

**TOWN OF COVERT
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
AND
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
7:00 PM — JANUARY 11, 2016**

The organizational and regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, January 11, 2016 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 Leon Anderson	Present
	Councilman William Bishop	Present

Others Present: Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Deputy Town Clerk Leslie Adams-Compton, Reporter Aneta Glover and other interested citizens.

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

Oath of Office: Supervisor Reynolds swore in the following official: William Bishop.

ORGANIZATIONAL

- 1) Hunt moved, seconded by Anderson, that for the year 2016 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-Bishop, Aye-Vann Aye-Anderson and Aye-Hunt.
- 2) Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, to authorize that Community Bank, N.A., Interlaken Branch, be designated the official bank of the Town of Covert and Town Justice Schmidt 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-Bishop, Aye-Vann, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Hunt.
- 3) Hunt moved, seconded by Anderson, 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 2016 without prior approval of the Town Board. Vote: Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Vann.
- 4) Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, to designate the Interlaken Review as the official newspaper of the Town of Covert for the year 2016. Vote: Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Bishop.
- 5) Hunt moved, seconded by Anderson, to appoint Christopher Bulmahn as Dog Control Officer at the budgeted Salary and \$.50 cents per mile to and from Beverly Animal Shelter for the year 2016. A \$10.00 per day fee for each dog will be charged to the owner upon redemption of impounded dog from Beverly Animal Shelter. Vote: Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Bishop.
- 6) Vann moved, seconded by Anderson, to appoint John Poludniak as Code Enforcement Officer at the budgeted Salary and 50 cents per mile for the year 2016. Vote: Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Bishop.

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- 7) Anderson moved, seconded by Vann, to appoint John Hunt as cleaner to the Town of Covert Municipal Building, at the wage of \$9.00 per hour for the year 2016. Vote: Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Vann.
- 8) Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to appoint Ralph E. Jones as cleaner at the Town of Covert Highway Department, at the wage of \$9.00 per hour for the year 2016. Vote: Aye-Bishop, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Vann.
- 9) Anderson moved, seconded by Vann, to appoint Charles R. Freese as maintenance person of the Town of Covert Municipal Building, at the wage of \$9.00 per hour for the year 2016. Vote: Aye-Anderson, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Bishop.
- 10) Bishop moved, seconded by Anderson, to allow Supervisor Reynolds to file his 2015 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-Bishop, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Vann.
- 11) Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, to appoint Mr. Raymond Zajac Sr. to mow the lawns at the Municipal Building, Town Hall and Covert Cemetery for an amount not to exceed \$2,122.00 for the year 2016. Vote: Aye- Anderson, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Bishop.
- 12) Anderson 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 2016 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-Hunt, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Anderson.
- 13) The Personnel Policy and Procedures Handbook were reviewed with the following changes: addition of the Health Insurance Buyout Plan and update to job description of Code Enforcement Officer - still forthcoming. Vote: Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Anderson

APPOINTMENTS BY ELECTED OFFICIALS

Highway Superintendent MacCheyne appoints Glenn Boyes as Deputy Highway Superintendent for 2016.

Town Clerk appoints Leslie Adams-Compton as Deputy Town Clerk and Registrar of Vital Statistics, Tax Collector. Wage shall be \$10.00 per hour.

Town Justice Eileen Schmidt appoints Jennie Ewing as Clerk to the Town Justice. Salary shall be as budgeted with an increase of \$720.00 for the year 2016.

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Supervisor Reynolds makes the following appointments for 2016:

Bookkeeper and Secretary to the Supervisor -- Diane Bassette Nelson

Budget Officer -- Michael Reynolds

Deputy Supervisor -- Gary Hunt

Town Assessment Committee -- Michael Reynolds and Bill Bishop

Historian for the Town-- John Hunt

Highway Committee -- Gary G. Hunt, Chairman and Bill Bishop

Courts, Ordinances & Law Enforcement – Bill Bishop, Chairman and Gary Hunt

Utilities & Insurance – Gary Hunt, Chairman and Bill Bishop

Personnel – Jeffrey Vann, Chairman and Leon Anderson

Planning and Buildings – Jeffrey Vann, Chairman and Gary Hunt

Fire and Ambulance – Leon Anderson, Chairman, Jeffrey Vann and Michael Reynolds.

Planning and Land Management Ordinance - Jeffrey Vann, Chairman and Leon Anderson

Any appointments which may have been overlooked shall continue to be filled by the incumbent subject to review by the appropriate appointing authority.

RETURN TO THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Approval of Minutes: Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, that the minutes from the December 28, 2015 year-end meeting minutes be approved. Vote: Aye-Anderson, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Bishop.

Presenter to the Board:

Highway Superintendent MacCheyne gave his report and shared that the John Deere and Ford tractors will be ready for auction in the Spring. The sickle bar may be sent to a different auction. He's looking into getting a new John Deere or New Holland tractor by May. He also reported that the truck box sold for \$222.60.

Deputy Town Clerk Adams-Compton gave her report and shared that as tax collector she collected \$107,989.27 by the end of the year for taxes and over \$400,000.00 to date. \$300,000.00 was to be remitted to Supervisor Reynolds.

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Vann reported that he is still planning to meet with Code Enforcement Officer John Poludniak to update him on changes to the Application for Development Permit.

Supervisor Reynolds reported that GAR is assigning values based on the data collected and those numbers should be out soon.

Councilman Bishop shared that he attended the training for Elected Officers and found it interesting to hear of the bigger problems of bigger towns and he thought it was worthwhile.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that Seneca County had a quorum for the vote of a new County Manager. There was some discussion on the details of the vote.

Dog Control Officer Buhlman wanted clarification on mileage reimbursement for dog control assignments within the Town. It was stated that 50 cents per mile reimbursement is allowed in Organization item #1 “for personal vehicles used by Town Officers while performing official duties other than attendance...”

Chuck Bosman asked clarification on the situation of Judge Schmidt and the conflict of interest in the traffic cases ticketed in the Village. Attorney Morrell said that whenever there is a conflict of interest, the judge may decide to refer the case or cases to a presiding advisor/administrative judge. The Town Board does not set policy for the NYS Courts. Bosman was concerned that there would be a decrease of revenue for the Town even though the budget has gone up. There has been no decision made by the Courts as to this situation.

Resolution #1-16
2016 Highway Hourly Resolution

WHEREAS the Town of Covert in preparing their 2016 budget included amounts to increase the hourly rates of the fulltime employees 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 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 an increase in their hourly rate; part-time employees rates will remain unchanged.

Employee:	2015 Reg./hour	increase	2016 Total Reg..	2016 O.T.
Edward Turk	\$20.14	.40	20.54	30.81
Chris Bulmahn	\$12.73	1.00	13.73	20.60
Roger Ike	\$15.25	1.00	16.25	24.38
Ralph Jones	\$ 8.75	.25	9.00	
Glen Boyes	\$ 10.00	0	10.00	
Kenneth Favreau	\$ 10.00	0	10.00	

Hunt moved, seconded by Anderson that the Highway pay be effective January 1, 2016.
Vote: Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Anderson

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Anderson moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for December 2015. A total of \$706.75 was received and \$286.14 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye-Anderson, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Highway Superintendent report for the month of December 2015. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Bishop.

Hunt moved, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Supervisor's revenue and expenditure report for December 2015. Aye-Vann, Aye-Anderson, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Hunt.

Vann moved, seconded by Anderson, that Highway Fund Vouchers #1-6 in the amount of \$13,530.26 and General Fund Voucher's #1-19 in the amount of \$94,111.69+ be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Anderson.

Hunt moved, seconded by Anderson, to declare the 1968 John Deere Tractor, 1996 Ford 4630 Tractor, and sickle bar mower as surplus. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Anderson, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt.

Audit of the Town Court books was set for Friday, January 15 at 2:00 p.m.

Vann moved, seconded by Anderson, to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie Adams-Compton
Deputy Town Clerk

**TOWN OF COVERT
TOWN BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 2016**

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, February 8, 2016 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 Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman William Bishop	Present

Others Present: Deputy Town Clerk Leslie Adams-Compton, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, 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.

Councilman Vann began by asking for a break in the agenda and, “with the public interest at large”, made a motion for a resolution to accept the resignation of Councilman Leon Anderson. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bishop and opened for discussion.

Councilman Hunt asked if they should break for executive session. Town Attorney Morrell said that they could, but pointed out that Board members resign to the Town Clerk and that any decision the board makes has no legal effect.

Councilman Hunt asked about the situation where the Town Clerk is out on medical leave. Morrell said that Town Clerk is an office, not a person.

Councilman Anderson requested to speak on his behalf. He explained that, after doing some research, he believed he would have to resign in order to not be in violation of the Hatch Act that would have prevented him from receiving grants from the Governor Traffic Safety Board and this decision had to be made in a timely manner. After sending in his resignation, he received word from the Office for Special Council for the Hatch Act that only if he was receiving 100% Federal Government funding would it preclude him from receiving federal grants. He then turned in his letter of rescission of his resignation to the Deputy Town Clerk. He pointed out, per Sarah of the Associate Council of Towns, that the “Town Clerk shall immediately notify the State Board of Elections” at the receipt of a resignation and that Town Clerk’s acceptance or denial of withdrawal should “not constitute abuse of discretion.”

Morrell agreed that a withdrawal of resignation will be left to the sole discretion of the Town Clerk to accept or deny.

**TOWN OF COVERT
TOWN BOARD MEETING
MARCH 7, 2016**

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, March 7, 2016 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 Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman William Bishop	Present

Others Present: Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, 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.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the February 8, 2016 Regular Board Meeting minutes with a correction. Aye Hunt, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop.

Presenter: Mark Wysong from Bay Geophysical Inc. shared that he has been hired by Cargill to perform a no-intrusive sub surface seismic survey. The purpose of the survey is to provide subsurface mapping information to aid in identifying any potential conditions that could present hazard to Cargill workers. Mark shared that the process is safe and, if there is any damage, they have insurance to cover that. Town Attorney Morrell looked over their insurance policy and approved the coverage they had.

Councilman Vann asked if the property owners were sent out letters to be notified and to get their permission. Mark explained that to perform the survey, Bay Geophysical is seeking permission to cross parcels of the land owners, letters were sent out and they have received about eighty percent back. Barry Ford asked if there is damage to the roads and who fixes them? Mark replied that they are responsible if there is any road damage. Brayton Foster said he has done a lot of this testing for years and it doesn't cause road damage.

Highway Superintendent MacCheyne shared that he had got two bids for tractors to do road side mowing. The John Deer tractor is the one he thinks would be the best buy because it is easier to get parts to fix John Deer Tractors.

Councilman Hunt reported that he met with a solar representative and asked him to look into seeing if there could be a co-op where the town people can be involved.

Councilman Vann reported that he and the Code enforcement Officer have been working on forms for building permits and should have them next month.

Supervisor Reynolds shared the information received by the Advisory Committee on Judicial Ethics from the Office of Court Administration. He shared that the Town Justice should disqualify herself when a town board member appears in any type of action before the judge. Attorney for the Town Morrell stated that this was a court matter not a town board matter.

Town Attorney Morrell shared that this month we finalized the contract with Iron Mountain and save the town about \$2,000.00.

Petitioners: Emily Aman asked, what is the total market value assessment for the Town of Covert? What did GAR take into consideration when they did these assessments? How can we accept a double assessment when we don't know how they arrived at these figures. They did not take into consideration the shape of the land. They never asked anything about the lands, we don't have timber on our land that can be harvested. There are so many errors in this reassessment; this is a very bad job.

Supervisor Reynolds suggested that people attend the GAR meeting and they will explain what you can do to provide information that they will consider to see if it may lower your new assessment.

Chuck Bosman stated that up until now, we have been reasonable with each other, last week "I received anonymous letter as well as other board members". These letters have been turned over to the Sheriff's Office and they are investigating and the person will be prosecuted to the fullest.

2-16 Resolution for Audit Correction

WHEREAS the NYS Comptroller's audit in 2015 noted areas where the Town of Covert should make changes or implement policies to guide future financial actions, and

WHEREAS the supervisor has recommended three policies, Fund Balance Policy, Fund Transfer Policy and Long Term Planning Policy and these have been reviewed by the board, Now Therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Town of Covert Board does adopt the three noted policies and continue to implement them, and also review each policy in a timely fashion as needed in the future.

Fund Balance Policy

Unappropriated Unreserved Fund Balance means the difference between the total assets for a fund and the total liabilities, deferred revenues, encumbered appropriations, amounts appropriated for the ensuing fiscal year's budget, and amounts reserved for stated purposes determined through application of the system of accounts prescribed by the State Comptroller.

In accordance with the New York State Comptroller's guidelines, the Town of Covert seeks to have an unrestricted fund balance of \$40,000 to \$50,000 in each of its three

main funds: General Fund A, Highway town wide (DA) and Highway outside the village (DB). These funds represent approximately a two-month reserve in the event tax dollars are delayed or other unforeseen instance.

This unrestricted fund balance should not be doubled-up as the funds used to keep the tax increase down. The appropriated fund dollars included in the 2015 and 2016 budget are as follows

	2015	2016
General Fund	\$61,616	\$62,081
Highway Town wide (DA)	\$37,539	\$37,297
Highway Part-town (DB)	\$83	\$14,400

Motion by Vann, Seconded by Hunt, Vote: Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Vann

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Supervisor's income and expenditure report for February, 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of February, 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, and Aye-Bishop.

Bishop moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report and Tax Collector report for February, 2016. A total of \$406.50 was received and \$ 384.50 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. About \$1,687,572.45 was received for county taxes. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, and Aye-Hunt.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's report for the month of February, 2016. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Dog Control Officer's report for the month of February, 2016. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Vann.

Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve Bay Geophysical Inc., who has been contracted by Cargill to perform a non-intrusive subsurface seismic survey in the Town of Covert. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Vann

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, that Highway Superintendent MacCheyne is approved to order a 2016 John Deer Tractor # 6105E for the bid price of \$92,111.89. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann and Aye Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, that Highway Fund Vouchers #24-#34 in the amount of \$ 4018.94 and General Fund Vouchers #41-#61 in the amount of \$23,585.47 be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, and Aye-Bishop.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen Freese, Town Clerk

Vann added the final line “or by which it was filed”, and that “no action’s been taken” but Morrell said that it was filed with the Town Clerk and therefore the rescission would be the elected Town Clerk’s decision, not the Town Board’s.

Town Clerk Freese read her letter:

Town Board Town of Covert,

On January 26, 2016 Leon Anderson wrote a letter of resignation to the Town Clerk and the Town Board. The Deputy Town Clerk read the letter January 26, 2016 file which was a pdf file which is acceptable as the material substance as required by law.

The Deputy Town Clerk printed the letter of resignation which was accepted as a resignation letter on January 26, 2016.

Leon Anderson filed a letter of reinstatement with the Town Clerk Office to withdrawal his letter of resignation.

Due to the fact that there is still the possibility of the conflict of interest with the Town of Covert Court and with the Operation of the Town Board I feel it is in the best interest for the Town Board to not accept the letter of reinstatement from Leon Anderson.

Colleen Freese, Town Clerk

Officer Anderson stated “I disagree” and the “opinions of the Attorney General’s office are that, just opinions,” and they said that there are other statutes and laws that come forward later since 1990 and that he would have to consult with the Town Attorney for him to submit a letter to the attorney general’s office for that opinion. Without that, he doesn’t think that it’s an informed decision. He said he would be pursuing Article 78 and left the board.

Hunt stated that the judge said a Court ruling would be coming down, #15-224, that spells out that she cannot hear any court cases.

Vann made the motion to accept Leon Anderson’s resignation as submitted, seconded by Bishop. Vote: Reynolds - Nay, stating not the board’s decision, Vann - Aye, Bishop - Aye, Hunt - Aye, until/if conflict of interest resolved between Anderson as Police Chief and Anderson as Town Council, then he would make the motion to appoint Anderson back on the board.

Highway Report: Highway Superintendent MacCheyne gave his monthly report. He took dump body on 1998 10 wheeler for scrap metal for \$220.60. Truck has been cleaned up, getting ready to install box for a backup truck. He has been looking for replacement roadside mower for Covert and Varick; there are 2 tractors on the State bid, but not finding any with sickle bar mounts as they are not manufactured anymore. Company is researching what it would take to build a mount. Bishop visited the Highway Barns and commended them for doing a fine job on the truck project.

Hunt reported that there will be a meeting with a new solar company in a few weeks.

Vann will have a report on the meeting with Code Enforcement Officer John Poludniak on February 17th regarding the new job description at the next Town Board meeting.

Reynolds shared about the Revaluation. Assessor Jay Franklin said that letters go out the week of the 22nd of February after NYS approves them. The letters should show comparison of old vs. new assessment & taxes some nice lake properties have gone up, but lake shanties, down. Country homes stay about the same, but farm properties will go up. Farmland owners need to apply for the Ag assessments due April 1 or they will be hit pretty hard. The assessors will schedule grievance times, at least two all-day sessions.

Morrell stated that the Procurement Policy is required to be adopted every year. Morrell modified the Procurement Policy to reflect the current thresholds. Purchasing of supplies & equipment before going out to bid changed to \$20,000. Public works projects changed to \$35,000.

Town Clerk Fee Schedule was created so that local laws would not have to be adopted individually but accepted as a whole annually.

Town Attorney Morrell suggested that the board approve the reduced fee that Iron Mountain has offered for their storage services after long-time negotiations. The account would be closed and documents returned with this final payment.

Hunt expressed his concern for the preservation of the white deer herd in NYS. Reynold's said the conservation area in Varick would be perfect for them and it would be best if it were not funded by the County. It is also a wetland and not good for much else.

Petitioners:

Meg Jastran asked how the vacancy of the Board will be filled. There was some discussion.

A citizen asked what the conflict is. Morrell gave a clarification of the conflict of interest. Leon or someone working for Leon writes the tickets that are brought to this court. Leon as prosecutor will present his case, at the same time, as board member, he controls the judge's department's budget. The Court/judge has recused her case from every ticket. Morrell stated that this issue would not go away. Leon Anderson has said he will pursue Article 78 under Civil Practice laws & rules where anyone can challenge the action of any governmental board.... Citizen asked who would pay for defending the clerk in a lawsuit. Morrell stated probably the Town Board.

Carl Pell suggested leaving the position open as has been done on the School Board. He also suggested letting the Seneca County Board do its job, getting the deer's land back on the tax rolls.

One citizen felt that the election of Anderson was voided on a technicality and it didn't look right. Another stated that the decision was based on NYS law so take it to Albany. Another citizen thought the acceptance of resignation and denial of rescission was based on different criteria.

The Board decided to accept letters of interest for the vacant Town Council position through 5 p.m. on March 11, 2016.

Resolution 2-16 to Close Account with Iron Mountain

WHEREAS Town Clerk and Town Attorney have been diligently working to resolve the issues surrounding the storage of Town of Covert data by Iron Mountain, and

WHEREAS Iron Mountain has offered a significantly reduced fee, Now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Town of Covert is authorized to pay invoices to Iron Mountain up to \$400.00 for storage services, and be it further

RESOLVED that at this final payment, Iron Mountain shall return all stored files and the account with Iron Mountain shall be closed.

Motion: Vann, Seconded by: Hunt, Vote: Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop, and Aye-Vann.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to adopt the Town of Covert 2016 Procurement Policy with changes to the thresholds for Purchasing of supplies & equipment before going out to bid to \$20,000 and Public works projects to \$35,000 as amended by Attorney Morrell. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Town Clerk's Fee Schedule for 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the January 11, 2016 Organizational and Regular Board Meeting minutes. Aye Hunt, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop.

Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Supervisor's income and expenditure report for January, 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of January, 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, and Aye-Bishop.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report and Tax Collector report for January, 2016. A total of \$502.00 was received and \$410.00 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. About \$1,330,000.00 was received in taxes and a total of \$826,560.95 was remitted to the Town Supervisor and \$300,000.00 to Seneca County. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, and Aye-Hunt.

Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's report for the month of January, 2016. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Dog Control Officer's report for the month of January, 2016. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Vann.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, that Highway Fund Vouchers #7-#23 in the amount of \$3,768.34 and General Fund Vouchers #19-#40 in the amount of \$231,475.60 be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, and Aye-Bishop.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie Adams-Compton, Deputy Town Clerk

**TOWN OF COVERT
TOWN BOARD MEETING
APRIL 11, 2016**

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, April 11, 2016 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 Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman William Bishop	Present

Others Present: Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Reporter Aneta Glover, Assessors Jay Franklin and Iren Kehoe 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.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the March 7, 2016 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop.

Presenter: Jeffrey Kostick, a business owner of Cayuga Lake Creamery on route 89, Interlaken, addressed the Town Board about the hike in the minimum wage and how the increase in wages will force him to raise his prices even more. A single ice cream cone now costs \$3.90, a 20% increase because of wage increase and supplier having to raise their prices. He said they will have to cut their staff in half and this will mean longer lines and reduced customer satisfaction and, therefore, reduce business. They are a significant tourism asset in the area, having been named one of the 51 Great Ice Cream parlors in USA Today. He said they will probably end up closing their doors and actually put 35 people out of work. Councilman Vann thanked Jeffrey Kostick and read the resolution recorded below in the minutes.

Supervisor Reynolds opened the floor for Jay Franklin, Town of Covert Assessor, to answer questions from residents on the new assessments for the Town of Covert.

Emily Amen addressed the Town Assessor and the Town of Covert Board about the reassessment done in the Town of Covert. (Letter Below)

I am addressing this complaint from an agriculture stand point. Though I have found many errors with our residences, they will probably be expressed by others who wish to speak. I believe that Mr. Barnett **is not qualified** to assess agriculture (farming) land. Either he does not understand how to value Ag land or was not aware of the publication of "": New York State -Ag assessment values per acre. These are guidelines based on Mineral soil groups. They do not tell the assessor what top value should be used but they show what percentage should be, down to the lowest soil group. The percentage for productive woodlands is 37%. Mr. Barnett proceeded to set a 50% figure based on the top of his set 100%. New York State Office of Real Property services has developed a simple and fair classification system to be used in assessment administration but apparently Barnett has chosen to ignore it.

When he spoke he said assessments were based on recent sales. There have not been any recent sales of farms in town of Covert. Ovid, Lodi, and Varick have each had one exceptional sale. The other sales in these towns have been \$3000 or less.

We just had our annual audit with a Seneca County Bank, and they are using \$3000 an acre as a guideline for loaning. Where did Mr. Barnett pull out the figure as \$4500 first acre and 4000.00 for the remaining acres? We are **Seneca County** and our **neighborhood** is still **Ovid, Lodi and Varick**. Our acres are just as productive as the others but not more productive.

Mr. Barnett has a certification according to what he submitted to us as his qualification. His certification is: **New York State Residential Real Estate Appraiser**: Under the "State Certified and Licensed Real Estate Appraisers License Law ". "Rules And Regulations, Title 19NYCRR BOARD OF REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL, Part 1101, SCOPE OF PRACTICE, There are 3 types of appraisers, **Certified general, Certified Residential** and **Licensed Residential**. Page 11 Part 1101, 1101.1 is Scope of Practice for General Appraisers. 1101.2 is **Scope of certified residential real estate appraiser**:
Quote: a) The scope of practice for a certified residential real estate limited to:
1) the appraisal of 1-4 family residential unit without regard to value or complexity; and
2) the appraisal of vacant or unimproved land that is to be utilized for a 1-4 family residential unit without regard to value or complexity, or vacant or unimproved land for which the highest and best use is a 1-4 family residential unit without regard to value or complexity.

Mr. Barnett is not certified to value agricultural land or any commercial buildings. He never spoke to an **owner** . He put a figure on the property by just looking at a picture that someone took of your house. The pictures do not show the **whole property nor the surroundings of the neighborhood. Nor has he differentiated between unproductive woodland or brush land which has a lower assessment than productive woodland.**

The increase of Market value from \$181,000 to 258,000 may also adversely affect the financial support for education that this district receives from the state because, by magic and incorrect data we have become a rich area. After listening to the concerns of others I may be back next month with other blatant errors that have been made and not corrected by Barnett.

I plead with the board **do not** accept the valuation until it has been **fully corrected by someone who is qualified and looks at our neighborhood and respects that we are Seneca County.**

Steven Crane asked why his house increased \$90,000.00 and his neighbors did not increase at all. He was told it was used as a test house for the area. Many residents are concerned with the revaluation and the tax rate, how are they going to afford to keep their house. Comments were made that we are not Trumansburg or Ithaca area and Land in Town of Covert is not worth \$5,000.00 an acre. There was discussion about the Trumansburg and South Seneca school tax value and that it should be different.

Jay Franklin, Town of Covert Assessor, answered many questions and assured the citizens that there is still time to make changes. There is a process; call the Assessor Office and they can help you with the process. Grievance day is June 2, 2016 and if you're not satisfied with your property value you can go to grievance day. Jay shared that as the town assessor he will be reviewing 128 properties after GAR is done and he can make changes if he sees that it is not a fair value.

Highway Superintendent MacCheyne shared about the electric problems at the Highway barn and the bids that they have received are all different. Councilman Vann stated that he would do a scope of services so that the bids will be based on the same repairs needed.

Councilman Hunt reported that he is still working on getting more information on solar energy and he is talking with Tony Delplato. There are a lot of things to look into before any decisions are made.

Councilman Vann shared that they have decided to interview the four applicants for Town Councilman. There will be an executive session on Saturday, April 16, 2016 to interview these candidates. The applicants are Charles Bosman, Deborah Nottke, Robin Carlisle Peck and Brayton Foster. There was a fifth applicant, but it was turned in past the deadline for receiving applicants.

Supervisor Reynolds shared about the Ambulance rate and that The Trumansburg Village Board has adjusted there EMS rates and are asking the Town of Covert to consider changing their EMS transport rates.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that Time Warner Cable called and asked if the Town would like to update the speed of service they are receiving. The cost would be more for a higher speed. The Board did not want to increase the cost and suggested it be negotiated as part of the new contract.

Tony Delplato asked for the Town Board's support in getting the speed limit reduced along the western corridor on route 96A in and out of Interlaken. Trucks go down the road so fast and make loud noise. Other areas have reduced their speed limits going into towns.

Minimum Wage Proposed Resolution #3-16

WHEREAS the Governor's newly proposed & passed minimum wage hike imposes an unreasonable burden on the many small businesses, farms and non-profit organizations, as well as being a detriment to their ability to hire more youth, across the Town of Covert and Seneca County, and

WHEREAS many organizations, collectively representing millions of employees across New York State, oppose this new minimum wage, including the Seneca County Chamber of Commerce, Seneca County Board of Supervisors, and the NYS Farm Bureau;

RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Covert hereby voices its opposition to the recent NY State minimum wage increase as proposed and passed. Furthermore, the Town Board would like to recognize and thank Mr. Jeffrey Kostick for his efforts and directs that the Town Clerk shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, State Senator Michael F. Nozzolio, Assembly Minority Leader Brian M. Kolb, Assemblyman Philip A. Palmesano, The Seneca County Board of Supervisors, and other Seneca County municipalities and organizations.

Motion by: Councilman Vann, Seconded By: Councilman Hunt Vote: Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Hunt.

RESOLUTION #4-16 Lower Speed Limit

WHERE AS the Town Board of The Town of Covert and residents of Village of Interlaken are requesting a formal study be done by **your** team for a variety of reasons including those listed on the attached petition. **WHERE AS** The south side of this roadway out of the village limit has just as many residents or more comparing them to what can be found on Rt. 96. The speed reduction zone on Rt. 96A should mimic the same 45 MPH speed reduction signs limits found on State Rt. 96 that enters the Village of Interlaken North and South;

RESOLVED, this is a worthy effort regardless of any accident history. Heavy tractor trailer use is part of the reason. Please review the above request and so advise if this study can be done. An acknowledgement and timetable as to when this could be started and completed would be appreciated.

Motion: Councilman Jeffery Vann Seconded By: Councilman Hunt

Vote: Councilman Hunt-Aye, Councilman Vann-Aye, Councilman Bishop-Aye, and Supervisor Reynolds-Aye

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Supervisor's income and expenditure report for March, 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, and Aye-Hunt.

Bishop moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of March, 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, and Aye-Bishop.

Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for March. A total of \$685.50 was received and \$596.28 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, and Aye-Bishop.

Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Tax Collector's final report of \$1,820,909.24 was received for 2016 taxes and \$3,561.08 for interest and bounced check fees paid to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, and Aye-Bishop

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's report for the month of March, 2016. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Dog Control Officer's report for the month of March, 2016. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Vann.

Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the proposal to change the rates for the EMS Trumansburg Ambulance Transports. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Vann.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, that Highway Fund Vouchers #35-50 in the amount of \$ 6,874.19 and General Fund Vouchers #62-81 in the amount of \$30,348.72 be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, and Aye-Bishop.

Respectfully Submitted,

| Colleen Freese, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT
TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING
APRIL 9, 2016

The Town Board of the Town of Covert held a special meeting Monday, April 9, 2016 at 9:30 a.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 Bill Bishop	Present

Others Present: Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Reporter Aneta Glover.

Call to order: Deputy Supervisor Hunt called the meeting to order at 9:30 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Deputy Supervisor Hunt shared that the personnel matter was that Supervisor Reynolds, on April 8th, resigned from his position as Town of Covert Supervisor in order to qualify for his New York State Retirement.

Mr. Reynolds asked that the Town Board would reinstate him as Town Supervisor on April 9, 2016 and that his salary be reduced to one dollar a month for the rest of the year 2016.

Councilman Vann moved, Seconded by Councilman Bishop, to reinstate Mike Reynolds as Town Supervisor for a salary of \$1.00 per month for the rest of 2016. Aye-Councilman Hunt, Aye-Councilman Vann and Aye-Councilman Bishop.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that Seward Ritchie and Chris Vann have submitted their resignations for the Assessment Review Board. There are three interested people to consider for the Assessment Review Board. They are George Ball, Jennifer Persoon and Brayton Foster. There was discussion on the fact that they have farm background and Jennifer has real estate background.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve Jennifer Persoon to serve on the assessment review Board. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Bishop.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve Brayton Foster to serve on the assessment review Board. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Bishop.

Hunt moved, seconded by Reynolds, to approve George Ball to serve as an alternative on the assessment review Board, if it is allowed. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Bishop.

There are five applicants for a Town Board Member, one applicant's letter was received past the deadline and will not be considered. The applicants are Charles Bosman, Robin Carlisle Peck, Brayton Foster and Deborah Nottke. There was discussion about not filling the Board Member position and letting it remain open until election.

Bishop moved, seconded by Vann, not to fill the Town Board Councilman position at this time and to let the Citizens of the Town of Covert make the decision at election time. Vote: Aye-Vann and Aye-Bishop, Nay-Hunt and Nay-Reynolds.

The Town Board audited the Town Clerk's 2015 books and Tax Collector's 2015 books.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the audit for the Town Clerk and Tax Collector's books for 2015. The books were found to be in order with all moneys accounted for. Aye-Reynolds, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Vann.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Freese, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF COVERT
TOWN BOARD MEETING
APRIL 11, 2016**

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, April 11, 2016 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 Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman William Bishop	Present

Others Present: Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Reporter Aneta Glover, Assessors Jay Franklin and Iren Kehoe 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.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the March 7, 2016 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop.

Presenter: Jeffrey Kostick, a business owner of Cayuga Lake Creamery on route 89, Interlaken, addressed the Town Board about the hike in the minimum wage and how the increase in wages will force him to raise his prices even more. A single ice cream cone now costs \$3.90, a 20% increase because of wage increase and supplier having to raise their prices. He said they will have to cut their staff in half and this will mean longer lines and reduced customer satisfaction and, therefore, reduce business. They are a significant tourism asset in the area, having been named one of the 51 Great Ice Cream parlors in USA Today. He said they will probably end up closing their doors and actually put 35 people out of work. Councilman Vann thanked Jeffrey Kostick and read the resolution recorded below in the minutes.

Supervisor Reynolds opened the floor for Jay Franklin, Town of Covert Assessor, to answer questions from residents on the new assessments for the Town of Covert.

Emily Aman addressed the Town Assessor and the Town of Covert Board about the reassessment done in the Town of Covert. (Letter Below)

I am addressing this complaint from an agriculture stand point. Though I have found many errors with our residences, they will probably be expressed by others who wish to speak. I believe that Mr. Barnett **is not qualified** to assess agriculture (farming) land. Either he does not understand how to value Ag land or was not aware of the publication of "": New York State -Ag assessment values per acre. These are guidelines based on Mineral soil groups. They do not tell the assessor what top value should be used but they show what percentage should be, down to the lowest soil group. The percentage for productive woodlands is 37%. Mr. Barnett proceeded to set a 50% figure based on the top of his set 100%. New York State Office of Real Property services has developed a simple and fair classification system to be used in assessment administration but apparently Barnett has chosen to ignore it.

When he spoke he said assessments were based on recent sales. There have not been any recent sales of farms in town of Covert. Ovid, Lodi, and Varick have each had one exceptional sale. The other sales in these towns have been \$3000 or less.

We just had our annual audit with a Seneca County Bank, and they are using \$3000 an acre as a guideline for loaning. Where did Mr. Barnett pull out the figure as \$4500 first acre and 4000.00 for the remaining acres? We are **Seneca County** and our **neighborhood** is still **Ovid, Lodi and Varick**. Our acres are just as productive as the others but not more productive.

Mr. Barnett has a certification according to what he submitted to us as his qualification. His certification is: **New York State Residential Real Estate Appraiser**: Under the "State Certified and Licensed Real Estate Appraisers License Law ". "Rules And Regulations, Title 19NYCRR BOARD OF REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL, Part 1101, SCOPE OF PRACTICE, There are 3 types of appraisers, **Certified general, Certified Residential** and **Licensed Residential**. Page 11 Part 1101, 1101.1 is Scope of Practice for General Appraisers. 1101.2 is **Scope of certified residential real estate appraiser**: **Quote: a) The scope of practice for a certified residential real estate limited to:**
1) the appraisal of 1-4 family residential unit without regard to value or complexity; and
2) the appraisal of vacant or unimproved land that is to be utilized for a 1-4 family residential unit without regard to value or complexity, or vacant or unimproved land for which the highest and best use is a 1-4 family residential unit without regard to value or complexity.

Mr. Barnett is not certified to value agricultural land or any commercial buildings. He never spoke to an **owner** . He put a figure on the property by just looking at a picture that someone took of your house. The pictures do not show the **whole property nor the surroundings of the neighborhood. Nor has he differentiated between unproductive woodland or brush land which has a lower assessment than productive woodland.**

The increase of Market value from \$181,000 to 258,000 may also adversely affect the financial support for education that this district receives from the state because, by magic and incorrect data we have become a rich area. After listening to the concerns of others I may be back next month with other blatant errors that have been made and not corrected by Barnett.

I plead with the board **do not** accept the valuation until it has been **fully corrected by someone who is qualified and looks at our neighborhood and respects that we are Seneca County.**

Steven Crane asked why his house increased \$90,000.00 and his neighbors did not increase at all. He was told it was used as a test house for the area. Many residents are concerned with the revaluation and the tax rate, how are they going to afford to keep their house. Comments were made that we are not Trumansburg or Ithaca area and Land in Town of Covert is not worth \$5,000.00 an acre. There was discussion about the Trumansburg and South Seneca school tax value and that it should be different.

Jay Franklin, Town of Covert Assessor, answered many questions and assured the citizens that there is still time to make changes. There is a process; call the Assessor Office and they can help you with the process. Grievance day is June 2, 2016 and if you're not satisfied with your property value you can go to grievance day. Jay shared that as the town assessor he will be reviewing 128 properties after GAR is done and he can make changes if he sees that it is not a fair value.

Highway Superintendent MacCheyne shared about the electric problems at the Highway barn and the bids that they have received are all different. Councilman Vann stated that he would do a scope of services so that the bids will be based on the same repairs needed.

Councilman Hunt reported that he is still working on getting more information on solar energy and he is talking with Tony Delplato. There are a lot of things to look into before any decisions are made.

Councilman Vann shared that they have decided to interview the four applicants for Town Councilman. There will be an executive session on Saturday, April 16, 2016 to interview these candidates. The applicants are Charles Bosman, Deborah Nottke, Robin Carlisle Peck and Brayton Foster. There was a fifth applicant, but it was turned in past the deadline for receiving applicants.

Supervisor Reynolds shared about the Ambulance rate and that The Trumansburg Village Board has adjusted there EMS rates and are asking the Town of Covert to consider changing their EMS transport rates.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that Time Warner Cable called and asked if the Town would like to update the speed of service they are receiving. The cost would be more for a higher speed. The Board did not want to increase the cost and suggested it be negotiated as part of the new contract.

Tony Delplato asked for the Town Board's support in getting the speed limit reduced along the western corridor on route 96A in and out of Interlaken. Trucks go down the road so fast and make loud noise. Other areas have reduced their speed limits going into towns.

Minimum Wage Proposed Resolution #3-16

WHEREAS the Governor's newly proposed & passed minimum wage hike imposes an unreasonable burden on the many small businesses, farms and non-profit organizations, as well as being a detriment to their ability to hire more youth, across the Town of Covert and Seneca County, and

WHEREAS many organizations, collectively representing millions of employees across New York State, oppose this new minimum wage, including the Seneca County Chamber of Commerce, Seneca County Board of Supervisors, and the NYS Farm Bureau;

RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Covert hereby voices its opposition to the recent NY State minimum wage increase as proposed and passed. Furthermore, the Town Board would like to recognize and thank Mr. Jeffrey Kostick for his efforts and directs that the Town Clerk shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, State Senator Michael F. Nozzolio, Assembly Minority Leader Brian M. Kolb, Assemblyman Philip A. Palmesano, The Seneca County Board of Supervisors, and other Seneca County municipalities and organizations.

Motion by: Councilman Vann, Seconded By: Councilman Hunt Vote: Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Hunt.

RESOLUTION #4-16 Lower Speed Limit

WHERE AS the Town Board of The Town of Covert and residents of Village of Interlaken are requesting a formal study be done by your team for a variety of reasons including those listed on the attached petition. **WHERE AS** The south side of this roadway out of the village limit has just as many residents or more comparing them to what can be found on Rt. 96. The speed reduction zone on Rt. 96A should mimic the same 45 MPH speed reduction signs limits found on State Rt. 96 that enters the Village of Interlaken North and South;

RESOLVED, this is a worthy effort regardless of any accident history. Heavy tractor trailer use is part of the reason. Please review the above request and so advise if this study can be done. An acknowledgement and timetable as to when this could be started and completed would be appreciated.

Motion: Councilman Jeffery Vann Seconded By: Councilman Hunt

Vote: Councilman Hunt-Aye, Councilman Vann-Aye, Councilman Bishop-Aye, and Supervisor Reynolds-Aye

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Supervisor's income and expenditure report for March, 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, and Aye-Hunt.

Bishop moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of March, 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, and Aye-Bishop.

Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for March. A total of \$685.50 was received and \$596.28 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, and Aye-Bishop.

Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Tax Collector's final report of \$1,820,909.24 was received for 2016 taxes and \$3,561.08 for interest and bounced check fees paid to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, and Aye-Bishop

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's report for the month of March, 2016. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Dog Control Officer's report for the month of March, 2016. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Vann.

Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the proposal to change the rates for the EMS Trumansburg Ambulance Transports. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Vann.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, that Highway Fund Vouchers #35-50 in the amount of \$ 6,874.19 and General Fund Vouchers #62-81 in the amount of \$30,348.72 be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, and Aye-Bishop.

Respectfully Submitted,

| Colleen Freese, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF COVERT
TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING
APRIL 16, 2016**

The Town Board of the Town of Covert held a special meeting Saturday, April 16, 2016 at 9:56 A.M. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York, for the purpose of selecting and appointing a resident to fill present councilman vacancy on the Covert Town Board.

Roll Call:	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman William Bishop	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present

Others Present: There were no interested citizens present.

Call to order: Deputy Supervisor Hunt called the meeting to order at 9:56 A.M.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, to move into executive session at 9:58 P.M. to start the separate interviews of candidates at pre-scheduled one half hour sessions. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop.

Town of Covert residents Chuck Bosman, Robin Peck, Debra Nottke, and Brayton Foster were interviewed all being asked the same pre-determined questions with some follow up discussion.

Bishop moved, seconded by Hunt, to end the executive session at 12:15 PM and go back to the regular Town Board meeting. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to make a formal recommendation to the entire board and the public at large at the upcoming May 9th monthly meeting to have Debra Nottke fill the present council-person vacancy on the Covert Town Board. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, to adjourn the meeting and to have the Town Clerk send a letter of appreciation to all the participants in the interview process thanking them for time and efforts.

Meeting concluded at 12:33 PM.

Submitted by
Jeffrey Vann
Town Councilman

**TOWN OF COVERT
TOWN BOARD MEETING
MAY 9, 2016**

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, May 9, 2016 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 Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Gary Hunt	Present
	Councilman William Bishop	Present
	Councilperson Deborah Nottke	Present

Others Present: Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, 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.

Councilman Vann shared about the interviews of applicants for the Town Council position, that they interviewed four applicants and in the interest of bipartisanship our recommendation is for Deborah Nottke to fill the present councilperson position.

Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, to appoint Deborah Nottke to fill the Town Councilperson position. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann and Aye-Hunt.

Town Clerk Colleen Freese swore in Deborah Nottke as Town Councilperson.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the minutes from April 9, 2016, April 11, 2016 and April 16, 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Hunt, Recuse-Nottke.

Presenter: Meg Jastran shared that Interlaken Olde Home Day is June 11, 2016. She was able to apply for a grant through the Greater Rochester Health Foundation and receives \$400.00 to advertise for Olde Home Day. They are looking to have some new activities, possibly a movie on Friday night and activities for the children.

Meg also shared that she is part of a welcome committee and they have taken baskets to new people moving into the Village of Interlaken and want to include the Town of Covert. If anyone knows of new residents, please call Meg Jastran at 607-844-4572 or Gina Negro at 607-294-4013.

Highway Superintendent MacCheyne reported that the new John Deer tractor should be delivered next month.

Deb Nottke introduced herself to the public and stated that she wanted to be available to the public. She has served on the Trumansburg Village Board and is now a Town of Covert resident.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that next year is the 200 year anniversary for the Town of Covert and wants the Board to think about what they should do to celebrate. Councilperson Nottke suggested they get a committee to work with the Historical Society. Councilman Hunt stated he would be on the committee.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that he attended the annual meeting at Cayuga Medical Center and that the Hospital has merged with Roswell in Rochester and Schuyler. This gives the public a better pool of Doctors and specialists to choose from.

The New York State Department of Transportation received the letter from the Town Board requesting to lower the speed limit on Route 96A. They will conduct a formal investigation on the requested location of 96A and, upon completion, they will notify the Town of the result and their determination.

There was discussion about the bids for the Town Hall electric repairs that are needed in the basement and on the sign outside. The bids were from Hubbard's for \$1,966.84 and from Parish Electric for \$1,200.00.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that he received a letter from Jessica Schrier about the history of Schier Road and that it is spelled wrong. She is requesting that the road signs be changed to its original spelling "Schrier" Road. There was discussion that a petition should be done to see if the residents on this road want to have it changed, as they would have to change all their legal documents to recognize the different spelling. One end of the Road is the Town of Covert's and the other end is State road, so this will also involve getting the State to change the road sign.

Charles Bosman asked if anything more had been done about the Village of Interlaken and the Town of Covert combining offices. Supervisor Reynolds said he would talk with the Village again and see what they are thinking, because it is almost time to apply for grants if they are going to move forward.

May 9, 2016 from Emily Aman

Questions: 1. How much of the 31' sq miles of the Town of Covert is farm land?

2. How many bids for revaluation did you look at'?

3. How much was GAR paid for the revaluation?

4. Because much of the land in Covert is farm land, did the contract specified that an appraiser must be certified to assess farm Land?

5. How much investigating of the appraiser's claim of other projects, did the board do?

6. If he did farm land, were the farmers satisfied?

7. Where did the figures of \$4,500 and \$4,000 come from when he specifically said that they were using recent sales? The assessors hand book says an assessor may use from the last three years or the recent sixteen months. There has been no sales in the town of Covert so we submitted proof from Lodi and Ovid where most sales were under \$3000, We also submitted proof of three sale of large parcels of farm land in the town of Ulysses that were under \$3,000 an acre. Apparently he decided to ignore them. I understand that GAR has a very good computer program so it seems that the figures could easily be changed to \$3,000

Statements;

8. We went to grievance March 18th with the proofs but Barnett did not forward the final Assessments until April 22'. Over a month to review 188 petitions Mr. Franklin had just a few days, I think April 26 or 29th after that to submit the tentative roll to the county, we have read that the assessor cannot change the data after that time. We did not receive from GAR, our changes or no changes, in time take advantage of that short window time. I believe that GAR intentionally waited to the last minute to send the final report and notification to us. We still have not received an Inventory Report or the \$ figures placed on each item.

9. We can still go to our own grievance committee in June but my belief is that they shouldn't have to correct an unfair assessments on residential or farm land .The town of Covert has already paid for what they believed would be an honest and fair revaluation. This can be continued pass the June hearing, with a Lawyer, to the Supreme Court with someone with more Legal knowledge then I have.

Just as an afterthought, I can't wait to see how or if this revaluation affects our school taxes. Especially, when rumor is that Como wants to rescind Star from your tax bill and let you use the credit on your income taxes. How about the ones who own their own homes but do not have an income that requires a reporting? New York State giveth and taketh away, even if it is a school tax star program or an agricultural exemption.

Councilman Vann shared that he has a drawing and scope of services for the Highway Barn electrical work that needs to be done, so all bids can have the same scope to bid on.

Councilman Vann also shared that he has a new draft of the job description for the duties of the Code Enforcement Officer. He hand it out to board members and asked for their input.

There was some discussion about the Black Diamond Trail and dogs not being on leashes, but running free. This is private property and the Town Council agreed they don't want a leash law for dogs. It is up to dog owners to keep their dog under control.

Councilman Hunt shared, that a dinner was held to raise money to take care of the cemetery. They raised around \$1,800.00 to pay for the upkeep of the cemetery.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Supervisor's income and expenditure report for April, 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Nottke and Aye-Hunt.

Bishop moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of April, 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Nottke.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report April, 2016. A total of \$758.50 was received and \$500.59 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Nottke.

Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's report for the month of April, 2016. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Nottke.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Dog Control Officer's report for the month of April, 2016. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann and Aye-Nottke.

Hunt moved, Seconded by Nottke, to accept Parish Electric's bid to do the electric work on the Town Hall in the amount of \$1,200.00. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Nottke.

Nottke moved, seconded by Hunt, that Highway Fund Vouchers #51-70 in the amount of \$11,163.25 and General Fund Vouchers #82-96 in the amount of \$13,095.18 be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Nottke.

Nottke moved, Seconded by Vann, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen R. Freese Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT
SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
JUNE 13, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, June 13, 2016 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
	Councilperson Deborah Nottke	Present
	Councilman William Bishop	Present

Others Present: Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Reporter Aneta Glover, Code Enforcement Officer John Poludniak, 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. A moment of silence was held for Bill Larsen who served as the Village Mayor for over 30 years and will be greatly missed. Also, a moment of silence was held for all the deaths and family that were affected by the Florida shooting.

Approval of Minutes: Hunt moved, seconded by Nottke, that the regular meeting minutes from May 9, 2016 be approved. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Nottke and Aye-Hunt.

Highway Superintendent MacCheyne reported that he and the Highway guys attended a safety meeting that's required every year. He also reported that the 1982 Gradall has to be replaced: its transmission is bad, has a cracked frame, it's not worth putting money into it. MacCheyne shared that he looked and priced out Gradalls and found a used one for \$58,000.00. They will give us \$10,000.00 for trade in for the 1982 Gradall, leaving the balance of \$48,000.00. There is money in the DA5130.2 Machinery Equipment account to buy the Gradall.

Councilperson Nottke asked what other equipment they see buying in the next few years. Supervisor Reynolds said they don't foresee buying any equipment next year. The following year will be a trade-in for the pickup truck, and the big truck will be next.

There was discussion about the Village of Interlaken Offices being moved up here to the Town of Covert to help save money for the Village and the Town. There is the possibility of applying for grants to help with the cost to build an addition. This would be considered shared services and there are some grants available, if you show that it will save the Town and Village taxpayers' money. Supervisor Reynolds will go to the Village Board meeting.

Town Attorney Morrell encouraged the Board that if Board members want to go to observe, as long as you don't try to take any action, you can go there and not have to worry about the Open Meetings Law.

There was discussion on the Highway Barns and the electrical wiring and the roof repairs that need to be done. Councilman Vann shared ideas for repairing the roof and has been working on a scope of services for the repairs that need to be done on the Highway Barns. They discussed fixing the break room and the bathroom or should they fix the roof on the Highway Barn?

Councilperson Nottke stated that Jeff just said the roof wasn't leaking; we should do the wiring first to prevent a fire. Highway Superintendent Jeff MacCheyne shared that he took out some of the wiring that was causing trouble at this time.

Councilman Hunt shared that The Historical Society will get together and discuss ideas for the Bicentennial for the Town of Covert. Then the Town's committee will join in later to share ideas. They are asking if any citizens are interested in helping, please contact The Historical Society.

Councilman Hunt shared that he attended a solar meeting and this is an ongoing project to learn more about solar and the cost and if it will benefit the town and how.

Councilman Vann shared a few residents want to recognize the Town of Covert with a gift of a print of the Declaration of Independence for the Bicentennial to be hung in the Town Hall. Councilman Hunt wanted to know if they wanted something more that has to do with Town of Covert, so no decision was made at this time.

Councilman Vann shared that he is still working on the Code Enforcement Officer's job description and how they can improve it and he would like to see two Board Members and two Planning Board Members, someone from Assessment Review Board, Code Enforcement Officer and Town Clerk on this reviser Board to work on the Code Enforcement job description.

Councilperson Nottke shared that she was privileged to be part of the Memorial Services and Olde Home Days and was pleased to see how well organized they were. Also, she thanked Diane Bassette-Nelson for explaining to her about the Town of Covert's Budget and the process of the budget.

Town Attorney Morrell shared that Mr. Anderson has filed an Article 78 against the Town Clerk and would like to discuss the litigation in an executive session at the end of the meeting.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that the Library and Historical Society agreements are up for renewal. Town Attorney Morrell shared that the insurance is good and the agreements are set to sign if the Board approves them.

Jessica, Nancy, and Stanley Schrier addressed the Town Board about the road sign for Schier road, that the spelling on the road signs is wrong. The road signs are spelled Schier, the correct spelling is Schrier. Their Grandfather Charles Schrier had tried for many years to get the road signs replaced with the right spelling. Their Grandfather Charles Schrier tried to get the spelling corrected when he was still alive. Councilman Vann stated that he would visit the people on Schier Road and see if they wanted the road signs changed as they would need to change all of their legal documents.

Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Supervisor's revenue and expenditure report for May 2016. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of May 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Nottke and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for May 2016. A total of \$730.50 was received and \$614.648 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Nottke.

Vann moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's report for the Month of May 2016. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, Aye-Nottke and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve Dog Control Officer's report for May 2016. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Library Agreement with the Town of Covert for the year 2016 in the amount of \$1,400.00. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, Aye-Nottke and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve the Historical Society Agreement with the Town of Covert for the year 2016 in the amount of \$1,400.00. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, Aye-Nottke and Aye-Hunt.

Nottke moved, Seconded by Hunt, to approve Highway Superintendent MacCheyne to buy a 2001 Gradall for \$58,000.00 and trade the 1982 Gradall in for \$10,000.00, making the final cost of the Gradall \$48,000.00 to come out of line item DA5130.2 - Machinery Equipment. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, Aye-Nottke and Aye-Hunt.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, that Highway Fund Vouchers #71-86 in the amount of \$7,015.25 and General Fund Vouchers #97-114 in the amount of \$18,754.45 be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Nottke.

Bishop moved, seconded by Vann, to go into executive session to discuss litigation for an Article 78 filed against the Town Clerk. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann and Aye-Hunt. Nottke—recused.

Town Board went into excessive session at 8:30 and came out of executive session at 8:50, no action was taken, and returned to the regular board meeting at 8:51.

Nottke moved, seconded by Vann, to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen R. Freese, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT
SENECA COUNTY
TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING
JUNE 30, 2016

The special meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held, June 30, 2016 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 Gary Hunt	Absent
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman William Bishop	Present
	Councilman Leon Anderson	Absent

Others Present: Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Reporter Aneta Glover, Bill McGuire, Keith Jay, Richard Richardson, Chris Kempf and Charles Bosman.

Supervisor Reynolds opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

The purpose of said meeting was to have the village of Interlaken Trustees and Town of Covert Town Board Members to discuss the possibility of moving the Village Offices to the Town of Coverts Municipal Building.

The discussion started with listing some pros and cons for the Village of Interlaken and The Town of Covert. There were more advantages for the Village of Interlaken in some ways. The Village would have to pay for adding a building on or remodeling the basement.

Trustee Bill McGuire shared that at this time he didn't feel it was in the best interest for the Village to spend money with no return. At this time the Village has just applied for a grant for a new water Tower we don't want to over extend our finances.

Councilman Bishop shared that the Village would have to come up with the money for the addition and Councilman Vann shared that the designer get about Thirty percent of the project cost.

There was a general agreement with the Village Trustee and the Town Covert Town Board that this was not the time combine the Offices and the discussion was tabled.

Trustee Chris Kempf moved to adjourn the meeting Seconded by Councilman Vann.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen R. Freese, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT
SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
JULY 11, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, July 11, 2016 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 Leon Anderson	Present
	Councilman William Bishop	Present

Others Present: Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Reporter Aneta Glover, Planning Board Member Rob Schoffel, Assessment Review Board Members Will Millard and Brayton Foster, 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 Vann, that the regular meeting minutes from June 13, 2016 be approved. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Hunt.

Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve special meeting minutes for June 30, 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Bishop

Wil Millard and Brayton Foster gave a report regarding grievance day. There were about 10% or (101) that contested their new assessments. The majority of the petitions dealt with conditions of homes. Residents did a nice job providing material to dispute their cases of why they did not agree with their assessments. It was stated that it was good the Town had a revaluation done.

Highway Superintendent MacCheyne reported that he had attended Highway School at Cornell, and the 2001 Gradall came in. This week the new tractor will be here. Councilman Bishop asked if an update of inventory had been done with new tools that were ordered and could they be engraved; this will look good in an audit. Highway Superintendent MacCheyne said 'no', but he would be updating the inventory list and he could look into the cost for an engraver to mark the tools.

Councilman Bishop expressed his concern about the Town Budget's Court line and that it's going to be short funds because the Town Justice has recused herself from any tickets that are written by the Village Police Department, as she was advised by the higher court system.

Councilman Vann addressed Councilman Anderson that the public at large still needs to be aware and reminded of the fact that there is a conflict of interest by Anderson serving on the Town of Covert Board as a Councilman and as the Village of Interlaken Chief of Police. This has forced the Judge to recuse herself from hearing any tickets written by the Village Police Department. Councilman Anderson believes the Judge has recused herself so there is no longer a conflict of interest and no reason he has to be recused from working on the budget or other items relating to Court. He also asked where the Court stands financially at this time.

Town Attorney Morrell stated that the Attorney General opinion is that Councilman Anderson is to recuse himself from anything to do with Town of Covert Court including the budget. The Town Board needs to avoid the appearances of any impropriety. As sitting Chief of Police for the Village of Interlaken, he should recuse himself.

Councilman Anderson stated that the Judge has removed herself from the situation and He should not have to recuse himself.

There was more discussion about the concern of the budget and where the money will come from to balance out the loss of income on the court.

Councilman Vann reported that more people were in favor of changing the road sign on Schier road to the original spelling of Schrier. But some did not want to have to change all of their legal paperwork and wait for the mail to get straightened out, because the Postmaster said it can take up to a year.

Supervisor Reynolds suggested a memorial sign with Charlie Schrier's name on it at each end of the road with the correct spelling of Schrier. Many thought this was a good idea; it would give the Schrier family the recognition of their grandfather, Charlie Schrier, whom the road was named after.

Councilman Hunt gave information on the Bicentennial Committee, and that Chris Wolf would be willing to do a painting in the Town Hall. There are different events planned and money needs to be raised.

RESOLUTION 5-16 Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution for Elected and Appointed Officials. RS2417A

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/day) Min. 6 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
Elected Officials									
Town Supervisor	3	Michael Reynolds				1/1/2016-12/31/2019	No	10	
Town Clerk	7	Colleen R. Freese			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1/1/2014-12/31/2016	No	20	
Highway-Superintendent	8	Jeffrey MacCheyne				1/1/2016-12/31/2019	No	20	
Appointed Officials									

SEE INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING FORM ON REVERSE SIDE

I, COLLEEN R FREESE, secretary/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 11th day of July, 2016 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 July, 2016.

Affidavit of Posting: I Colleen R. Freese, being duly sworn, deposes and says that the posting of the Resolution began on July 11, 2016

and Continue For at least 30 days. That the Resolution was available to the public on the official sign board.

Employer's website at

Posted on the Town's official sign board at 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, NY 14847

Motion: Hunt, Seconded: Vann, Vote: Aye-Bishop, Aye-Anderson, Aye-Vann and Aye-Hunt.

Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Supervisor's revenue and expenditure report for June 2016. Aye-Anderson, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Hunt.

Bishop moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of June 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Bishop.

Anderson moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for June 2016. A total of \$1,292.50 was received and \$659.83 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Hunt.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's report for the Month of July 2016. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Hunt.

Anderson moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve Dog Control Officer's report for May 2016. Aye-Anderson, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Bishop.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, that Highway Fund Vouchers #87-99 in the amount of \$105,494.39 and General Fund Vouchers #115-126 in the amount of \$20,272.97 be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Anderson.

Hunt moved, seconded by Anderson, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen R. Freese, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT
SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 8, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, August 8, 2016 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 Leon Anderson	Present
	Councilman William Bishop	Present

Others Present: Attorney Patrick Morrell, Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Reporter Aneta Glover, Planning Board Member Rob Schoffel, Assessment Review Board Members Will Millard and Brayton Foster, 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: Anderson moved, seconded by Vann, that the regular meeting minutes from July 11, 2016 be approved. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Hunt.

Presenter: Linda Blossom addressed the Town Board about how Tompkins County shares sales tax revenue with all their towns while Seneca County does not. The county should be required to do what the local communities do, by using its share of sales tax revenue.

Councilman Hunt shared that Highway Superintendant MacCheyne was pleased with their new mower, Tom Hayward and the great job he is doing.

Councilman Bishop asked if the budget process and workshops could be started sooner and could they meet with the employees to see what they wanted for salary and equipment needs.

Councilman Hunt shared about the Bicentennial plans for the Town of Covert, and that Deb Nottke is Chairman. Some things they are planning are an art contest that will include all students and three places for prizes money. Some activities planned are a barn dance, a float for Olde Home Day and different kinds of transportation in the Town of Covert over the years.

Councilman Anderson shared that maybe a grant could be applied for through the STEPS Program for a social night, a dunking booth and ice cream, and maybe a fire demonstration.

Councilman Anderson also shared that he talked to the State Comptroller Office about the Court revenue from tickets and they said a town should not depend on the Judge to raise so much money for the budget. Money that comes in from tickets should be considered a surplus and then it can be used in the next year's budget.

There was some discussion on solar installations, and should it be taxed; does it increase value of a property? Councilman Vann read an email from the Town of Covert Assessor. Mr. Franklin shared that he has yet to see an impact, positive or negative, on the solar installation on a residential property. So, at this time, they are not adding tax value to property. There was more discussion on wind farms and solar; they will not be taxed at this time.

The Town of Covert was asked to consider adopting a resolution called "Think Differently". This is a call to action, a genuine challenge to determine if we have it within ourselves to look past our differences and treat others the way we would hope to be treated. Too often, too many with special needs are overlooked and their unique abilities are overlooked or ignored. This request comes from a father who has an autistic daughter. Councilman Bishop asked what could be done to help out and make a difference. A suggestion was made that road signs could be put up so the disabled can cross the road easier.

There was some discussion on camping trailers and, if the wheels are removed, are they permanent and can they be taxable. It was determined that if the axles were still on them legally, they could still be moved.

There was discussion on changing the name of Schier Road again and how to have the correction of the spelling to "Schrier" reflecting the actual last name of Charles Schrier. Councilman Vann made a motion to change the road sign but did not receive a second. Councilman Hunt made a motion to put up a plaque in Charlie Schrier's honor on the road.

Resolution 6-16 Accounting budget lines

WHEREAS good accounting practices require balanced budget lines and WHEREAS there is an overspending in the following budget lines: Town Board Contractual, Deputy Clerk Personnel, Municipal Dues and WHEREAS due to the change in status from Active to Retired there is a surplus in the Supervisor's Personnel line, now therefore be it RESOLVED that the Town of Covert Board authorizes the following budget amendments to the 2016 budget:

Decrease the Supervisors Personnel Line A1220.1 from \$6,485.00 to \$4,255.99

Increase the Town Board Contractual A1010.4 from Zero to \$373.95

Increase the Supervisor's Contractual A1220.4 from Zero to \$165.00

Increase the Deputy Town Clerk A1410.11 from \$1,500 to \$3,000

Motion: Councilman Hunt, Seconded by Councilman Bishop:

Aye-Councilman Vann, Aye-Councilman Hunt, Aye-Councilman Bishop and Aye-Councilman Anderson

Resolution 7-16 "Think Differently" Initiative to Assist Individuals with Special Needs and Their Families

WHEREAS, the "Think Differently" initiative is about promoting awareness and acceptance of all people, and advocating for the inclusion of all individuals living on the Autism Spectrum and with special needs; and WHEREAS, our state and communities are stronger because of our diversity and differences; and WHEREAS, according to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) over 55 million people, or approximately 19% of Americans, have a type of disability or special need; and WHEREAS, for some people with special needs, the very things that make them unique can also keep them on the sidelines, separate from those who might not understand their differences or uniqueness; and WHEREAS, it is important to promote and provide guidance to those with special needs on how to access publically supported services available to them in the community; and WHEREAS, it is important to encourage and educate the community and businesses on ways they can make facilities and services more accessible and on how to train staff to welcome and support special needs customers and co-workers; and

WHEREAS, the goal of this initiative is to provide a supportive and inclusive environment for individuals of all abilities by supporting community events that expand family friendly opportunities for people with special needs and their families; and WHEREAS, adopting the "Think Differently" initiative is an important statement that our Town officials, business owners

and residents can make to show their support for the differently-abled children and adults with special needs, and their families. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Covert residents and business owners to adopt the "Think Differently" initiative so that all are better prepared to communicate with, provide for, and support those living on the Autism Spectrum and with special needs.

Motion: Councilman Anderson, Seconded by Councilman Hunt: Aye-Councilman Bishop, Aye-Councilman Hunt, Aye-Councilman Vann and Aye-Councilman Anderson.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, to place an ad to seek bids for the repair work that needs to be done on the Town Highway Barns. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Vann.

Anderson moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Supervisor's revenue and expenditure report for July 2016. Aye-Anderson, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of July 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Bishop.

Anderson moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for July 2016. A total of \$1,471.00 was received and \$866.79 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Hunt.

Vann moved, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's report for the Month of July 2016. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Hunt.

Bishop moved, seconded by Vann, to approve Dog Control Officer's report for July 2016. Aye-Anderson, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Bishop.

Hunt moved, seconded by Anderson, to put up a plaque to honor Charles Schrier with the correct spelling of "Schrier" on Schier Road.

Nay-Vann, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Anderson, Aye-Hunt and Nay-Reynolds.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, that Highway Fund Vouchers #100-118 in the amount of \$53,380.25 and General Fund Vouchers #127-142 in the amount of \$11,036.56 be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Anderson.

Anderson moved, seconded by Hunt, to go into executive session at 8:30 to discuss a personnel matter for Court. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Anderson.

Hunt moved, Seconded by Vann, to come out of executive session at 9:40. No action was taken. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Anderson, to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen R. Freese, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT
SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 12, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, September 12, 2016 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 Leon Anderson	Present
	Councilman William Bishop	Present

Others Present: Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Deputy Town Clerk Leslie Adams-Compton, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Reporter Aneta Glover, Planning Board Member Rob Schoffel, Ovid Town Supervisor Walt Prouty and other interested citizens.

Call to Order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Public Hearing: Vann made the motion, seconded by Anderson, to open the joint hearing of Interlaken, Ovid & Covert for the Interlaken Fire Contract. Supervisor Reynolds explained the reasons for the hearing and what areas the contract covers (Bergen Beach – north, Interlaken, Covert). He also stated that it had gone up about \$3000.00 from the previous year, but this was the first increase in 2 years.

Reynolds expressed concern for the decrease in Fire and Rescue manpower due to mandates.

A townspeople asked who is to be called for an emergency. It was stated that they should call 911 & they would alert everyone in the local districts.

Town of Ovid Supervisor Walt Prouty said they agreed with Fire Contract as written.
Hunt moved to close the public hearing for the Interlaken Fire Contract, Anderson seconded.

Presenter: Town of Covert Historian John Hunt thanked the Town for their support of the Interlaken Historical Society and explained that monies pay for insurance, property, events, etc. He also shared that individual membership is encouraged and the member will receive a newsletter. He explained that trustees meet monthly and there are four public meetings in a year; previous topics were Lehigh Valley Railroad, Gardening, Apples and Hops. He mentioned that the new release “Covert Memories” is for sale at the library. He encouraged local writers to write. He reminded all that Plowing Day is Saturday, September 17th from 10-4 with a parade at noon, and said there would be free transportation from the elementary school to the John T. Wells Barn. Also, Dr. Madison will share about dairy animals and there will be horses, oxen, plows and a drawing for a gift basket.

Hunt mentioned that next year is the town’s bicentennial. The Historical Society April 2017 meeting will be on how the area was settled, the Summer Social will be in July, September's theme will be 200 Years of Transportation, and, in October, there will be music and dance at the Brook Farm. Volunteers and funding are needed. Other possible activities for the Bicentennial are fireworks and the participation of the Doug’s Fishfry truck. For more information, they are on Facebook at TLC200.

Highway Superintendent: Superintendent MacCheyne read his monthly report. He added that he had worked with Seneca County on Cayuga Street. MacCheyne also reported that they had mowed the back

slopes once and when they get the tractor back they will finish.

Councilman Bishop expressed the Dog Control Officer's need for a magnetic mount light on top of his car and also a flashlight or floodlight was needed. These items must be added to the Dog Control Officer's inventory list.

Councilman Hunt reported on the up-coming Bi-Centennial celebration in 2017. Anderson said the Kids' Night Out would cost about \$1200 and he would be on a Radio sub-committee. There will be an art contest for middle school, high school & adults with money prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd in each age group and a people's choice award; contest ends Feb. 3rd. Both Hunt and Anderson would volunteer for a dunking booth.

Tony from Solar Seneca reported on the NYSEDA release of funds for the "Silver" initiative. Meetings will be held Tuesday, September 13th at 7:00 and Saturday, September 24th. He also mentioned they should be receiving funding for low and moderate income communities by the end of the month.

Letters of interest are needed from the local municipalities. They will need involvement from Highway Departments, libraries, etc., then individuals. Krys Cail will share more at the October Town Board Meeting.

Chuck Bosman shared that the Community Action Group will not be printing a calendar this year. Volunteers would be needed for the work of collecting materials and sponsors in order for the calendar to continue.

Councilman Vann shared on the need for electrical work on the Town buildings and that the Town could save money by having the Highway department employees laying out the conduits on the off-season.

Vann also shared that he and Supervisor Reynolds attended a meeting regarding the planning of a new addition on the back of the firehouse. The cost was estimated at \$1.4 million and The Town of Covert would share 25% of the cost, paid over 20-25 years.

Councilman Anderson shared that the Budget Meeting is September 21st at 7:00p.m. and, also, that Rich Richardson would like to be part of the Bi-Centennial planning.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that there will be a Core B training for Justices on October 7th, 2016 that Judge Schmidt would like to attend.

Reynolds stated that he is working on a 5-year plan for the Town of Covert. He shared that most of the expense is in the Highway Dept. He has begun the process of laying out a plan for the various Highway vehicle and equipment replacements over the next few years including tractor, electric, pickups, 10-wheelers, roller, etc. Hunt mentioned the building will need a lot of work. MacCheyne said they need to cut down the draft in the Town Barn. The judge has been looking into grants for a jury room, as the kitchen is inadequate for that purpose. It was also mentioned that the driveway needs work, central air is needed, and the copier and the electronic sign will need replacing. Supervisor said he will send out a working plan for everyone's input. They will need the plan for the November budget meeting.

Reynolds also shared that the budget is in a rough draft, the Trumansburg Fire amount is needed and then he will work on the tax cap with Diane. He believes that the budget should stay flat or below.

Reynolds explained that the new billing from George Hunt for the Town website will coincide with the

fiscal year now.

The Town Board received one sealed bid for the 2017 Lawn Maintenance Contract. This bid contained a \$300.00 savings for a 3-year contract. If the bid were rejected and re-advertised for a three year contract, then the Board can consider the bid for a 3-year contract.

Petitioners: Tim MacGuire stated that the bottom of South Frontenac Road still needs to be smoothed. Highway Superintendent MacCheyne said he is waiting for NYSEG or the phone company to trim trees around lines.

Jessica Schrier thanked Councilman Vann for talking to her neighbors about changing the signs on their street to reflect the corrected spelling of "Schrier" for Schier Road. Four neighbors were against the change, thirteen were indifferent. Ms. Schrier did not appreciate that the placque placed there said it was formerly "Schrier Road", but said that it was never "Schrier Road". There was a discussion with a Seneca County Assessment office employee of the name being changed at the County level. The employee did not believe that the name had been changed. Schrier stated that a resolution is needed by the Town or County in order to officially change the name. It was stated that Schier Road is a County Road.

It was suggested that the family should send a petition around in order to get the name officially changed.

Approval of Minutes: Bishop moved, seconded by Vann, that the regular meeting minutes from August 8, 2016 be approved. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Hunt.

Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Supervisor's Revenue and Expenditure Report for August 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Hunt.

Anderson moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of August 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Bishop.

Hunt moved, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for August 2016. A total of \$2,394.50 was received and \$907.14 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Anderson.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's report for the month of August 2016. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Hunt.

Anderson moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Dog Control Officer's report for the month of August 2016. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Anderson, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Vann.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, to authorize the spending of up to \$100.00 for the purchase of a vehicle flashing light and flashlight for Dog Control Officer. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Hunt.

Vann moved, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Interlaken Fire Contract for the year 2017. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Anderson, Aye-Vann and Aye-Hunt.

Anderson moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Website Agreement with George Hunt for September through December, 2016, \$150.00 and, for the year 2017, \$450.00 to be divided into three payments, ending May, August and December. Aye-Anderson, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, and Hunt-recused.

Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the audit on the Justice books for 2015. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, and Aye-Reynolds.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, that variance request application #22-16 for Joe Seamon, 3745-3768 County Rd. 150, to construct a residential building that does not meet a full acre as required by the Land Management Ordinances, be referred to the Planning Board. The variance request is to be sent to the Planning Board and a public hearing will be held October 10, 2016 at 7:00. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Anderson.

Hunt moved, seconded by Anderson, to approve monies for mileage and lunch for the Town Justice for Training on October 7th in Geneva. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Anderson.

Hunt moved, seconded by Anderson, to reject Grease Lightning's bid for the lawn maintenance contract for the year of 2017, and re-advertise for a three-year contract . Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Anderson.

Vann moved, seconded by Anderson, that Highway Fund Vouchers #119-131 in the amount of \$82,341.21, and General Fund Vouchers #143-159 in the amount of \$8,365.54 be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Anderson.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie Adams-Compton, Deputy Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT
SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 10, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, October 10, 2016 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 Leon Anderson	Present
	Councilman William Bishop	Present

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

Call to Order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Opening of Mower Bids: In September the Town Board received one sealed bid for the 2017 Lawn Maintenance Contract. This bid contained a \$300.00 savings for a 3-year contract. The bid was rejected and re-advertised for a three year contract, and the Town Board will consider all bids for a 3-year contract. The Board re-advertised and received another bid for a three year contract.

The First bid was from Grease Lightning for one year in the amount of \$2,210.00 or for a three year contract would be 2,100.00 a year, a total of \$6,300.00 for three years. The second bid was from Cayuga Lawns for \$2,925.00 per year, for a total of \$8,775.00 for three years.

Presenter: Joe Seamon shared that his property is under the required one acre lot that is required in the Town's Land Management Ordinances. The Planning Board had concerns about the 50' set back. Mr. Seamon shared there is room for a 50 foot set back and he will be able to get village water. There was discussion about the creek in the back and flooding. After some discussion, Councilman Hunt recommended that the application for variance be sent back to the Planning Board to review again and Mr. Seamon shares information at the meeting.

Krys Cail shared about DE Squared (Distributed Equity), a small Consulting Company specializing in bringing community solar gardens that are locally owned and regionally financed to the Finger Lakes and Central New York. In November 2015 Community Solar became legal. They are trying to help communities take a look at who is interested and what the cost to the Community would be. Krys shared that a letter of interest is needed from the Town Board, from the local municipalities, libraries, etc. Krys asked the Town Board to write a letter of interest. There were many questions on the cost and how many had to be involved to get Community Solar. For information, go to (Info.desquared@gmail.com).

Councilman Hunt mentioned that the art competition for the Bicentennial is underway and the committee is meeting regularly. Volunteers are needed to help with projects and planning for the Bicentennial.

Councilman Vann shared that the Town Justice has received two applications for the Court Clerk position and is doing interviews.

Supervisor Reynolds shared about the addition the Trumansburg Ambulance would like to build. The cost will be around one point six million dollars; this will be shared between towns that use the Fire and Ambulance services. The Town of Covert's cost will increase around \$20,000.00. Things are still being worked out for the addition.

Town Attorney Patrick Morrell asked the Town Board for an executive session to discuss the litigations for an assessment matter.

Approval of Minutes: Anderson moved, seconded by Vann, that the regular meeting minutes from September 12, 2016 be approved. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Hunt.

Resolution #7-16 Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution for Elected and Appointed Officials- RS 2417-A

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Covert (30313location) 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 their record of activities:

Title	Standard	Name	Current Term	Record of Activities	Not Submitted
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Elected Officials

Highway Superintendent	6	Jeffery Mac Cheyne	1/1/2016-12/31/2020	39.09	
Town Clerk	6	Colleen R. Freese	1/1/2016-12/31/2020	23.17	
Town Justice	6	Eileen Schmidt	1/1/2016-12/31/2020	7.55	
Councilman	6	Leon Anderson	1/1/2016-12/31/2020	No record submitted	

Appointed Officials

Dog Control Officer	6	Christopher Bulmahn	09/04/2012-12/31/16		0.89
Town Attorney	6	Patrick Morrell	01/01/2016-12/31/2016		2.68

I, Colleen R. 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 10th day of October, 2016 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 10th day of October, 2016 Affidavit of Posting: I, Colleen R. Freese, being duly sworn, deposes and says that the posting of this Resolution began on October 10, 2016 and continued for at least 30 days. That the Resolution was available to the public on the main entrance of Town Clerks, Official sign board at 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, NY 14847. Motion-Councilman Vann, Seconded By Councilman Anderson. Aye-Vann, Aye-Anderson, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Hunt.

Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Supervisor's Revenue and Expenditure Report for September 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Hunt.

Bishop moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of September 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Bishop.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report for September 2016. A total of \$3,419.75 was received and \$831.96 was remitted to the Town Supervisor. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Anderson.

Anderson moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's report for the month of September 2016. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Hunt.

Bishop moved, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Dog Control Officer's report for the month of September 2016. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Anderson, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Vann.

Hunt moved, seconded by Anderson, to authorize the Town Clerk to spend up to \$1,000.00 for the purchase of a computer and monitor. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Vann, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Hunt.

Hunt moved, seconded by Anderson, that the Town Clerk write a letter of interest from the Town Board to the DE Square Community Solar Program. Aye- Hunt, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Anderson and Nay-Vann.

Hunt moved, seconded by Anderson, to refer variance request application #22-16 for Joe Seamon, County Rd. 150, to construct a residential building that does not meet a full acre as required by the Land Management Ordinances back to the Town of Covert Planning Board to review it again and for Mr. Seamon to attend the meeting and bring the information to the Planning Board. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Anderson.

Anderson moved, seconded by Vann, to accept Grease Lightning's bid for the lawn maintenance contract for the year of 2017, 2018 and 2019, a three-year contract for \$2,100.00 per year. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Anderson.

Vann moved, seconded by Anderson, to go into executive session at 8:40 to discuss the litigation of an assessment matter for the Town of Covert Assessor and the Assessment Review Board for the Town of Covert. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Anderson

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to come out of executive session and return to the regular meeting at 8:55. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Anderson.

Vann moved, seconded by Bishop to authorize Town Attorney Patrick Morrell to enter into stipulation and agreement for tax assessment litigation Index #50311 and the Assessor for the Town of Covert and the Assessment Review Board of Town of Covert. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Vann.

Vann moved, seconded by Anderson, that Highway Fund Vouchers #119-131 in the amount of \$82,341.21, and General Fund Vouchers #160-175 in the amount of \$18,013.25 be approved for payment. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Anderson.

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

Respectfully Submitted, Colleen R. Freese, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF COVERT
TOWN BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 14, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, November 14, 2016 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 Bill Bishop	Present
	Councilman Leon Anderson	Present

Others Present: Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Reporter Aneta Glover, Planning Board Member Robert Schoffel, 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: Anderson moved, seconded by Vann, that the October 10, 2016 and November 10, 2016 minutes be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

Presenter: Charles Bosman reported that the Interlaken Public Library has begun construction for a porch which will be a replica of its original facade based on photos the Interlaken Historical Society provided. A new sign will be going up on the front yard, designed by Christopher Wolf. Due to recent resignation of the library manager, they are looking for a replacement to fill the position. They are really needing volunteers to help out with the Library.

Highway Report: Superintendent MacCheyne reported they have been cold patching, hauled crusher run, installed culvert pipe on Frontenac Road, have been cleaning equipment and building up driveways and shoulders on West Covert and Kelly's Corners Road.

Town Clerk Report: Town Clerk Freese reported that the American Legion filed their quarterly Bell Jar report. The Dog Control Office has been working at contacting people who are late on renewing their dog licenses. There will be a Joint Public Hearing on November 11, 2016 at Town of Ulysses Town Hall, 10 Elm Street, Trumansburg, NY, to hear any comments on the 2017 Fire Contract.

Supervisor Reynolds shared that the Planning Board met again to discuss lot size and building on the smaller size lot regarding Joe Seamon's request for variance on property. Three Planning Board Members approved and one abstained, but they did not have a quorum, so the vote didn't carry. Joe Seamon shared that the village has approved hook up to village water for the lot. The set back and side line are as required and there is enough room to put in a septic system. Councilman Hunt shared that contaminating wells was one of the main concerns, but with village water, it is no longer a concern. There was discussion that the Land Management Ordinance could be changed to allow smaller lot sizes when properties have access to village water.

Anderson moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve a variance request from Joe Seamon to build on a smaller size lot because there is a Village water line available which relieves the concern of sewer contamination in the well. Nay-Vann and Nay-Bishop, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Anderson and Aye-Reynolds. Motion carried.

Vann moved, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Supervisor's income and expenditure report for the month of October, 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Anderson.

Bishop moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of October, 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Anderson, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bishop.

Anderson moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report. The total revenue was \$734.00 and \$388.44 was remitted to the Supervisor for the month of October, 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Anderson.

Vann moved, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer report for the month of October, 2016. Aye-Anderson, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bishop.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Dog Control Officer report for the month of October, 2016. Aye-Anderson, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bishop.

Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, THAT the 2017 Preliminary Budget be adopted as the final budget for 2017 and, WHEREAS, this Town Board met November 10, 2016 at the time and place specified in the notice of the Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget and heard all persons desiring to be heard thereon; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Town Board of the Town of Covert hereby adopts such Preliminary Budget, as originally compiled with modifications and amendments, as the Annual Budget of the Town of Covert, as for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2017 and that such budget, as adopted, be entered in detail into the minutes of the proceeding of the Town Board, and Be it FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Town Clerk of the Town of Covert shall prepare and certify in duplicate copies of said Annual Budget, as adopted pursuant to Section 202, Subd.2 of the Town Law, and deliver one copy thereof to Supervisor of this Town to be presented by him to the Board of Supervisors of this County. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Anderson and Vann-Aye.

Anderson moved, seconded by Hunt, to go into executive session at 8:20 to discuss personnel matter and litigations. Aye-Vann, Aye-Anderson, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Hunt.

Anderson moved, seconded by Hunt, to come out of executive session at 8:45; no action was taken. Aye-Vann, Aye-Anderson, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Hunt.

Anderson moved, seconded by Hunt, that the Highway Fund Vouchers #141-156 in the amount of \$23,192.97 and General Fund Vouchers #176-197 in the amount \$14,132.67 be approved for payment. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Anderson.

Hunt moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 P.M. Aye-Anderson, Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bishop.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Freese, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF COVERT
TOWN BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 12, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, December 12, 2016 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 Bill Bishop	Present
Councilman Leon Anderson	Absent

Others Present: Town Clerk Colleen Freese, Aneta Glover, Reporter, 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.

Town Clerk Report: Town Clerk Freese reported that the Joint Public Hearing held on November 11, 2016 at Town of Ulysses, Town Hall 10 Elm Street, Trumansburg, NY for the 2017 Fire Protection contract. There were no public comments. The only discussion was clarifying the total cost for the contracts.

Approval of Minutes: Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, that the November 14, 2016 minutes and the report on the public hearing held for Trumansburg's Fire Protection District with Town of Ulysses be approved. Motion carried unanimously

The Year-end Meeting is set for December 28, 2016 at 6:00 pm at the Town Municipal Building, 8469 South Main street, Interlaken.

Councilman Hunt shared, that the Town of Covert will be receiving a State Historical marker for the 200 year Bicentennial in 2017. It will be put by the Town's Municipality Building.

There was discussion on the changes that were made on the Land Management Ordinance (LMO) and a Public Hearing will be held on February 13, 2016 to hear any comments on the LMO. Town Attorney Morrell shared that the Town Board will be reasonable to see what is being build and what the impact will have on the environment. There will be forms to fill out.

RESOLUTION 2017 HIGHWAY HOURLY RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the Town of Covert in preparing their 2017 budget included amounts to increase the hourly rates of the fulltime employees 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 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 an increase in their hourly rate; part-time employees rates will be the minimum wage.

	2016	increase	2017	2017
Employee:	Reg./hour		Total Reg.	O.T.
Edward Turk	\$20.54	\$.41	\$ 20.95	\$ 31.43
Chris Bulmahn	\$13.73	\$ 1.00	\$14.73	\$22.10
Roger Ike	\$16.25	\$ 1.00	\$ 17.25	\$25.88
Ralph Jones	\$ 9.00	\$0.70	\$9.70	

Glen Boyes \$ 10.00 \$ 10.00

Thomas Hayward \$ 10.00 \$ 10.00

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, that the Highway pay be effective January 1, 2017. Aye- Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bishop.

Resolution # Transfers to be approved

WHEREAS several accounts in General Fund A have been overspent in 2016, and **WHEREAS** good accounting practices require that all funds be zero or positive at year-end, Now **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the following shortages in the General Funds A be cleared by transferring funds as listed below,

From Supervisor Personnel A1220.1 to Supervisor contractual A1220.4 \$128.57

From Supervisor Personnel A1220.1 to Cemetery Contractual A8810.4 \$88.68

From Assessor Contractual A1355.4 to Town Clerk Deputy A1410.1A \$500.00

From Court Contractual A1110.4 to Court Clerk Personnel A1110.1A \$480.00

Bishop moved, seconded by Hunt, Vote: Aye- Hunt, Aye-Vann and Aye-Bishop.

Resolution # Regarding 2016 NYS Retirement Payment

WHEREAS New York State Retirement Bill due on December 15, 2016 is larger than originally forecast by NYSLRS and the amount of funds in each budget line is insufficient to pay the bill; and **WHEREAS** there are sufficient funds in other budget lines (A, DA and DB) to make transfers to meet the shortfalls, **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the following budget line transfers be made

From General Fund A 1355.4 Assessor to General Fund A9010.8 Retirement \$2,452.00

From Highway Fund DA 5142.4 Snow Removal Contractual to Highway Fund DA9010.8 Retirement \$2,192.00

From Highway Fund DB5110.1 Personnel Service to Highway Fund DB9010.8 Retirement \$1,995.00.

Hunt moved, Seconded by Vann Vote: Aye- Bishop, Aye-Hunt, Aye -Vann

Resolution # Section 6-1 of the Towns Personnel Policy shall be amended by adding the following language to the end of the existing section.

A full-time employee or Elected Official who is eligible for medical insurance coverage made available through the Town may receive a cash buy-out in lieu of receiving medical insurance benefits. To be eligible for the medical insurance buy-out, the employee must provide documentation of comparable medical health insurance coverage in a manner and form to be determined by the Town and sign an appropriate waiver of health insurance coverage and waiver of liability to the Town. Any non-town health insurance plan that may subject the Town to a penalty, fine or other disadvantage under the any federal or state law, rule or regulation. The medical insurance buyout is not applicable in a situation in which two employees are married or in a family relationship that makes both eligible for coverage under the same medical insurance plan.

An employee may re-enroll in the Town's health plan upon the occurrence of a qualifying event or open enrollment period. Qualifying event election must be made within 30 days of the event date. Buyout payments will be pro-rated and the employee must refund any portion of the payment received for the period in which the Town will subsequently provide coverage for said employee.

The buyout payments shall be a annual amount paid quarterly. Any Employee hired before January 1,2009 shall receive \$5,000.00 paid quarterly. Anyone hired January 1,2009 and after will receive \$4,000.00 paid quarterly. Motion Hunt, Seconded Vann, Vote: Aye- Hunt, Aye-Vann Aye-Bishop.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve Mary Gregg as the new Court Clerk at the Salary amount of \$8,320.00. and that the \$480.00 that is being transfer from Court ContractualA111.1 to Court Clerk Personnel A1110.1A be used to pay for her training in 2016. Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop, and Aye-Vann.

Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Supervisor's income and expenditure report for the month of November,2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Bishop.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of November, 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bishop.

Bishop moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the Town Clerk's monthly report. The total revenue was \$1,402.00 and \$646.24 was remitted to the Supervisor for the month of November, 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Hunt .

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer report for the month of November, 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bishop.

Hunt moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Dog Control Officer report for the month of November, 2016. Aye-Vann, Aye-Hunt and Aye-Bishop.

Vann moved, seconded by Hunt, to approve the American Legion Post 770, Bell Jar Gaming Application to Conduct, Game of Chance in year 2017. Aye- Hunt, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Vann.

Hunt moved, seconded by Vann , that the Highway Fund Vouchers #157-167 in the amount of \$8,995.47 and General Fund Vouchers #198-213 in the amount \$3,328.01 be approved for payment. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Hunt, Aye-Vann.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Freese, Town Clerk