

State of New York
County of Fulton
Town of Stratford

Minutes of the Stratford Regular Board meeting held on Thursday, May 11, 2017 at the municipal building located at 120 Piseco Rd.

Present:

Alicia Rice	---	Supervisor
Allan Perkins	---	Councilman
Richard Fogarty	---	Councilman
Joan Ploss	---	Councilwoman
Charles Goodwin	---	Superintendent
Diana Massicotte	---	Town Clerk
Norman Wright	---	Code Enforcement Officer
Janet Dickson	---	Deputy Town Clerk
Karen Jaquay	---	Dog Control Officer
Michael Sokira	---	BTI Director

Absent:

Lorraine Rumrill	---	Councilwoman
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Supervisor Rice called the regular Town Board meeting to order at 6:32 pm with the Pledge to the Flag.

Residents in attendance: Carolyn Walker, Michael Aquino, Heidi Christiansen, Nicholas Rissmeyer, Jay Pierz, Lawrence Neely, Robbie Connolly, Peg Klages, MaryBeth Salomone, Harry Jaquay, and Ken Thompson.

Supervisor Rice Introduced Representatives, Richard Sousa and Brad from MoVac who will be merging with S&S. The main office is housed in the Town of Mohawk. They are a non-profit organization. The town will have full coverage. They will operate on insurance and donations. Supervisor Rice stated we paid S&S and wanted to know if it would be transferred. Mr. Sousa said he didn't know at this time. There are three levels of pre-hospital care: ALS, BLS and Paramedic. We have fulltime workers and run 4 shifts. We want to provide a medical patrol 24 hours a day. They are working with communications and 911. The merger should happen around June. They also want to do community outreach; such as, CPR classes.

Correspondence

Letter from Association of Towns on the Countywide Shared Services Plan which discusses what you need to know about proposed shared services and transfers of function and an overview of the data on shared services: what services are shared, obstacles faced and revenue earned. The Association of Towns attorneys will be presenting free, live seminars.

Letter from DEC regarding a routine inspection of the Stewarts Landing Dam which is a million dollar project. The following observations were noted during the visual inspection:

- The right upstream embankment shows beach erosion and signs of soil movement.
- The concrete protective layer on the right downstream embankment is breaking up.
- The concrete section of the dam shows spalling, efflorescence, cracking and delamination.

This will happen in the fall so they will be lowering the water in the fall.

Letter received from Common Ground Alliance of the Adirondacks announcing a meeting on July 11.

REPORTS

Highway Superintendent Goodwin's report read as follows:

Been sweeping roads and raking on gravel roads.
 Taking 5 Ton Road signs down.
 Had new tires put on loader and rust cleaned from rims and painted the rims.
 Doing maintenance work on trucks #7, 8 and 9, oil and filter changing and greasing.
 Painting on plow wings and frame on truck and box on truck, fixing leak and more.
 Fixed some potholes.
 Had bucket on loader straightened and pin hole fixed for new pins.
 Had more trees down from wind storms.
 Cleaned up town hall lawn from winter snow and sand.

Supervisor Rice said they talked to County regarding disposing of concrete with rebar will cost \$25/ton. Councilman Fogarty suggested we should look into it further.

Supervisor Rice stated that she received the mold abatement for the town barn and it was determined it was not black mold. Most of the mold was in the break room and the Superintendent's office. Estimate from Advanced Cleaning is \$31,000. Should we repair or replace the building. Supervisor Rice talked to Tedesco's office. They sent information on grants. She received information from resident called 6 Steps to Successful Public Works Facilities. Supervisor Rice suggested setting up a committee to look in to the cost of new building and report next month; Superintendent Goodwin, Code Enforcement Officer Wright, Councilmen Fogarty, Councilwoman Ploss and a highway worker.

Superintendent Goodwin said when the health inspector came she was satisfied with what has been done.

CEO Norman Wright's report as follows:

April 11, 2017 – May 8, 2017

One inspection
 Two meetings
 Issued three permits
 One court appearance
 One school day
 Many phone calls

CEO Wright will meet with Doug Miller of APA who will explain maps.

Karen Jaquay, Dog Control Officer gave her report.

April 12, 2017 through May 9, 2017

Received a call about a missing dog. Dog was found the next day.

Went to Town Hall for a meeting with Supervisor and Town Clerk to revise dog control laws in the town. Had court that evening for violations to the town dog control laws. Owner complied with all.

Received a call about a dog off owner's property in violation of town leash law. Owner of land had pictures of dog on his property. I will be printing pictures and issuing appearance tickets on Wednesday.

I received a summons to appear before the grand jury in a pending animal neglect case that happened in our town.

Also spoke with the codes officer for our town in reference to drawing up guidelines for the proper housing and containment of dogs. This will be a new code that will be in our town code laws.

The rest of the month I was on call.

Supervisor Rice stated that Senator Tedisco is sponsoring a bi-partisan public safety measure "Kirby & Quigley's Law" to make it a "Buster's Law" felony punishable with two years in jail for harming a companion pet during the commission of another felony crime.

Mike Sokira read the BTI report as follows:

We are visiting more creeks this year throughout the town, due to the addition of the two new applicators.

Lots of high water this year. Also finding more small unnamed creeks that are not on the map. I will be updating the maps to include these creeks.

I may have underestimated the amount of pesticide needed this year. It will depend on whether or not we continue to get a lot of rain.

No Assessor's report.

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Rice stated that everyone should have received a copy of school budget. The school budget went down 0.92% but the tax levy for the town went up 1.99% because for the past few years as the previous business administrator had been warning them that they had used too much of their fund balance.

Supervisor Rice brought up the Use Requirements for the Community Hall regarding bounce houses. She talked to the town lawyer and the insurance company.

RESOLUTION #9-17
RESOLUTION REGARDING THE USE OF BOUNCE HOUSES

WHEREAS, the Stratford Town Board held its regular business meeting on May 11, 2017 and

WHEREAS, the Stratford Town Board reviewed the previous use requirements for rental of the Community Hall,

RESOLVED that bounce houses would not be allowed when renting out the Community Hall.

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Ploss **SECONDED BY:** Councilman Fogarty

ADOPTED; **Ayes – 4 Rice, Ploss, Perkins, Fogarty**
 Nay - 0

Supervisor Rice asked Larry Neely and Mike Aquino regarding broadband coverage in our area. Frontier and Newport Communications will be bidding to extend broadband to areas like ours. Residents should contact directors in these companies to extend broadband.

RESOLUTION #10-17
RESOLUTION FOR BROADBAND

WHEREAS, the Stratford Town Board held its regular business meeting on May 11, 2017 and

WHEREAS, the Stratford Town Board discussed getting broadband in the Town of Stratford

RESOLVED that letters be sent to the Directors of each company asking them to bid for broadband.

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Ploss **SECONDED BY:** Councilman Perkins

ADOPTED; **Ayes – 4 Rice, Ploss, Perkins, Fogarty**
 Nay - 0

Supervisor Rice stated that she could send out a flat to residents to respond on broadband coming to our town. She thanked Mike Aquino for all the research he did.

Supervisor Rice said that all sales tax distribution collected in Fulton County with the exception of Gloversville and Johnstown is distributed between the other towns in Fulton County according to their assessments.

All payroll figures are going through the Supervisor, then to Kelly and then to ADP.

Councilman Fogarty asked about unemployment insurance. Supervisor Rice stated that we have never paid it but she is having Kelly look into it further.

The State Comptroller received the 2015 Annual update document. Supervisor Rice received an email

with questions which she forwarded to Kelly and Lita. There will be an audit sometime during the year.

Motion made by Councilwoman Ploss, seconded by Councilman Fogarty that the voucher for Ayers Law Firm is denied.

ADOPTED Ayes - 4 Rice, Ploss, Perkins and Fogarty
Nays – 0

Councilman Fogarty questioned the voucher from Hilltop Tire because the amount was for more than the quote. Superintendent Goodwin stated that three lock rings were bad and there were inner tubes which could only be seen when the tires were removed.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

Motion made by Councilman Perkins, seconded by Councilwoman Ploss to approve the bills on Abstract #5.

ADOPTED Ayes - 4 Rice, Ploss, Perkins and Fogarty
Nays – 0

General Fund – Abstract 5	Voucher Nos. 58 through 66	\$ 1,418.03
Highway Fund - Abstract 5	Voucher Nos. 67 through 85	\$16,952.33
Prepaid Fund - Abstract 5	Voucher Nos. 72 through 87	\$ 7,194.75

OLD BUSINESS

Grants:

Bridges – Middlesprite is still yellow flagged. NY bridge money – not answering questions until July 18. Tedesco’s office said they would be out January 2018. Supervisor Rice said before the winter, we should get new estimates for the bridges.

Tedesco’s office gave Supervisor Rice some grant options for the Town Barn.

Supervisor Rice met with resident Chris Wester, about South Shore Road which is a private road. In order to apply for a Gateway grant you have to be a municipality, fire department or a 501C3 nonprofit. She encouraged both organizations of Stewarts Landing and Pleasant Lake if interested in grants to get a 501C3. The grant allows a private group with a partnership with the town. Fire Chief Alling said that even if they fixed South Shore Road, the fire department would not be going down it in the winter.

Supervisor Rice stated that when applying for grants they are listed on the website and she felt that she did not want to jeopardize their chances for the grants they would be applying for. The Board decided that they did not want to get involved with a private grant.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Tabled speed limits.

Discussion on dogs. DCO Jaquay stated that if you take a dog off someone else’s

property, you could be charged. The process has to go through the courts. The dog that is still on the property is being taken very well care of. DCO Jaquay suggested going on Tedesco's site to voice opinion. Heidi Christiansen thanked DCO Jaquay and said she was impressed with her and the town was lucky to have her. DCO Jaquay said to call State Police if they see an animal is being abused, they will then call Karen and she will investigate. She suggested taking pictures and sending it to her cell phone.

Resident said you could not see the sign for Route 104 on 29A. Superintendent Goodwin said the County is suppose to be over there trimming trees.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Councilman Perkins, seconded by Councilwoman Ploss to approve the Board meeting minutes of April 6, and April 13, 2017.

ADOPTED Ayes - 4 Rice, Ploss, Fogarty and Perkins
 Nays – 0

NEW BUSINESS

Supervisor Rice asked what she should do regarding the payment made to S&S. The Board decided to leave it be for now.

Jann Dickson announced that the annual Children's Christmas Party would be held on December 2.

Resident wanted to know if road to Edick road could be widened. Superintendent Goodwin said it was State property.

With no further business, on a motion by Councilman Perkins, seconded by Councilwoman Ploss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Massicotte, Town Clerk