The Town Board of the Town of Trenton held a Town Board Meeting at the Trenton Municipal Center, 8520 Old Poland Road, Barneveld, New York at 7:00 PM. Present were: Councilmen Michael Bennison, Chris Crumb, James Farr, Eric Taylor and Town Clerk, Rachel Bunker. Also attending, Attorney Kate Festine, James H. Mills, Keith Lighthall, Ken Cutler, Dave Constable.

I. Meeting called to order by Supervisor Godfrey at 7:01 pm

II. Pledge to the Flag

III. Privilege of the Floor: Keith Lighthall is concerned with the lighting behind and on the side of the Recycling Center. He would like spotlights put in. There is a 6 x 6 post on the back wall and he thought if they install something there it would shine over the peak and it wouldn't be blocked by traffic. Godfrey will speak with Rich about it. Keith also has a concern about Pachura pulling stuff out of the bins and now with the snow, the plows have to go around it all so it becomes a safety issue. Keith has spoken with Pachura's mother and asked her to talk to him but apparently that did not work. Keith would also like camera's installed because of people dumping. Godfrey said he will put a call into Abdoo Security regarding the cameras.

IV. Officer Reports:

A. **Highway Superintendent :** It's just December and we're already going through our sand and diesel fuel.

Family Paid Leave Act (PFLA) - Godfrey advised this is a policy that employees pay into whether it be a family emergency, a newborn baby, military leave, etc. The employees pay 67% of their average weekly pay for this. Employees can put in for 12 weeks of paid leave which is not paid by the town. It does put a lot of stress on Stiehl especially this time of year if we lose one of the 7 guys that does plowing. Municipalities do not have to offer this, it is something the Teamsters and stewards met about and wanted to add on. As it stands now, the agreement is they will not be able to use it between November 1st and April 1st and the highway employees were all ok with that.

Godfrey presented the Board with the Agreement and the Addendum to the Agreement between the Teamsters Local 294 and the Town of Trenton. Crumb made motion to approve the Agreement and the Addendum to offer the Town Highway workers the Family Paid Leave Act, seconded by Bennison, 5 ayes.

Regarding the 8th man for Highway – Stiehl said they had 2 interviews, both backed out. Godfrey said they are going to advertise it again maybe with the salary this time.

Stiehl advised that a truck went in the ditch. The truck is ok, the driver is ok. – There is a repair bill in the vouchers and a bigger towing bill.

Abstracts # 343 to 359 in the amount of $17,750.97**.** Bennison made motion to pay vouchers #343 through 359 in the amount of $17,750.97, seconded by Taylor, 5 ayes.

B. Assessor: Everything good with Tonya.

C. **Zoning & Codes:**

Zoning Report: Boulerice stuck in Syracuse. Board has his report.

Codes Report: Cutler advised he is working with the person from CA who purchased the Pachura Property. He has a couple here working with him. Cutler wrote a letter to try to expedite the process. He went to the property with two State Troopers, reposted the placards because the new owners want to protect the property and the next morning the signs were gone. Kate advised we are at a point where we are waiting for him to be out of there. Cutler is helping Mr. Longeretta, the attorney to help get him out. Now that he's not a tenant but a squatter, it helps Cutler . But he is holding up the whole process; the owner cannot work on the property with Pachura still there.

a. **Building Code Fee Schedule**: Cutler provided a new Codes Fee Schedule. Godfrey advised the Board to take a look at it and it will be tabled until the December 29th meeting.

Constable advised that fire codes are 95% in compliance. Cutler advised the Board that Dave is doing an outstanding job in getting people in compliance without any fines.

D. **NOCCOG**: Noone from NOCCOG at the meeting.

E. **Attorney:** Festine said she talked with Attorney Longeretta and he is working toward getting Pachura out.

She had a conversation with someone who used to be one of the top lawyers in DEC and he put her in touch with their Bureau Chief who handles enforcement so she is hoping to get civil enforcement action against the Millers for burning. She talked to Leo about it and he said that would be good because the District Attorney's Office is getting us nowhere. She will report back to the Board on that.

Cutler asked Kate if we said anything to the Millers about clean up. She said no, we just told them they had to cease and desist operations.

Godfrey received a call from one of the Miller's log haulers and he was speaking on behalf of the Millers and why was the town against them, etc. Cutler asked if letters went out to the other sawmills as well. Will have to check with Leo on that.

F. Supervisor's Report: Rachel advised the Board has September's Report and she emailed them October's. Farr made motion to approve the Supervisor's Report for September, seconded by Crumb, 5 ayes.

G. Clerk's Report: Local shares remitted are $ 1,339.00.

V. Resolutions:

A. **Approve Gregory Pflieger as Trenton Fire District Commissioner (5 Year Term):** Farr made motion to approve Gregory Pflieger as Trenton Fire District Commissioner (5 year term), seconded by Taylor, 5 ayes.

B. **Re-appoint Scott Collins to BAR:** Farr made motion to re-appoint Scott Collins to BAR, seconded by Bennison, 5 ayes.

C. **Approve Mapledale Mobile Home Park Renewal:** Taylor made motion to Approve Mapledale Mobile Home Park Renewal to 14 months, seconded by Farr, 5 ayes.

Approve Mayer Manor Mobile Home Park Renewal: Taylor made motion to approve Mayer Manor Mobile Home Park Renewal to 14 months, seconded by Farr, 5 ayes.

Cutler said in the future, we should coordinate the renewals with the county.

D. Approve Bid Extension for Recycling Building January 14, 2026: We originally went with a date of December 22nd but it wasn't enough time for Don Ehre to get copies of the plans together. We are extending it out to January 14th , and will put it in the paper again ASAP. Crumb made motion to approve the bid extension for the Recycling Building to January 14, 2026, seconded by Farr, 5 ayes.

E. Approve $.50 per hour raise for Wes Wright, Highway Department: Crumb made motion to approve $.50 per hour raise for Wes Wright, Highway Department, seconded by Farr, 5 ayes.

F. Approve North Star Ambulance Contract: Tabled until 12/29/2025 meeting.

G. **Approve Old Poland Road Utilities:** Festine advised they can approve the light one. They have to get a crane in there to lift the spans for the bridge;

they have to move the wires over to the other side of the road. When they do that they are going to take 2 poles down, one on the corner of Vanderkemp and one on Park Ave. Godfrey needs the ok to approve having the lights transferred to the poles that are going to be reset this spring. Bennison asked about the cost. Rich is working on getting a quote. Tabled until 12/29/2025 meeting to see what the cost might be.

H. Approve Abstracts:

i. Hinckley – Abstracts #26 and 27 in the amount of $177.04. Bennison made motion to approve Hinckley abstracts 26 and 27 in the amount of $177.04, seconded by Farr, 5 ayes.

ii. General – Abstracts 989 to 1065 in the amount of $68,035.51. Crumb made motion to approve General abstracts # 989 to 1065 in the amount of $68,035.51, seconded by Taylor, 5 ayes.

VI. Priority Issues:

A. Highway Cold Storage: Godfrey advised we have plans and there are a couple of ideas that Rich is going to talk to Don Ehre about. Ken and Dave have copies. Will put it out to bid as soon as possible.

B. Premo Property: The Board has already approved the purchase. Leo said there is a judgment against the Premo's made in June for $19,000. There is hearsay that there are still fuel tanks in the ground. Kate said as far as that goes, she has confirmed with Premo's attorney that there have not been any notices from the DEC regarding fuel tanks. Kate did a search of the DEC data bases and she didn't find anything. As far as the judgment goes, we agreed to pay the back taxes but Deb Premo would be on the hook to pay off the judgment to give the town a clear title. Board planned to put a playground and basketball court on the property. Kate will send the contract to Deb Premo with the understanding that she will have to pay the judgment.

C. Trenton Chamber of Commerce: Godfrey went to one of the meetings and talked with Deb Licher who is President of the Chamber. This past Thursday they voted that there is no longer a Chamber of Commerce for the Town of Trenton.

D. Prospect Cemetery: Godfrey advised that Chubb was in the other day. Rachel advised that people have been calling but she has no information and nothing has been done legally so she asked him to come in and he did an overview with us. He doesn't work between November 1st and April 1st. He pretty much does everything – sells everything, collects the money and brings it to us.

E. Beaver River Powerline Upgrade: Godfrey said Barb Freeman dropped the packets off for everyone that wants to read up on it. They want to make the Board aware of what was going on. Taylor made motion to resolve that the Board agrees with the Town of Trenton NY Memorializing Petition, seconded by Farr, 5 ayes. Board members all signed with the exception of the Supervisor because the petition has the wrong name on it.

VII. Committees:

A. Planning Board: Nothing

B. ZBA: Nothing

C. Greenbelt: Has the new boulders.

D. Infrastructure: Nothing.

Boulerice made it to the meeting. Kate asked what happened with the Millers; they had until December 9th. Boulerice said he sees logs every time he drives by. He hasn't been able to check it out in the daytime but it appears the operations are still going on. Festine asked that he send the cease and desist letters to the other sawmills as well.

Bennison made motion to authorize the attorney to bring a lawsuit to Supreme Court for conjunctive relief and other relief related to the unlawful operation of the Miller sawmill at her usual rate of $175.00 an hour, seconded by Crumb, 5 ayes. Festine also advised the Board that with the holiday season and the amount of appeals she has to respond to in January, it will be the second week of February before she can file anything.

VIII. Communications: Next Meeting December 29, 2025 at 7:00 pm.

Trenton Christmas Celebration Saturday, December 20, 2025 at 5:30 PM

IX. Adjournment - Crumb made motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 pm, seconded by Taylor, 5 ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel I. Bunker
Town Clerk