

**MEETING, TOWN BOARD OF GENOA**

**February 13, 2019**

A Regular meeting of the Town Board of Genoa, Cayuga County, State of New York was held at the Town Hall, 1000 Bartnick Road, Genoa NY on February 13, 2019

Present: Lorie Sellen-Gross, Supervisor  
Cheryl Shields, Board Member  
Don Slocum, Board Member  
Chris Stout, Board Member  
Brandon White, Board Member  
Sue Moss, Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by Supervisor Lorie Sellen-Gross with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**RESOLUTION 38-2019 APPROVAL OF January 30, 2019 SPECIAL MTG MINUTES**

On a motion of Board member Shields, seconded by Board member White, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Sellen-Gross, Slocum, Shields, Stout, White  
Nays 0

Resolved that the January 30 Special Meeting minutes be approved

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

Lorie Sellen-Gross

**RESOLUTION 39-2019 SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

On a motion of Board member White, seconded by Board member Shields, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Sellen-Gross, Shields, Stout, Slocum, White  
Nays 0

Resolved that the January 2019 Supervisor's Report be approved

**RESOLUTION 40-2019 APPROVAL OF BILLS**

On a motion of Board member Shields, seconded by Board member White, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Sellen-Gross, Slocum, Shields, Stout, White  
Nays 0

Resolved to approve the bills as presented without the JLI Environ bill which needs further examination

**CLERK'S REPORT**

**Report on Revenues from Clerk's Office for January 2019**

Certified Copies	\$ 10.00
Dog Licenses	135.00 (\$153 total - \$18 Ag & Markets population control fund)
Building Permits	205.00

**Disbursements for January 2019**

Paid to Supervisor	\$ 350.00
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RESOLUTION 41-2019 **CLERK'S REPORT**

On a motion of Board member Slocum, seconded by Board member Shields, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Sellen-Gross, Shields, Stout, Slocum, White  
Nays 0

Resolved that the January 2019 Clerk's Report be approved

**HIGHWAY REPORT**

No report this month

**ASSESSOR REPORT**

I received the following information from the Cayuga County Director of Real Property Services Kelly Anderson. The Town Board may be interested in contracting services for Board of Assessment Review. This action would take the burden of finding BAR members and holding the Board of Assessment review off the Town. I can absolutely see the benefit when a Town has difficulty finding Town property owners to volunteer for the Board. I can also see how property owners would feel that "*Big Government*" feel when this right as an owner to complain to an equal is altered. It eliminates the opportunity for aggrieved property owners to be heard by a group of peer TOWN property owners. The county would create a Board to hear the complaints at their discretion. Please discuss as the Town Board and give me any feedback that I may share.

**SUBPART B: Authorize the creation of county-level Boards of Assessment Review at local option**

Summary of Provisions and Statement in Support:

Each assessing unit has a Board of Assessment Review (BAR) that is responsible for hearing and resolving assessment complaints for that assessing unit. County Directors of Real Property Tax Services provide training and support to BAR members. They report that staffing issues commonly afflict BARs, particularly in small towns, where it can be difficult to find enough qualified people willing to devote the time that the position requires. If a BAR is short-staffed and/or some of its members have personal conflicts, then, in the worst case scenario, Grievance Day could not be held due to the lack of a quorum.

Under Real Property Tax Law (RPTL) § 579, counties are authorized to provide assessment-related services to assessing units by entering into an inter-municipal agreement for that purpose pursuant to Article 5-G of the General Municipal Law.

Specifically, where the county and the assessing unit have an inter-municipal agreement so providing, the county may value property (appraisal services), may process exemption applications (exemption services), and may even fully assume the assessing function (assessment services). County Directors have recommended that counties be permitted to set up BARs for assessing units at local option, in the belief it will make BARs more professional and greatly reduce the problems they commonly encounter. This bill would expand RPTL §579 to allow a county and an assessing unit to agree to do so.

Budget Implications: Enactment of this bill is necessary to implement the FY 2020 Executive Budget.

Effective Date: This subpart would take effect immediately.

In the past several years, New York State Tax and Finance has offered Enhanced STAR recipients who file an income tax return the option to have income verified by NYS. NYS T&F has notified the Assessor of those results in December allowing all property owners who chose this method of renewal to be notified BY ME in plenty of time to provide any needed documents prior to the MARCH 1st deadline. This year, NYST&F said they would notify the Assessor with results on February 1st only giving Assessors and property owners 28 days to comply. I again contacted NYST&F on February 4th as there were no results available. I was told that the results would not be available until mid-February. This leaves a very narrow window of time before the March 1 deadline. I feel it very unfair for the property owners who will need to submit financial documentation and stressful for those who have been anxiously awaiting the results regardless of the outcome. Next year, New York State Tax and Finance intends to administer the entire Enhanced STAR program. I am not yet sure what that will look like for property owners. I suspect, the change will be a bit confusing so I have been letting the recipients know the change is coming and they may still call me with questions. Although I may not have any real answers, I will do my best to help.

If you see anyone who may be receiving an OVER 65 years exemption, please remind them to check in with me if they have not already submitted a green or yellow renewal. Farmers and Ag. Land owners need to submit the blue applications ASAP as all renewal are due by 3/1/19.

The Town Board will table the BAR option until Lorie has done further research.

### **CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT**

Lorie Sellen-Gross

The following is a summary of activity since the January 9, 2019 report:

- Issued 3 building permits, renewed 1 building permit.
- Received 5 special event applications for Town Board consideration.
- Performed routine inspections on outstanding permits and site inspections for new permits.
- Office hours on Monday afternoons and by appointment.
- Completed 16 hours of Code Enforcement training in Buffalo on January 27-29, 2019, sponsored by the Niagara Frontier Building Officials Association. The last day of training (8 hours) scheduled for January 30<sup>th</sup> was cancelled due to weather and will be rescheduled for some time in April.

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Summary of building permits issued since the January 9, 2019 report:

- #19-02 John Burnham – 8751 State Route 90. Garage Addition.
- #19-03R Deborah Shea – 1372 Atwater Road. Double-wide manufactured home (permit renewal to complete deck).
- #19-04 Larry VanDeValk – 8929 State Route 90. Ground mount solar array.
- #19-05 Deborah Shea – 1372 Atwater Road. Remove existing single-wide manufactured home.

**WATER REPORT**

Sue Moss

Total - 1,801,200 gallons

Average - 58,103 gallons

There was a water line break at Lev Saltonstall's home. It has been repaired.

**OLD BUSINESS**

The JCAP check for the court has been received

RESOLUTION 42-2019 **APPROVAL OF BLANKET PERMIT FOR TRELEAVEN ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS**

On a motion of Board member Slocum, seconded by Board member Shields, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Sellen-Gross, Slocum, Shields, Stout, White  
Nays 0

Resolved to approve the blanket permit for Treleaven

Notification of funds has been received from DASNY (Dormitory Authority of the State of New York).

The Board will continue to research vendors for traffic signals

Rich Brown will again mow the lawns at Town properties

**NEW BUSINESS**

It was suggested that surplus tables and chairs in the Town Hall be placed for sale on the Town website

With no further business, on a motion of Board Member Shields, seconded by Board Member White, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. Carried unanimously.

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Susan B. Moss, Town Clerk