

State of New York  
County of Fulton  
Town of Stratford

Minutes of the Stratford Regular Board meeting held on Thursday, October 13, 2016 at the municipal building located at 120 Piseco Rd.

Present:

Allicia Rice	---	Supervisor
Allan Perkins	---	Councilman
Richard Fogarty	---	Councilman
Lorraine Rumrill	---	Councilwoman
Joan Ploss	---	Councilwoman
Charles Goodwin	---	Superintendent
Diana Massicotte	---	Town Clerk
Norman Wright	---	Code Enforcement Officer
Janet Dickson	---	Deputy Town Clerk
Peg Klages	---	Deputy Town Clerk

Absent:

Leigh Anne Loucks	---	Assessor
Karen Jaquay	---	Dog Control Officer
Michael Sokira	---	BTI Director

Supervisor Rice called the regular Town Board meeting to order at 6:30 pm with the Pledge to the Flag.

Residents in attendance: Heidi Christiansen, Ken Thompson, Gary Rumrill, Mary and Peter Szczebak, Pearl and Joseph Serbaniewicz, Carolyn Walker, Susan Fogarty, Caroline Drake, Deborah Blood, Devon Blood, Jean Doyle, Gary Ford, Janie Goodwill-Rogers, Michael Goodwill, and Mary Beth Salomone.

Supervisor Rice reported that the Dog Control Officer Inspection Report completed on September 22, 2016 was rated "Satisfactory". Karen Jaquay doing great job.

Kevin Wood from DEC is coming tomorrow to inspect old land fill site located south of 29A and 1-1/2 miles from Pleasant Lake.

**REPORTS**

Highway Superintendent Goodwin reported as follows:

- Black patch on Power House and Stewart Landing Roads.
- Work on Allen Road, cut shoulders, cut some trees on road and ditched the road.
- Put pipe in on Piseco Road on the dirt road by the wide water and lower the pipe on the dirt by the big bridge.

Went to Mohawk Valley Freightline to get the truck back for engine light on.  
Put shoulder down on Mallet Hill, Piseco and Mike Smith Roads.  
Black patched the intersection of Mallet Hill Road and Route 29A.  
Fix spring in truck #9, 2014. Fixed Truck #7, 2002 with new radiator.  
Put new battery in D5 Cat bulldozer.  
Hauled sand in from sandpit.

Superintendent handed in a report for the cost of hauling millings.

Superintendent Goodwin stated that the Log truck sold for \$8,200.00, the screen is still on the auction site, offered bid of \$10,100.00, Charlie asked if they would consider \$15,000, Ephratah offered a bid of \$11,000.00 which Charlie would like to accept if nothing comes higher in bidding. Ephratah helps the town put in shoulders.

Councilman Fogarty asked Superintendent Goodwin if he could have a list of the roads from the worst up to ten. He thanked the Superintendent for the information on the millings.

CEO Norman Wright's report as follows:

September 6 – October 10, 2016

Nine inspections  
Three meetings  
Issued eight permits  
Issued one stop work order  
One court appearance  
Many Phone calls

CEO Wright said he is still working on the illegal septic system that was put in 2013. CEO Wright stated it would be better if residents got a permit instead of trying to avoid getting one. It is for their safety and can be costly if not applied for.

Assessor had no report.

Karen Jaquay, Dog Control Officer had no report. Supervisor Rice said the Board had a copy in their packet for the Shelter which costs the town \$1,000. After six dogs, we pay additional \$250 per dog.

Supervisor Rice stated there would be no office hours the week of October 17 because she would be at the school for Fire Prevention. She mentioned that the law would require only sealed lithium battery smoke detectors after 2017 as detectors are replaced. There is an expiration date on the detectors which is printed on the side.

For the Town's information regarding the Transfer Station, Recycling costs \$10/ton and garbage costs \$53/ton and metal is \$20/ton. Supervisor Rice stated that it was cost effective to recycle.

When the preliminary budget is passed, it will be put on the website and highlights will be in the newsletter.

Supervisor Rice stated the Board needed to have another Board Meeting. There will be a budget workshop on October 25 at 6:00. There will be a public hearing on November 10 at 6:00 pm before regular meeting.

The 2014 Financial Report has been filed with the State Comptroller but there were some errors that have to corrected, once this is accomplished the 2015 Financial Report will be filed.

Supervisor Rice said that we were in a real budget crunch and all salaries would be frozen this year.

Concerning the budget it was suggested that we cut in half what we usually give S&S. They come to all our accident calls. They charge the person they transport. They do not get the full amount from the insurance.

We provide \$500 per man to highwaymen for uniforms. The amount in the budget is just for Charlie. Councilwoman Rumrill asked if Charlie was paying dues. Councilman Fogarty asked if Town Clerk could check minutes for uniform resolution for Highway Superintendent.

Program for Aging – We give \$350 toward Meals on Wheels. They do provide meals to our residents but do not provide transportation. The balance of the money we give to the Seniors. Town Clerk Massicotte explained the Seniors use the balance of the money for trips, a little over \$1000 per trip for bus. The Seniors pay for destination. Board decided to lower the amount for Office of the Aging to \$1,675 instead of the \$3,000.

Supervisor Rice wanted to know if we should put architectural drawings and work for barn roof into the budget. Supervisor Rice and Superintendent Goodwin met with Steve Smith to go over which drawings for roof we wanted. Supervisor Rice stated we needed at least a rough estimate to include in budget. She said she would set up a meeting with Steve Smith which would also include Superintendent Goodwin, Councilman Fogarty, and CEO Wright.

Superintendent Goodwin has a cell phone which will be in the town's name.

**AUDIT OF CLAIMS**

Motion made by Councilman Perkins, seconded by Councilwoman Ploss to approve the bills on Abstract #10.

**ADOPTED** Ayes - 5 Rice, Rumrill, Ploss, Perkins and Fogarty  
Nays – 0

General Fund – Abstract 10	Voucher Nos. 97 through 103	\$ 2,315.41
Highway Fund - Abstract 10	Voucher Nos. 141 through 157	\$158,617.16
Prepaid Fund - Abstract 10	Voucher Nos. 130 through 139	\$ 5,498.02

**OLD BUSINESS**

Motion was made by Councilwoman Ploss and seconded by Councilwoman Rumrill to adopt the Policy for Acceptable Use of Town Technology,

**ADOPTED** Ayes - 5 Rice, Rumrill, Ploss, Fogarty and Perkins  
Nays – 0

A copy of the report is available at the Town Clerk's Office during her hours for any resident who would like one.

**PUBLIC SPEAKING**

Jann Dickson announced that the Seniors with the help of the Town would be putting on the annual Christmas Party December 3, 2016 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. She said for next year the budget could be lowered to \$400.

Jann also mentioned that her interaction with S&S ambulance was a very positive experience. Some of the other residents did not feel the same. The Sherriff's Department is addressing the 911 issues.

Jann stated that the budget could be lowered to \$2,000 for the Seniors, that would give them one trip instead of two trips for next year.

Resident had a question regarding reval but Assessor was not present to answer question. Supervisor Rice said we were still at 100% but it will affect our tax rate.

Peter Szczebak asked about zombie properties. Supervisor Rice said she would look into it.

Peg Klages felt that Superintendent Goodwin should have a uniform budget because he does work with the men in the field.

Caroline Drake, President of the Stratford Seniors requested storage space under the bar with locked doors being installed. She said they would still like to purchase roasters and it would be the perfect place to store them. The Board stated they had made a resolution at the last meeting that the Seniors could not have any more storage in the hall. Caroline asked if a path could be shoveled on an as needed basis so they could get to the shed. Superintendent Goodwin said he would accommodate them, just give him a call when needed.

Caroline requested permission to hold a bake sale the night of the election, November 8. Caroline said the Seniors were trying to raise money to fix up the Ladies Room.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Ploss and seconded by Councilwoman Rumrill to let the Seniors hold a bake sale the day of the election.

**ADOPTED** Ayes - 5 Rice, Rumrill, Ploss, Fogarty and Perkins  
Nays – 0

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion made by Councilwoman Rumrill, seconded by Councilwoman Ploss to approve the Board meeting minutes of September 15, 2016

**ADOPTED** Ayes - 5 Rice, Rumrill, Ploss, Fogarty and Perkins  
Nays – 0

**NEW BUSINESS**

Supervisor Rice said she went over the Judge’s books with him. She asked that the board check his books before the next meeting using the check list.

Motion made by Councilman Fogarty, seconded by Councilwoman Ploss at the request and advise of the Town Attorney we are making a motion to place the Vincelette Law Firm on retainer to work with our Town Attorney on issues involving designated aspects of tax matters involving the Town of Stratford.

**ADOPTED** Ayes - 5 Rice, Rumrill, Ploss, Fogarty and Perkins  
Nays – 0

Vincelette Law Firm are specialists in assessment issues and charge \$200 per hour.

With no further business, on a motion by Councilwoman Ploss, seconded by Councilwoman Rumrill, the meeting was adjourned at 8:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Massicotte, Town Clerk