

### **03/07/07 Town Board Minutes**

A regular meeting of the Elma Town Board was held on Wednesday, March 7, 2007, at 8:00 PM, Elma

Historical Museum, 3011 Bowen Road, Elma, New York, to celebrate the Town of Elma's 150th year at the original meeting place of the Town of Elma forefathers with the following members present:

Supervisor Michael Nolan  
Councilwoman Susan Glownia  
Councilman David Polak  
Councilman Dennis Powers  
Councilman Dean Puleo

Approximately 60 people attended the meeting at the Historical Museum (C.W. Hurd house, site of the first Town of Elma meeting) with the overflow in the Senior Center.

The meeting was opened with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Nolan welcomed Honored Guests and all in attendance.

Supervisor Nolan read a brief excerpt from the "History of Elma, 1620-1901" by Warren Jackman, Elma's first Town Clerk.

Councilman Powers made the motion and Councilwoman Glownia seconded the motion to approve the February 21, 2007 minutes. Ayes-5. Noes-0. Carried.

Supervisor Nolan presented the new Sesquicentennial transfer station stickers that will be available in the Town Clerk's office.

Sheriff of Erie County Timothy B. Howard arriving on horse back with the formal delivery of Proclamations honoring the Sesquicentennial which are as follows:

Sheriff of Erie County Timothy B. Howard presented the following Citation  
Whereas, the Town of Elma is celebrating its 150th year of its founding on March 7,

2007 at the Hurd house where the first Town meeting was held in 1857, and this meeting is to honor its founders and Elma's 150 years of progress; and Whereas, established in February 1821, the Erie County Sheriff has been embodied with protecting itÆs citizens, with Grover Cleveland as Erie County Sheriff in 1871 and later became President of the United States; and Whereas, through the 150 year history of this great community the Erie County Sheriff has had the honor of protecting the community and its residents; and Whereas, In celebration of the rich history, and the pride its residents have in their town, and the welcome the SheriffÆs department has received in this community, therefore, be it, Resolved, that as elected Sheriff of the County of Erie, in the State of New York, I, Timothy B. Howard do hereby cite the Community of Elma, during this historic Town event, and wish you a safe celebration during the, 150TH CELEBRATION OF THE TOWN OF ELMA

Councilman Powers presented the following County of Erie Proclamation  
Whereas, on Wednesday, March 7, 2007 the Town of Elma will celebrate the great milestone of their 150th Sesquicentennial Anniversary; and Whereas, an official Town Meeting will be held to formally start the celebration at the Hurd House in Elma, New York, which is the site of the first town meeting in 1857; and Whereas, the town of Elma was split from the Towns of Aurora and Lancaster, encompassing 36 square miles with two major waterways, the Buffalo Creek and Cazenovia Creek, Elma sits squarely in the center of Erie County and can safely call itself the ôHeartö of Erie County; and Whereas, over 11,304 residents call Elma home, as does Iroquois Central School, one of Western New YorkÆs top rated school systems, and Elma Meadows Golf Course, one of Erie CountyÆs top public courses, residents enjoy spending time with their family and friends at two of ElmaÆs parks, the Elma Village Green and Creek Road Park; and Whereas, the celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the Town of Elma is a wonderful achievement for all those hard working individuals who have helped make the Town a great success; Now, Therefore, I Joel A. Giambra, Erie County Executive, in honor of the celebration of the 150th Sesquicentennial Anniversary of the Town of Elma, do hereby declare, Wednesday, March 7, 2007 ôTOWN OF ELMA DAYö In this Majestic County of Erie, of the Great State of New York, The Empire State.

Councilman Polak presented the following Citation from Governor Spitzer  
Whereas, a celebration of pride and public acknowledgement of a communityÆs place in the history of the Empire State draws our citizens together to share a special moment-one which will preserve our rich heritage today and for generations to come; this occasion

presents such a moment and an opportunity to participate in a rare event as we join in the 150th Anniversary celebration of Elma, New York; and Whereas, the citizens of New York State are proud to have such a prominent role in the American Dream and the success which has earned our State worldwide distinction; the true greatness of any community is found in its residents and the various social, cultural, economic and spiritual associations that bring people together; these cherished relationships are an enduring source of human progress and fulfillment that we all benefit from; and Whereas, it is recognized by the citizens of the Empire State that each town and village has a singular history that is a outgrowth of events and experiences unique to that period in our State and nation; the rich legacy of Elma includes past events which have helped shape its present day existence; as witness to those earlier years, rich in tradition and heritage, Elma has contributed to the history of this great State; and Whereas, those persons who have the opportunity to visit Elma are certain to be delighted in discovering its glory; this occasion is one of pride and glory for all those who have reserved a special place in their hearts for Elma and is a fitting tribute to the history of a town that has significance for all of new York State's citizens; and Whereas, best wishes are extended to everyone who has had the privilege to live in and know the Town of Elma and all it has to offer; as the town celebrates its sesquicentennial with appropriate festivities, the citizens of the empire State join in congratulating their fellow citizens of Elma on this special occasion; Now Therefore, I Eliot Spitzer, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby cite THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE TOWN OF ELMA and join to congratulate al of its citizens as they commemorate this milestone.

Councilman Puleo presented the Congressional Record, House of Representatives remarks by the Honorable Brain Higgins

Mr. Higgins. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the rich history of the Town of Elma, New York and wish to congratulate the Town on its 150th years of excellence. The Town of Elma has been noted as the "Heart of Erie County" not only for its geographical placement but for the pivotal role Elma has played in Western New York's history, economy and future. The Town of Elma is named after a large Elm tree that stood at the corner of Bowen Road and Clinton Street. It is a town of over 11,000 residents and is home to one of the highest ranking school districts, Iroquois School District, in Western New York. March 7th, 2007 will bring the 150 year anniversary of the very first Board meeting in the Town of Elma, and in memory of the Towns founders the Town Board will meet in the same historical building that the very first Town Board meeting was held, The Hurd House, which is now the town's museum. Mr. Speaker, it is with great

pleasure and gratitude that I stand here today to recognize the town of Elma on their 150th anniversary and wish the Town Board and Elma residents continued success in the years to come.

Councilwoman Glownia presented the following from Honorable Hillary R. Clinton  
Dear Friends: I am very pleased to send greetings to everyone celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Town of Elma, New York. With the Town Board conducting its business meeting on this historic day in the former home of Clark W. Hurd, the site of the first town meeting, you honor the founding fathers vision and struggle to create a community in the heart of Erie County. As you enjoy today's ceremonies you recognize the commitment and hard work that continues to make Elma a special place to live. I send my best wishes for a wonderful time of celebration Happy Birthday Elma!

New York State Assemblymen Michael A. Cole presented a Legislative Resolution from the State Senator Volker and Mr. Cole commending the Town of Elma upon the occasion of its 150th Anniversary

Whereas, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to honor and commemorate the proud and distinguished histories of the communities which comprise the noble body of this great empire State; and Whereas, Attendant to such concern and in full accord with its long standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Town of Elma upon the occasion of its 150th Anniversary; and Whereas, The year- long celebration of this most auspicious occasion will begin at a Town Meeting to be held on Wednesday, March 7, 2007, at the Hurd House in Elma, New York, the site of the first town meeting held in 1857; and Whereas, Incorporated in April of 1857, the Town of Elma was split from the Towns of Aurora and Lancaster; encompassing 36 square miles, with two major waterways, the Buffalo Creek and Cazenovia Creek, Elma sits in the center of Erie County and is often called the "Heart" of the County; and Whereas, Over 11,304 residents are proud to call Elma home, as does Iroquois Central School, one of Western New York's top rated school systems; residents enjoy spending time with their family and friends at two of Elma's parks, the Elma Village Green and Creek Road park; there are also athletic fields, the Elma Meadows Golf Course, a Senior Center, Town Museum and Public Library; and Whereas, The Town of Elma has a vibrant business community anchored by large firms such as Moog Valve, Steuben Foods and Servotronics; the heart of the town is the retail plaza located in the center of town, as well as several restaurants located throughout the town and many small businesses that

provide resident with multitude of services; and Whereas, While the backbone of the Town has been traditional farming, horse farms are becoming more prevalent; nurseries and greenhouse operations provide great color in the Town, and also provide the stock for several larger nurseries in the area; and Whereas, There is a wealth of treasures in Elma, some historic, some educational and other recreational; the residents of this great town pride themselves on creating a beautiful community in which to live and raise a family; and Whereas, In recognition of the Town of Elma's rich history and enduring contribution to the State of New York, this Legislative Body is proud to pay tribute to this spirited town upon the occasion of its 150th Anniversary; now, therefore, be it Resolved That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Town of Elma upon the occasion of its 150th Anniversary, recognizing the significance of the role it continues to play in the life of the community of the State of New York; and be it further Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Town of Elma

Erie County Legislature Kathy Konst presented the following

Whereas, the Town of Elma situated a little northeast of the center of the county with Lancaster on the north, Marilla on the east, Aurora on the south, and West Seneca and East Hamburg on the west, and Whereas, Elma was the last town formed in Erie County, and Whereas, The Town of Elma was formed from parts of the towns of Aurora and Lancaster, and Whereas, Because of its location, Elma is referred to as the "heart of Erie County", and Whereas, On March 7, 1857, prominent officials from the area met at Mr. Clark Hurd's house to organize the new town, and Whereas, at the first town meeting a resident suggested that the town be named after the famous American elm tree that was growing in the town on the corner of Clinton and Bowen roads, and Whereas, Paul B Lathrop was elected the first town supervisor at that meeting also, and Whereas, March 7, 2007 the Town of Elma is celebrating the town's sesquicentennial, and Whereas, It has been 150 years since the Town of Elma had its first meeting at Mr. Hurd's house, and Whereas, Tonight Elma's Town Board meeting will be the kick off of Elma's Sesquicentennial year long celebration at the Elma Historical Museum which was the site of the first Town Board meeting, Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that Legislator Kathy Konst and the members of the Erie County Legislature do hereby pause in their deliberations to recognize the Town of Elma, and be it further Resolved, that this Honorable Body joins area communities throughout Erie County in celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the Town of Elma, "the Heart of Erie County"

Councilman Puleo made the motion and Councilman Powers seconded the motion to accept the following Proclamation: Whereas, On march 7, 1857 a group of men gathered in the home of Clark W. Hurd to establish a new Town within the County of Erie in the State of New York called ôElmaö Whereas, The Town of Elma was created from parts of Lancaster and Aurora encompassing 36 Square miles and bordered by the Town of Marilla to the East, Village of Lancaster to the North, Town of West Seneca to the West and Town of Aurora to the South and centered with the County of Erie, and, Whereas, Since that time, the Town of Elma has enjoyed a steady, regular growth but has maintained those qualities of place and people which make life rich and rewarding and, Whereas, the Town of Elma this year is celebrating its Sesquicentennial with numerous civic, cultural and recreational activities, including fireworks, parades, and family related activities; now, therefore, be it, Resolved, On this day of march 7, 2007 the Town Board of the Town of Elma does hereby extend its whole-hearted and sincere congratulations to the town of Elma. In Honor of our founding fathers and their struggle in creating the Town of Elma, we herby proclaim the year 2007 as: ELMAÆS SESQUICENTENNIAL YEAR and urges all its residents and friends to participate in and contribute to the commemorative activities and events of this memorable occasion.  
Ayes-5. Noes-0. Carried.

Supervisor Nolan presented Certificates of Participation to all of the Town Board members with Deputy Supervisor Puleo presenting same to Mr. Nolan.

Next Work Session will be March 14, 2007 at 6:00PM.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:35PM with refreshments served at the Senior Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia King  
Town Clerk