

## Obituary

### William M. Stone Jr.

Berlin - William M. Stone Jr., 79, passed away unexpectedly at his residence on Saturday, May 15, 2021 with his loving family by his side. William was the son of the late William and Margaret Stone. William was the devoted husband to Patricia R. Stone. They were married 46 years.

Bill liked going to York Beach, Maine and walking on the beach. He loved to go fishing in his favorite fishing holes, shopping and gardening with his wife, loved reading and being the best "daddy" to their Shih Tzus, Milly and Molly.

William was proud to serve his country by being in the Special Forces in the Army National Guard Reserves for 2 years. He was also a revered employee at Southwestern Vermont Medical Center for 32 years as an OR Tech.

Bill is survived by his son, Michael (Shannon), 4 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by many loving relatives and friends.

Bill is predeceased by his loving siblings.

Services will be held privately by the family. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Second Chance in Arlington, Vermont. To leave a special message of condolence for the family, please visit [www.NewComerAlbany.com](http://www.NewComerAlbany.com).



## STEPHENTOWN

### Changing The Terms Of Office

by Doug La Rocque

With no resolution, new or old business on the agenda for the Monday, May 17 meeting of the Stephentown Town Board, discussion was of a general nature along with the customary reports.

Toward the end of those discussions, Town Supervisor Larry Eckhardt broached the idea of changing the term of office for the Town Clerk, Highway Superintendent and Tax Collector from 2 to 4 years. The Supervisor's position is also a two year term, but Mr. Eckhardt said he didn't feel that should change.

To make these changes, the Board would have to approve a local law and it would still go before voters at a general election. By state rules, this local law would need to be approved by mid July and that involves introducing it, holding a public hearing and a final vote. Board members did not seem opposed to the idea, but all agreed that getting the required preliminary work completed in such a short time probably would not be fair to town residents, and decided to look at the idea early next year. Councilman Bill Jennings stating "we really need public input. We can think about it, but don't rush it. This is a significant change."

#### Constable Needs And Requirements

Right now the town is paying \$30 an hour for a fill in constable at court proceedings. Should the current constable not return to his position, the town would have to seek replacement. Town rules currently limit applications to a town resident, but the board is in favor of opening that up to anyone living in Rensselaer County. Town Clerk Stephanie Wagar also suggested the might look for a off duty sheriff's deputy or

correction officer, because they are already trained.

#### Grievance Night Will Be Busy

As the town is currently going through a property re-evaluation process, one might think a number of people might want to discuss their new assessment with Assessor Jenn Van Duesen.

She told the board, that is exactly what is happening, so much so that she may not be able to see everyone before Grievance Day, Tuesday May 25, and those people would have to take their complaints directly to the Board of Assessment Review.

#### Other News

Youth Commission Director Rebekkah Corbett said they hope to be able to offer an in person summer camp this year, limiting the number of participants. She also said they would need to rent to additional tents to erect outside the Stephentown Memorial Library to meet COVID-19 spacing requirements. Councilman P.J. Roder urged they keep complete records of this and other town expenditures, in case some of these may be reimbursable under American Rescue Plan Act monies. Library President Jen Peabody also noted the library has returned to normal hours without appointments, but is placing a 10 person limit on the amount of those allowed inside at anytime. She also said the library's community survey is progressing nicely, that they would like to add two more story walks and they have some new museum passes to hand out.

The board agreed to a motion to allow Highway Superintendent Aldi Goodermote to look into purchasing another loader, hopefully under state bid. There were also comments about the condition of road signs on Calvin Cole and Wyomanock Roads.

**The Church Directory is online only this week due to limited space. Thank you for understanding.**

Please visit [eastwickpress.com/news/2021/03/church-directory/](http://eastwickpress.com/news/2021/03/church-directory/)

### All School Budgets Approved... Continued from page 1

Snyder and newcomer Trevor Jewett. Ms. Snyder told the Eastwick Press after the vote "I would like to thank the voters who came out and overwhelmingly supported both the budget and the bus proposition. Thank you all that supported me for re-election. I am grateful for the opportunity to continue my service to our district."

#### New Lebanon

If there was a budget proposal some thought might see opposition, it was in the New Lebanon School district, where the tax hike exceeded the state tax cap because of a taxing error with last year's budget. It meant voters would have to approve the budget by a so-called super majority of 60%. Turns out, that was no problem. The final tally was 386 yes votes to 141 against; that was an approval rate of 73%. Following the vote District Superintendent Andrew Kourt posted the following message on the district's website: "This outcome is a testament to every member of our district community. Tonight's vote reaffirms the community's long standing commitment to our students and district. On behalf of the district, I want to thank you for your support of the New Lebanon Central School District. The approval of the 2021-22 school budget will allow the district to continue the excellent academic programs and extracurricular opportunities for our students."

#### Schodack

After the votes were tallied Tues-

day night, May 18, in the Schodack Central School District (Maple Hill), voters approved the \$26 million budget proposal by the vote of 355 to 123. The approval rate for the bus proposition was slightly higher at 378 to 102. Also approved was a proposition to add a student representative to the School Board. Elected to that Board were Marion Gurdineer-Spar, Tyler Gebbie and Kurt Maier.

#### Averill Park

A \$61 million dollar budget was approved here by the vote of 576 yes to 299 no. Also approved was a bus and equipment proposition. Elected to the School Board were Jessica Zweig and Jackie Geraci.

#### Cambridge

61% of the Cambridge residents who cast a ballot said yes to the \$23 million budget. The vote was 930 yes to 589 no. Voters also approved a bus proposition and library funding. In a statement issued after the vote, Superintendent Dr. Douglas Silvernail thanked the Cambridge community for their support and said "it was most certainly a challenging year, but our community showed its resilience once again." Elected to the Board of Education were Dillion Honyoust and David Shay Price.

Voters in the Troy and Lansingburgh district also approved their budgets. According to a statement released by the NYS School Boards Association, statewide 99% of budget were approved.

### Petersburgh Town Board Meeting... Continued from page 5

time emergency basis, and after that to seek bids for keeping them mowed for the remainder of the season.

#### Memorial Day Picnic

The Town Parks and Recreation Committee is planning a picnic in the Town Park at the bottom of Depot Road for Saturday afternoon, May 29, from 1 to 5 pm. It is free, and the whole town is invited. Hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken, pulled pork, chips, soda and water will be provided, and participants are invited to bring a side dish to share. The committee and volunteers will serve the food so as to remain within COVID guidelines, and the committee encourages masks and social distancing. Games are also planned, including horseshoes and cornhole. Parking at the site is somewhat limited, but if the parking area in the park fills up, people can park in the Town Hall lot and walk down.

### Brunswick Town Board ... Continued from page 7

#### Be It Resolved

There were a number of resolutions before the Board this night. One declared Brunswick to be a Purple Heart Community, honoring members of the U.S. Armed Forces who have been killed or injured in times of war. A second declared a F-550 pick up to be surplus equipment and authorized its sale, while another authorized the purchase of a diesel powered mower with a 72 inch deck.

The Brunswick Community Library has announced it has re-opened, and detailed a list of upcoming programs, the first being *Garden Day* on June 5.

### Rensselaer County Emerges Stronger ... Continued from page 3

getting vaccines to residents.

Thanks for reading. If you have questions, or would like to get in contact with us, you can call the County Executive's office at 518-270-2900, or visit the county website at [www.rensco.com](http://www.rensco.com), where there are links for questions and contact. Best wishes to all as we move into spring.