 P.M. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Freese, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF COVERT
SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 29, 2014**

The Town Board of the Town of Covert held a Special Meeting Thursday, September 29, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call: Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
Councilman Duane Waid	Present
Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
Councilman Jeffery Vann	Present

Others Present: Highway Superintendent Jeffery MacCheyne, Town Clerk Colleen Freese, and reported Aneta Glover.

Call to Order:

Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Councilman Bosman moved, seconded by Councilman Waid, to enter into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Bosman.

Councilman Hunt moved, seconded by Councilman Vann to close executive session and return to special meeting at 6:00 p.m. Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Bosman.

Councilman Hunt moved, seconded by Councilman Waid, to terminate Angela Champion, Court Clerk, pending a letter of consent from the Town Justice Eileen Schmidt. Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Bosman.

Councilman Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to hire Jennie Ewing as the Town of Covert Court Clerk pending written approval from the Town Justice Eileen Schmidt. The Court Clerk's salary will be the 2014 budgeted amount of \$500.00 a month. Vote: Aye-Waid Aye-Hunt and Aye-Reynolds, Nay-Vann and Nay-Bosman.

Councilman Bosman shared that the town is faced with high costs in the 2015 budget with a high increase in the Trumansburg Fire Department and with the town needing a revaluation done on all properties. We should not give a thirty percent raise to one department when others are only getting 2% raises.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that the Town of Covert employees are one of the lowest paid employees in the county. If we want good help, we need to pay our employees better.

RESOLUTION No.

1. Be it resolved that all employees of the Town of Covert that were paid an hourly wage in the 2014 budget, shall receive a 2% wage increase for the 2015 year effective January 1, 2015. The only exception to this will be those employees who are affected by the New York State increase in the minimum wage and require a larger wage increase to bring their wages to the minimum standard. These persons shall receive an additional wage increase necessary to bring them to the New York State minimum wage on the effective date of the law.
2. Be it resolved that all elected and appointed employees whose position was paid on a salary basis in 2014 shall receive a 2% increase in their wages for the 2015 year based on the 2014 budgeted amount, effective January 1, 2015. Such salaries shall be paid on a biweekly, monthly, or quarterly basis as were elected by these officials in 2014. The only exception to this will be Town Councilman who will receive the same wage in 2015 as they received in 2014 (and for over 25 years prior).

Motion: Councilman Bosman, Seconded by Councilman Vann

Vote: Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Waid, Nay-Hunt and Nay-Reynolds

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to close the special meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Aye- Waid, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Bosman.

Respectfully submitted,

Town Clerk Colleen Freese

Town Supervisor Michael Reynolds

**TOWN OF COVERT
TOWN BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 13, 2014**

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, October 13, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Present

Others Present: Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Reporter Aneta Glover, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Code Enforcement Officer John Poludniak, Dog Control Officer Chris Bulmahn and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Waid moved, seconded by Hunt, that the September 8, 2014 minutes be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

Presenter to the Board: Bill Bishop and Diane Bassette Nelson gave a slide presentation for the Interlaken Historical Society. The mission of the Interlaken Historical Society is to establish, maintain and operate museums and research room for the promotion of local area history. The activities they put on are usually associated with the historical society, particularly relating to the history of Southern Seneca County and the Community of Interlaken. The Historical Society publishes a quarterly newsletter and other articles. The 2014 Plow Days was a very successful event. Around five hundred people came to see the antique tractors and other displays. In the summer of 2015, the Historical Society will be celebrating 65 years of Community History and will be celebrating the Railroad in our history.

Councilman Vann shared about the Assessment / Land Management Ordinance meeting held September 17, 2014 to discuss the Assessment of properties and the Land Management Ordinance. Councilman Vann shared that the summarization from the meeting is a revalue is required and better enforcement of the Land Management Ordinance is needed. It is vital to keep assessment documents up to date for maintaining equity to all taxpayers in the Town of Covert. The report is on file at the Town Clerk's Office.

Councilman Bosman made a request that new signs be put up letting the community know that the town has a Land Management Ordinance and that building permits are required for the Town of Covert.

Councilman Bosman filed a house numbering project report with the Town Board. At this time the fire departments have completed the erection of 114 sign. The Fire Departments are anticipating installing an additional 250 to 300 signs in October. The full report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that the World War II Veterans' Memorial needs to be rebuilt. It is rotten and water is getting inside where the names are. It is the Town's responsibility to take care of the Veterans' items on the property.

Councilman Hunt requested that the Veterans' sign out front be dismantled to prevent any further damage and stored in the basement until it can be rebuilt in the spring. The money will be in the 2015 budget for repairs.

Anthony Delplanto addressed the Town Board about the application for the usage of the Town's Municipal Building and shared that the amount of insurance required to use the building make it so people will not use the building. Mr. Delplanto suggested that the Board withdraw their liability requirement and open up the building to be used by the taxpayers.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that the liability requirement is what the Town's insurance company requires. The liability insurance is to protect the town when used by the public.

Don Kenyon shared that back in the eighties the Town Hall was not used by the public because of liability. The town hall was only used for government business.

John Moore addressed the Town Board about getting the speed limit lowered in the Hamlet of Covert. He shared about the high speed of trucks and cars with all the accidents that have happened in the last few years. Many people are concerned about their safety. It's not safe to walk, ride bikes or cross the road. Mr. Moore shared that he has appealed to the State about changing the speed limit to 40 for the safety of the people and it has not been changed. He asked, if he got a petition with signatures, will the Town Board support the petition to get the speed limit lowered? The Town Board agreed to support a petition for a lower speed limit.

Resolution No. 18-14

moved, seconded by Vann, THAT WHEREAS the Town Board of the Town of Covert has reviewed the 2015 Tentative Budget for the Town of Covert, The Trumansburg and Interlaken Fire Protection contract and the Trumansburg Ambulance contract. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Clerk is duly authorized to file said budget for public inspection. Said budget shall be filed at the Town Clerks Office at 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York. The Town of Covert Board set forth: A public hearing for the Town of Covert's 2015 Preliminary Budget, including General Funds, Highway Funds, Assessment Program Funds, Trumansburg and Interlaken Fire Protection and Trumansburg Ambulance Contract on Monday, October 27, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Waid.

Waid moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report. The total revenue was \$4,082.25 and \$757.39 was remitted to the Supervisor for the month of September, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Waid.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the Supervisor's income and expenditure report for the month of September, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of September, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Vann moved, seconded by Bosman, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer report for the month of September, 2014. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, that the south end and west side of Town Clerk's Office, outside walls, be insulated and new siding added for the amount of \$1,807.98 which includes materials and labor. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Waid moved, seconded by Vann, that the variance request application #24-14 for Peter Muschamp, 9765 Savercool Road, Trumansburg does not meet the required road right of way set back of 50 feet as required by the Land Management Ordinances and be referred to the Planning Board. The Public Hearing will be held November 10, 2014 at 7:00 pm. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman

Waid moved, seconded by Bosman, that the Highway Fund Vouchers #119-130 in the amount of \$103,500.19 and General Fund Vouchers #195-215 in the amount \$13,406.58 be approved for payment. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Waid.

Bosman moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Respectfully submitted, Colleen Freese, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF COVERT
TOWN BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 10, 2014**

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, November 10, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Present

Others Present: Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Reporter Aneta Glover, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Code Enforcement Officer John Poludniak, Dog Control Officer Chris Bulmahn and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, that the September 8, 2014 minutes be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

Presenter to the Board: John Moore presented the Town Board with a petition from residents of the Hamlet of Covert regarding lowering the speed limit from 55 miles per hour to 40-45 miles per hour on State Route 96. The Town Board is in support of this petition. Mr. Moore thanked the Board for their support.

Councilman Waid introduced his granddaughter Courtney Waid. She is a student at TC3 studying state and local government. She is required to write a paper on local government and came to the town meeting to see how the local government worked.

Councilman Waid also shared that he has submitted his resignation to the Town Board. It has been a real pleasure serving on the Town Board for almost 28 years. I thank my family, friends and everyone who has been a part of my being a board member.

Councilman Hunt shared that he had talked with Christopher Wolf on the World War II Veterans sign and he is willing to help out with designing the new sign along with Charles Freese.

Councilman Bosman gave a report on the house number sign project, that another 250 signs were up and they have about another 150 to put up. They should be all up before the snow falls. There have been some signs taken down and He hope to get a resolution passed that all homes are required to have these signs up.

Councilman Bosman letter to the Town Board: To: Mike Reynolds, Town of Covert Supervisor
Town Councilmen from: Charles Bosman, Town Councilman

Ref: 2015 proposed Budget

I am writing to express my displeasure at the proposed 2015 budget and request it be further reviewed and amended. My concerns are as follows:

1. With Councilman Vann report and the concerns express by his committee, it was my impression that the board was in favor of a complete reassessment by a group recommended by our assessor, Tompkins County assessment group. Their estimate was approximately \$80,000 which we would hope to pay off in two installments in the 2015 and the 2016 budget and with fund left over from the 2014 budget. From the current printout of the 2014 budget it would appear that we will spend by the end of the year \$16,944.65 including payment to Tompkins county for the third and fourth quarter. This will leave a balance of \$13,055.35. In the proposed 2015 budget, the budgeted amount is lowered from \$30,000 to \$27,029. If we pay the same amount

to Tompkins County for 4 quarters that will amount to \$22,258.84 (assuming no increase for the 3rd and 4th quarters of the year when a new contract has to be drawn up) our balance to pay for the reassessment will be \$4,770.16. Thus we will have only \$17,825.51 to apply to reassessment, far less than the half we need of \$40,000. Reassessment is vital and we cannot leave more than \$62,000 to be funded in the 2016 budget.

2. I am Concerned that we are giving employees of many years 2% raises, while our newest employees are receiving raises of 15% and over 21% over the 2014 budget figure. As Councilman Vann has suggested, we should start them out at a lower salary and see how they work out. This is the usual practice in industry.
3. I am concerned that we h changed the method of payment to the court clerk from salary to hourly. I am sure there are times of the month and times of the year that have more or less time requirements. In the past the job has always been salaried job and I believe it should remain so.
4. Since the Court Justice is an elected position, once you set salary, you cannot decrease it during her term of office, the next four years. At some point the Village of Interlaken is going to realize that the current situation is not a good deal for them. They pay for the police (in the excess of \$50,000.00) and receive none of the fine money which they generate. At some point, and it may be soon, they are either going to abolish the police as has been done in Lodi, Ovid and Romulus, or set up their own court. When this happens, we are still stuck with a high justice salary for four year, while receiving little revenue.
5. In looking at the current justice revenue, it seems even with the Interlaken police writing tickets for the whole year, we will have a hard job going much above \$22,000.00 revenue for the year. For 9 months we have received \$15,733.00 or \$1,748.00 per month and this includes the busy months. At this rate we should have a hard time breaking \$22,000.00, yet the 2015 budget is calling for revenue of \$25,000.00. This budget needs to be realistic in both its expenditures and its income.
6. I am still very concerned about the health insurance cost and benefits for our workers. While much of the problem is due to Federal Health programs, from all I have read we should not be expecting to see a decrease in health insurance cost as this budget shows. I believe this needs to be looked at more fully and we need to be prepared for increase in this cost.

For these reasons, I would request that we table the final decision on the budget till more through discussion can be held. If not “ I must vote against this budget as it now stands.” Councilman Bosman

Councilman Vann shared that he has talked with Cindy Baire about a revaluation for the Town of Covert and he proposed an informational interview for November 17, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that he has made some adjustments to the preliminary budget lines. The changes have been made to the following accounts, A1420.1 Personnel Services Attorney \$7,000.00, DA2665 Sale of equipment \$10,000.00, and A9060.81 Health saving-\$8,000.00.

There was discussion about the amount for the assessor and the cost of the revaluation. Councilman Bosman and Councilman Vann stated there should be more money in the A1355.4 line to cover the cost for the assessor and the revaluation.

Donald Kenyon stated that he would request that a honest number would be entered on the assessor line of the 2015 budget to cover the assessor and the revaluation cost for 2015.

Town Attorney Patrick Morrell shared about the Fire district contract and that public hearing needs to be held accorded to Town Law, section 184 before the contract can be signed.

There was discussion about the web-site proposal from George Hunt. Councilman Bosman agreed to meet with George Hunt and discuss what the town needs are for a website.

Waid moved, seconded by Bosman, to change the current custodian position as recommend by Seneca County Personnel Department to a cleaner position for the Town of Covert. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to put an ad in the paper for the cleaning position for the Town of Covert Municipal Building. Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Vann.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to put an ad in the paper for a Town Councilman. The Town Board will interview applicants and appoint one as Councilman for 2015. The position will be up for election in November of 2015. Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Vann.

Waid moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report. The total revenue was \$2,033.00 and \$712.88 was remitted to the Supervisor for the month of October, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Waid.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the Supervisor's income and expenditure report for the month of October, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of October, 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bosman, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's report for the month of October, 2014. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Waid moved, seconded by Hunt to reappoint Daniel Borst and Daniel Bakker to the Planning Board for a seven year term each that will expire December 31, 2021. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Waid.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the Dog Control Officer's report for the month of October 2015. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Waid.

Councilman Hunt moved, seconded by Vann to support the petition John Moore presented the Town Board n from the residents of the Hamlet of Covert, regarding lowering the speed limit from 55 miles per hour to 40-45 miles per hour on State route 96. The petition needs to be sent to Traffic and Safety & Mobility Regional Director and Department of Transportation as well as, Senator Mike Nozzolio. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann , Aye-Bosman and Aye-Waid.

Waid moved, seconded by Hunt , that the Highway Fund Vouchers #131-142 in the amount of \$37,579.27 and General Fund Vouchers #216-236 in the amount \$27,163.26 be approved for payment. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Waid.

The Town Board announced that there will be a Special Board Meeting held November 17, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. for an informational interview with Cindy Baire about a revaluation for all of the properties of the Town of Covert. The 2015 budget will also be discussed.

Year End Meeting is set for December 29, 2014 at 6:00p.m.

Bosman moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bosman.

Respectfully submitted, Colleen Freese, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT
SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 8, 2014

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, December 8, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Charles Bosman	Present
	Councilman Duane Waid	Present

Others Present: Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Reporter Aneta Glover, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Planning Board Member Robert Schoffel and other interested citizens.

Call to Order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Public Hearing: Supervisor Reynolds opened the public hearing at 7:04. Purpose of the public hearing was for a variance request under Land Management Ordinance for Peter Muschamp, 9765 Savercool Road, Trumansburg, NY, to construct a 15'x20' addition on the existing structure. To convert it into a 1080 square foot residence and add a 10'x15' porch.

There were no comments. Bosman moved, seconded by Hunt to close the public hearing at 7:08.

Supervisor Reynolds opened the regular meeting at 7:09.

Approval of Minutes: Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, that the regular meeting minutes from November 10, 2014, Special Meeting for November 17, 2014 and the public hearing minutes for November 25, 2014 for Trumansburg Fire Protection be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Waid shared how he has enjoyed being on the Town Board. He also encouraged the Board members to attend trainings that New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal offers. These trainings give a lot of knowledge and ideas that can be brought back to the town. Their Risk Management training is very good and can help the town to prevent accidents if the information received from the training is applied.

Councilman Hunt shared that Councilman Vann, Highway Superintendent MacCheyne and himself were going to work on a ten year plan for the highway barn to be repaired and the replacement of equipment. He also shared that the 2002 highway truck needs a new box the old one is worn out and it can't be used to haul stones. Highway Superintendent MacCheyne shared that a new stainless steel box will cost \$38,807.00 and the Roll-Rite tarp system would be \$2,792.00. Highway Superintendent also stated that the truck was worth fixing and would last for years.

Councilman Bosman shared that the 911 house signs are up, except for about one hundred of them. With the grant money, 650 signs have been done. With the money from Seneca Meadows, 400 signs were done. The rest of the signs will be finished in the spring.

Councilman Bosman shared that the personnel committee met and has a recommendation for the cleaner and the Town Councilman positions.

There was some discussion on the Town of Covert website and what the Town Board is looking for.

They would like a flat fee for the website. It was suggested that a bid spec be drawn up for the website to give everyone a fair chance to bid.

Councilman Vann shared that he did not feel a joint hearing was required for the fire district. There was discussion on the Town Law section 184.7 and what it says about holding a joint Public Hearing for fire protection. Town attorney Morrell stated that according to Town Law section 184.7 a joint public hearing is to be held.

Supervisor Report: Supervisor Reynolds discussed the Trumansburg fuel agreement. Town Attorney Morrell shared that the contract was a good agreement and there would be two board members on the committee. This would be a beneficial agreement for the town. Six months' notice is required to get out of the agreement.

There was much discussion on the property cards from the fire and if the Town is entitled to some insurance money from the fire. Town attorney suggested that the litigations for the Town be discussed in an executive session.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the American Legion application for renewing their license to conduct Games of Chance at the 4431 Seneca Road, Trumansburg NY, Post 770. Aye-Waid, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Vann and Aye-Hunt.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to accept the offer of \$10.00 from John Hunt for the surplus window. Aye-Waid, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Vann and Aye-Hunt.

Waid moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Dog Control Officer's Report for the month of November 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Waid.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to appoint Bill Bishop to the Town of Covert's Board to replace Duane Waid starting January 1, 2015. This term will expire December 31, 2015 and will be on the ballot for the 2015 election. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Vann. Councilman Hunt recused himself.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to hire John Hunt as cleaner for the Town of Covert Municipal Building starting the week of November 8, 2014. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann and Councilman Hunt recused himself.

Vann moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the Trumansburg Municipal Cooperation Agreement for Fuel. (Copy will be entered in full in the minute book). Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Waid.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the highway superintendent to order the high tensile steel box for the 2002 truck, using the proposal quote from the Oneida County contract for the total amount of \$40,970.00. Aye-Waid, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Vann.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's report for the Month of November 2014. Aye-Waid, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Vann and Aye-Hunt.

Vann moved, seconded by Waid, that variance request application #29-14 for Peter Muschamp, 9765 Savercool Road, Trumansburg, to build a 28' x 36' residential be approved. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Vann.

Waid moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for November 2014. A total of \$1,887.00 was received and \$648.83 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye-

Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Highway Superintendent report for the month of November 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Waid.

Bosman moved, seconded by Waid, to approve the Supervisor’s revenue and expenditure report for November 2014. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

Bosman moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the 2015 Trumansburg Ambulance contract in the amount of \$145,311.21 and the Trumansburg Fire contract in the amount of \$48,701.24. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid and Aye-Hunt.

RESOLUTION #20-14

THAT WHEREAS the 2014 NY State Retirement payment due on December 15, 2014 was less than the budgeted amount leaving a balance in General Fund A9010.8 of \$ 6,841.00, and **WHEREAS** the need to replace part of the roof on the Highway garage has resulted in an overspending of line A5132.42 (Maintenance) of \$6,506.03, **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that a budget amendment be approved transferring the excess in line A9010.8 (Retirement) of \$6,506.03 to line A5132.42 (maintenance). Motion Vann, Seconded Hunt. Vote: Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann and Aye-Hunt.

2015 Highway Hourly Resolution 21-14

WHEREAS the Town of Covert in preparing their 2015 budget included an amount equal to a 2% increase in the Highway Department personnel lines, and **WHEREAS** the Town of Covert Highway Department appointed employees have all maintained acceptable work levels, **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town of Covert Town Board does hereby accept the recommendation of the Highway Superintendent that the following full-time employees will be given a 2% increase in their hourly rate; part-time employee’s rates will remain unchanged.

2014 2% 2014 2015 2% -

2015

Employee: Reg./hour Increase O.T. Total Reg. Increase O.T

Edward Turk	19.75	.58	29.62	20.14	.39	30.21
Chris Bulmahn	12.48	.37	18.73	12.73	.25	19.09
Roger Ike	14.85	.44	22.27	15.15	.30	22.72
Ralph Jones	\$8.50		8.50	8.75		8.50
Glen Boyes	\$10.00		10.00	10.00		10.00
Kenneth Favreau	\$10.00		10.00	10.00		10.00

Motion Bosman, Seconded by Bosman, that the Highway pay is effective January 1, 2015. Vote: Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid, Aye-Bosman and Aye-Vann.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to enter into executive session to discuss proposed litigations regarding assessor records for the Town of Covert. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to come out of executive session at 8:50 and return to regular meeting. Aye-Bosman, Aye-Waid, Aye-Vann and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, that Highway Fund Vouchers #143-155 in the amount of \$11,294.47 and General Fund Voucher's #238-258 in the amount of \$ 21,852.50 be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Waid and Aye-Bosman.

Hunt moved, seconded by Waid, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen R. Freese, Town Clerk