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. Supervisor Godfrey called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were: Councilmen Michael Bennison, James Farr, Eric Taylor, Chris Crumb and Town Clerk, Rachel Bunker. Also present was James H. Mills, Lorraine Fava, Susan Piersall, Kathy Kellogg, Leo Boulerice, Keith Lighthall.

I. Meeting called to order by Supervisor Godfrey at 7:02 pm

II. Pledge to the Flag

III. Privilege of the Floor: Susan Piersall spoke for Lorraine Fava and wanted to know why the hearings and meetings were not published in the Rural Star paper. Godfrey advised that right now it only goes in the Rural Star at the first issue of the month. It is in the Rome Sentinel where we legally publish all our notifications. We have moved away from the Rural Star because it costs the town $13,000 a year. We realize that not everyone has a smart phone, computer or tablet; the way people get their information is off our Facebook page and our new website. Rachel explained to her that with her email she can sign up on our website and every time there is an alert, new event or a public hearing, she will get notification on her email.

Boulerice spoke and advised that the Board has to make a decision on whether to give the Millers an extension or end up filing an injunction to bring them to court for the sawmill operation. Godfrey said Kate advised Cutler to send cease and desist letters to other sawmills if they are not operating according to code. Cutler did write up a letter that can go to the Millers. The question is are they non-compliant with Codes because they have a bunch of slab wood, is the sawdust a problem, are they trucking logs in, etc. Boulerice said Cutler is the Codes official and he doesn't want to speak for him but he said they are running an industrial operation and they are not approved by zoning for that. They were denied by the ZBA and he gave them 90 days to become compliant or stop operating. Boulerice said they are doing something with high dollar horses to increase the annual income of the farm so they can produce more timber processing and then fall within the ag and markets regulations. They sent information which Boulerice sent over to Kate to look at. She said you either give them an extension to comply or she can file for an injunction in State Supreme Court. The 90 days was up on September 30th. None of the other sawmills came in to get permits. Boulerice said it would be helpful to have Kate present so it will be discussed again at the next meeting. Long discussion ensued regarding all the saw mills, how they are operating and how they are not using logs off their land but are having it trucked in.

IV. Resolutions:

A. Minor Properties Tax Lien Re-levy: Godfrey handed out information to Board members regarding the two Miner property's maintenance costs the town incurred. Taylor made motion to pass a Resolution to authorize the re-levy of property maintenance costs incurred by the Town of Trenton for 113 Mappa Ave and 114 Mappa Ave., seconded by Crumb.

Roll Call: Stephen A. Godfrey – Aye
Michael Bennison – Aye
Jim Farr – Aye
Eric Taylor – Aye
Chris Crumb - Aye

B. DEC Fishing Access: Godfrey advised DEC wants to put a fishing area off our trail with along with signs and stock it. Bennison made motion to allow DEC to put a stocked fishing area off our trail, seconded by Crumb, 5 ayes.

C. Approve October 8, 2025 Meeting Minutes: Farr made motion to approve the Meeting Minutes from October 8, 2025, seconded by Bennison, 5 ayes.

D. Rural Star Town Page: Godfrey advised that a few months ago it was decided that we would put our ad in once a month and at the end of the year we would discontinue altogether. He is just bringing it back and asking whether they carry on with once a month and finish at the end of the year or do we want to change. Claudette will be done at the end of the year also so someone else would have to put together the town page for publication. Discussion ensued and it was decided to leave it as was previously decided.

E. Approve Preliminary Budget 2025: Godfrey did not hear anything from the public regarding the budget and the hearing, so he asked to have the Preliminary Budget approved. Bennison made motion to approve the Preliminary Budget for 2026, seconded by Farr.

Roll Call: Stephen A. Godfrey – Aye
Michael Bennison – Aye
Jim Farr – Aye
Eric Taylor – Aye
Chris Crumb - Aye

F. Approve Local Law 2025-1 Tax Reduction Emergency Workers: Hearing earlier this evening for this Local Law. Taylor made motion to approve Local Law 2025-1 Tax Reduction Emergency Workers, seconded by Godfrey.

Roll Call: Stephen A. Godfrey – Aye
Michael Bennison – Aye
Jim Farr – Aye
Eric Taylor – Aye
Chris Crumb – Aye

G. Approve NYSPFL for Teamster Highway Workers: Godfrey advised there are two highway employees asking for paid family leave. There are different rules for municipalities, and we don't have to provide this. Godfrey and Bennison met with the Teamsters and two of the highway union stewards. The two guys looking into this have babies on the way and now that it's a 12 week span that they can take off during a 52 week timeframe and get paid 67% of their wages. Time does not have to be taken all at once. Godfrey said it will be tough on us especially if they take 12 weeks off during the winter months but they have advised they wouldn't take time off during the winter months. Godfrey wants the board to look at all the information and it will be tabled for now.

H. Approve Cyber Insurance, One Group: Godfrey advised we do not have Cyber Insurance and based on a couple of things that have happened to other municipalities, he

feels this would guard us from getting scammed for a considerable amount of money. Based on the fact that we have 2 water districts and with what our annual revenue is, we were given 3 different quotes. The Board opted for Quote #2 with a $1/M limit and $5K deductible and $250K funds transfer fraud. Taylor made motion to approve Quote #2 from One Group for Cyber Insurance, seconded by Bennison, 5 ayes.

V. Priority Issues:

A. **Recycling – Buildings and Grounds Pay:** Taylor made up a chart for the Board with employees, time employed, salaries, and yearly increases. Keith previously talked with Taylor about differential pay for a loader operator. Taylor's recommendation was they should be given an extra $.75 per hour but only if they are using the loader for a significant amount of time, not just to move something. Keith will keep track of the amount of time the employee is on the pay loader. Godfrey said Keith would get an increase as a salaried employee under the regular budget. Bennison made motion for increases in Recycling and Buildings and Ground Pay effective the next pay period, seconded by Farr, 5 ayes.

B. **Recycling & Highway Building Updates:** Godfrey advised that for the Recycling Center he would like to get it out to bid next month and then put a 30 day on it. He talked with Hanover Insurance and once the bids are in they will take a look at them and then give us an offer on the insurance end. The sooner we get the bids in the better. Keith asked regarding are they looking at a new build or still the old build? Godfrey said right now it's just replacing what we had. Godfrey said the construction containers are a big problem and we were trying to figure out how to make it better. Keith has 2 different layout drawings and on Saturday Godfrey and Farr are going to go over and take a look and they will go from there. Keith also advised there needs to be a spotlight out back at the Recycling Center. Godfrey will also take a look at this too.

As far as the Highway Building, Stiehl put in some things he would like to see so we are talking about partitioning half of that building and heating one half of it. Boulerice advised that effective January 1st new Building Codes go into effect for any building. He said his understanding is if we have a building permit sitting on our desk December 30th we have the option of going by the 2020 Code or the 2025 Code. If a building permit is on my desk January 2nd, it has to be designed to the new building code. The application needs to be in before December 31. Godfrey said he would talk with Cutler. He also advised there was hold back money – about $97,000 that we could use toward tearing down the old highway garage. We received the check for $523,000 from Hanover Insurance and then there is the holdback of $97,000. Godfrey mentioned the holdback money to Jason and he wants to see what the new building comes in at and then we will make a decision. Godfrey wants to get it tested for asbestos. Stiehl doesn't believe there is asbestos and believes he can do the tear down with rented equipment.

C. **Siding Municipal Center:** Godfrey has siding proposals and they range from $58,000 to $65,000 with no materials – just labor. He got one from Bebee Construction which topped out at $75,000. Tabled for now because it's late in the season. We need to figure out if Building and Grounds will do it in the spring or will hire it out.

D. **Highway Garage Roof:** Will be discussed in Executive Session.

VI. Communications:

A. NOCCOG Dinner - October 23rd

B. Next Meeting November 12, 2025 at 7:00 pm.

Godfrey asked for a motion to go into Executive Session. Crumb made motion to go into Executive Session at 8:42 pm, seconded by Taylor, 5 ayes.

Bennison made motion to come out of Executive Session at 9:35 pm, seconded by Crumb, 5 ayes. No decisions made.

VII. Adjournment: Taylor made motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:38, seconded by Farr, 5 ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel I. Bunker

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Town Clerk