

State of New York
County of Fulton
Town of Stratford

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Stratford Town Board held on **Thursday, January 12, 2012** at the municipal building located at 120 Piseco Rd.

Present:

Robert Johnson Jr.	---	Supervisor
Allan Perkins	---	Councilman
Bernard Leavitt	---	Councilman
Dawn Youker	---	Councilwoman
Lorraine Rumrill	---	Councilwoman
Mark Snowman	---	Superintendent
Diana Massicotte	---	Town Clerk

Supervisor Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:30 with the Pledge to the Flag.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Allicia Rice said she thought the formula for the school taxes was complicated. The business administrator said they were looking at 2.8% cap. The school budget has not yet been set.

Larry Rumrill said there was a camp trailer on Avery Road that should be removed because it is a hazard. Leigh Anne reported that Bus No. 89 was on the wrong side of the road when letting off school children. Councilwoman Rumrill said the phone number that is on the back of the bus should be called and the incident reported.

Ginny Cool asked about the insurance for the employees. Supervisor Johnson said there would be a meeting the first part of February with the Insurance Representative.

Leigh Anne asked about the executive session at last meeting. Supervisor Johnson said there was pending HUD litigation on the Pulgar property.

REPORTS

The Treasurer's Report for November and December was handed out.

Supervisor Johnson read the CEO's report as follows:

The Code Enforcement Officer issued five certificates of compliance. He made several follow-up inspections and several code-related phone calls. He referred one resident to APA for approval before he could issue a permit.

He reported that he completed his NYS mandated hours of continuing education to remain a Certified Code Enforcement Official. These hours were completed at no cost to the town as his full-time employer pays for the training classes.

Assessor Loucks gave her report as follows:

She will be attending a continuing education class, sponsored by the NYSAA January 27 in Johnstown. Exemption forms are being returned. She will be sending out reminder postcards to all who have not returned their application yet. She will pick up any forms from taxpayers if they are unable to drive during the winter.

The Town Board will need to make a decision whether to do a full re-evaluation of the Town this year. Assessor Loucks gave the members of the Board a copy of the publication regarding the RFP process for Assessment contracts. If the re-evaluation is decided, she would like to have a meeting during the last week of January so the Town Board can review the Specs for the project and issue the RFP so bids can be received in February. Assessor Loucks said she hoped to get rolling on this project by March. There are 947 parcels. The parcels will be assessed at 100% rather than the 60% they are at now.

Superintendent Snowman gave his report for the week of January 1, 2012. The workmen started sanding the roads at 4:30 am. Trees and brush were cut along Piseco and Red House Roads, cleaned up and dead and hazardous limbs were chipped.

Superintendent Snowman checked into the possibility of an outside wood boiler. He received quotes from North Creek and A Tech Heating. The Board decided to table this discussion until they looked into it further.

RESOLUTION 6-2012

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT LOCAL LAW 10 FOR HAZARDOUS TREES IN TOWN

On a motion **by** Councilwoman Rumrill, seconded by Councilman Leavitt the following resolution was **ADOPTED** Ayes 5 Johnson, Rumrill, Youker, Leavitt, Perkins
Nays 0

WHEREAS, the Town of Stratford Town Board adopted Local Law 10 regarding the trees along the Stratford Roads which may cause a hazard during storms by bending into the roadways,

RESOLVED, Superintendent Snowman use his discretion to cut down the trees or branches that hang over the road during the winter causing hazardous driving conditions in the Town of Stratford.

On a motion by Councilwoman Rumrill, seconded by Councilman Perkins, approval was granted for Superintendent Snowman to buy a dump trailer which would be more efficient and economical to use than the large dump truck.

Ayes 5 Johnson, Rumrill, Youker, Leavitt, Perkins
Nays 0

OLD BUSINESS

The Dolgeville Masonic Lodge sent a thank you note to the Town for their contribution to their annual Christmas Party for the children.

NEW BUSINESS

Supervisor Johnson read a letter from the Association of Towns announcing a training meeting to be held in New York City for newly elected and appointed officers.

There was a discussion regarding the hiring of employees who have retired. Supervisor Johnson talked to the Union Representative and the Union Lawyer. The retiree can only make up to a predetermined amount of money from his pension, after reaching that amount, he would have to stop working or pay back the overage. The lawyer said that if he is working more than part time, then he is entitled to all the benefits same as the other employees. Supervisor Johnson said he was waiting for more information from the Union lawyer.

Councilman Leavitt said it would be a good idea to train the employees to fill in on other jobs. Superintendent Snowman said that he has a good crew and they are all willing to learn.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motions made by Councilman Perkins, seconded by Councilman Leavitt to approve the Board meeting minutes of December 8, 2011 and the reorganization minutes of January 5, 2012.

Ayes 5 Johnson, Rumrill, Youker, Leavitt, Perkins
Nays 0

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

Motion made by Councilwoman Rumrill, seconded by Councilman Perkins to approve the bills on Abstract #1

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Johnson, Rumrill, Youker, Leavitt, Perkins
Nays 0

RESOLUTION 7-2012

RESOLUTION TO CONDUCT A TOWN-WIDE REASSESSMENT PROJECT FOR THE 2013 TOWN OF STRATFORD TAX ROLLS

On a motion by Councilwoman Youker, seconded by Councilwoman Rumrill the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Johnson, Rumrill, Youker, Leavitt, Perkins
Nays 0

WHEREAS, the Town of Stratford Town Board authorized a Town-wide Reassessment Project to commence for the Town of Stratford, County of Fulton, State of New York.

RESOLVE to conduct a Town-wide Reassessment project in accordance with NYSORPTS and NYSRPTL standards and practices, to be completed and implemented for the 2013 Tax Roll for the Town of Stratford.

With no further business, on a motion by Councilman Perkins, seconded by Councilwoman Rumrill, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Massicotte
Town Clerk