

State of New York
County of Fulton
Town of Stratford

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Stratford Town Board held on Thursday, June 14, 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 |
| Leigh Anne Loucks | --- | Assessor |
| Lita Hillier | --- | Bookkeeper |
| Dave Rackmyre Jr. | --- | Code Enforcement Officer |

Supervisor Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm with the Pledge to the Flag.

Residents attending – Judy Snowman, Peter and Mary Szczebak, Gary Rumrill, Peg Klages, Dorothy and Henry Eifert, Carolyn Walker, David Cool, Ken Thompson, Jim Hine, Allicia and Frank Rice.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Carolyn Walker asked if the Stratford Seniors could put up a display cabinet for their trophies which she had displayed on the table for all to see. Board agreed, it was okay. Carolyn Walker, president of the Historical Society, asked if the Board would write checks ahead of time for the music in the gazebo. The checks have to be written through the Town because the grant was awarded to the Historical Society through the Town for the summer music in the gazebo.

Allicia Rice reported that the School Budget was approved 235 to 90. There are thirty Oppenheim students attending Dolgeville which is out of the Dolgeville School District and Oppenheim will not be charged tuition. Supervisor Johnson felt the Dolgeville students should have preference over the Oppenheim students for sports and other activities. Allicia also asked if the Town, along with the Fire Department, would agree to go in on a sign outside the Transfer Station, but on the Fire Department property, to announce special events and happenings in Stratford. She said since most residents go to the Transfer Station, it would be a good place to post information. Supervisor Johnson agreed it was a good idea because more residents would see the information.

Leighanne Loucks asked if we needed permission from the APA to borrow money for the Highway Department. Bookkeeper Hillier said based on the amount of our revenue, we could borrow \$45,000, otherwise, it would have to go out to permissive referendum. This was brought up because of the new piece of equipment that was purchased by the Stratford Highway Department.

Dorothy Eifert complained about the posting of the meeting that was changed in May from Thursday to Tuesday. Supervisor Johnson said it was legally posted in the two newspapers. While it is usually posted around Town, it was not done due to an oversight on the part of Town Clerk Massicotte.

Supervisor Johnson asked Peter Szczebak about the BTI program. He said they would need two more applicators for next year. He mentioned that there is no more weed spray in Stratford.

REPORTS

Assessor Loucks reported that Maxwell Appraisal has begun data collection. He has found significant differences in what we have on file as compared to what is actually on the properties. She would like to have a meeting with the Board and CEO to review the building permit procedure and make changes where necessary. There was an informational meeting with Mr. Maxwell held on June 5 with approximately 60-65 people attending. There was also a representative from NYSORPTS. Approximately 400 data letters have been returned to date, with only a small number of refusals for entrance onto the property. Assessor Loucks said Maxwell was collecting the data and she was entering it into the system.

Five residents came to Grievance Day to contest their assessments, as well as some stipulations and changes. The new BAR, Peg Klages and Brian Alling did a great job and their service is greatly appreciated.

A 2010 SCAR has come up again. The attorney for the aggrieved party believes his client is owed additional refunds. Assessor Loucks has spoken to Town Attorney Day and delivered the needed paperwork to his office. She will be meeting with Attorney Day on Monday, June 18, at 12:30.

Assessor Loucks requested that she receive a copy of the monthly financial report and a copy of the General Fund Abstract to reconcile her accounts.

CEO Rackmyre reported the following new permits were issued:

| | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 220 W. Shore Rd. | Deck Repair |
| 20 W. Shore Rd. | Enclose existing porch |
| 6014 St. Hwy 29A | Deck |
| 6101 St. Hwy 29A | Roof and wall repair |

Three Certificates of Compliance were issued.

Tickets were issued to the following addresses:

2316 Co Hwy 119
5673 St Hwy 29
154 Redhouse Rd.

CEO Rackmyre made several code related phone calls and follow-up inspections. He said some of the residents who are in violation requested more time to demolish the buildings and others have begun demolition.

CEO Rackmyre had an issue on Stewarts Landing Road. He contacted APA and they sent the property owner a letter demanding resolution. There is also an issue at 6101 29A that APA will investigate. I referred another resident to the APA.

Supervisor Johnson asked Town Clerk Massicotte about her new hours. She said Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday will remain the same. The Office will be closed on Saturdays.

Superintendent Snowman gave the following report for May:

Equipment

Mark and Jim picked up the screening plant from Jersey Field. Charlie will be servicing and greasing it. He is also fixing the brakes on truck #6. Roy, Lenny and Bill are painting and repairing it. Roy washed the pickup and big truck. Tailgate and bumper fixed on pickup. Charlie is putting new spring teeth on the rake. Charlie is welding the plow wing. Charlie is working on loader leveler for better bucket control.

Roads

Raked Dugway Road. Men are drawing gravel to the Town Barn from George's pit. First day 25 gallons of fuel was used to draw 23 loads of gravel.

Did a bridge inspection on Piseco Road at East Canada Creek. A blow down was cut off of Piseco Road.

Called for a power pole replacement at Pleasant Lake. Men went to Pleasant Lake to cut wood, the road is being widened for a turn around. Several trees cut from East Shore Road to widen it. West Shore Road – cut trees, chipped brush and removed stumps. Moved D-6 to East Shore Road to assist in stump removal. Swept roads. Finished East Shore Road – widening, cleaned ditches and cut shoulders, now needs graveling.

Road check at Stewarts Landing. Did road check due to heavy rains, culvert pipe was overflowing on roads.

Jim graded the upper end of Dugway Road. Also, did a pipe replacement on Dugway Ext.

Garage

Lenny and Roy are trucking in gravel to screen. Jim is chipping more brush away from the area for the sand pile. Mark, Roy and Jim cutting trees for new plow turnaround. Wood brought back to town barn.

Miscellaneous

Mark and Bill cleaned sand off firehouse lawn. Mark went to Fiacco's to get tubes for tires. Took two batteries to Poland, one OK, other bad.

Ironside came and got the last dumpster.

Ordered 300 Tons of salt.

Charlie, Jim Bill Roy and Lenny attended M-SHAW classes, 7 hour training of gravel screening.

Bookkeeper Hillier handed out the Treasurer’s report. She said to utilize the grant money by the Historical Society, there would have to be a new line item added to the budget.

RESOLUTION 13-2012

RESOLUTION TO DISPERSE GRANT MONEY FOR BAND CONCERTS

On a motion by Councilman Perkins and seconded by Councilwoman Rumrill the following resolution was

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

WHEREAS, the Historical Society received a Grant from Saratoga Arts toward the band concerts,

RESOLVED, that the Bookkeeper amend the 2012 General Fund Budget to raise revenues and appropriations to use Historical Grant monies received from Saratoga Arts toward band concert costs as follows:

| | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| A510 – Estimated Revenues | \$1,800.00 |
| (A3089.2 Historical Grant) | |
| A960 – Appropriations | \$1,800.00 |
| (A8989.4 Band Concerts) | |

Bookkeeper Hillier made one correction to her report. The \$63.00 under City National Savings, Account DA0201.2 is to be added to Adirondack Bank, Account DA0201.5.

OLD BUSINESS

Supervisor Johnson asked Superintendent Snowman about the outdoor furnace being used at the Firehouse, but he said it would be too much of a burden on the furnace.

Supervisor Johnson asked Leigh Anne Loucks if the Dog Warden had come to her home, she said that she had and the dog was up to date on all shots. He advised her that when something like this happens to write down all information.

Superintendent Snowman said the excavator would be delivered the first or second week in July. If it doesn’t come in, he will check into a rental.

NEW BUSINESS

Bookkeeper Hillier suggested to Supervisor Johnson that a resolution for chips be voted on next month after the chip money is in. This would be a resolution for the financial part only.

Motion made by Councilwoman Rumrill, seconded by Councilman Perkins to purchase a Canon reconditioned copier, including the maintenance package from Derby Equipment for the Town Office Building. The copier cost \$1,295.00 and the maintenance package is \$240.00 for the year.

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

Motion made by Councilwoman Rumrill, seconded by Councilman Leavitt to have Superintendent Snowman purchase the mandatory stop signs.

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

Supervisor Johnson said the bidding for the black top in this area was sent out by the State and Hanson Aggregates received contract. Supervisor Johnson felt the Town is better off having the black top go out for bid. The cost is \$90,000 for one mile of road.

Mr. Cool asked about the new road coming out of the Town Garage. Superintendent Snowman said he was waiting to hear from DOT and APA regarding the permits he submitted. Supervisor Johnson said if Superintendent Snowman found a safer way of loading and fueling the trucks then that was his job. Supervisor Johnson said he trusted the Superintendent's judgment. In the meantime, the driveway has been barricaded until further developments.

Supervisor Johnson said anything the Town spends over \$10,000 for equipment has to go out for bid.

Peter Szczebzk asked if it was our responsibility to put up signs in the Adirondack Park. It is our responsibility.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Councilman Perkins, seconded by Councilman Leavitt to approve the Board meeting minutes of May 8, 2012.

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

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

Motion made by Councilwoman Rumrill, seconded by Councilman Leavitt to approve the bills on Abstract #6.

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

Bills to be paid in the following amounts:

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| Highway Fund | Voucher Nos. 63 through 75 | \$4,857.71 |
| General Fund | Voucher Nos. 88 through 105 | \$5,012.08 |

With no further business, on a motion of Councilman Perkins, seconded by Councilman Leavitt, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Massicotte
Town Clerk