

State of New York
County of Fulton
Town of Stratford

Minutes of the Stratford Regular Board meeting held on Thursday, September 14, 2017 at the municipal building located at 120 Piseco Rd.

Present:

Alicia Rice	---	Supervisor
Allan Perkins	---	Councilman
Joan Ploss	---	Councilwoman
Charles Goodwin	---	Superintendent
Diana Massicotte	---	Town Clerk
Norman Wright	---	Code Enforcement Officer

Absent:

Richard Fogarty	---	Councilman
Lorraine Rumrill	---	Councilwoman
Janet Dickson	---	Deputy Town Clerk
Karen Jaquay	---	Dog Control Officer

Supervisor Rice called the regular Town Board meeting to order at 6:35 pm with the Pledge to the Flag.

Residents in attendance: Carolyn Walker, Jay Pierz, Dorothy Eifert, Harry Jaquay, Heidi Christiansen, Gary Rumrill and Ken Thompson.

Correspondence

Letter received from NYS Department of Environmental Conservation regarding Stewarts Landing Dam stating that the scheduled renovation of the Dam for the fall of 2017 will be rescheduled. The lowering of the lake level for the 2017 season will follow the same time schedule as last year. The reason for the delay is that the estimated project costs greatly exceeded the funds budgeted for this project. Presently the structure meets dam safety requirements.

REPORTS

Highway Superintendent Goodwin reported as follows:

Did grading on the south side of town.

Pressure washed 624 JD loader to get grease off to work on it. Put in new carter pin and bearing.

Mowed Avery, Stewart Landing on south side of roads.

Hauled crushed run and stone dust and stone.

Fixed washout on Stone Pound and Dugway Roads, upper and lower and raked .

Greased trucks.

Went to Oppenheim for black topping road.

Mowed town park, town hall and Cemetery road.

Fixed washout shoulders on West Shore, East Shore, Red House and Seeley roads.

Fixed grader with new muffler. Excavator flasher and fixed lights on Truck #9.

Graded Piseco Road.

Superintendent Goodwin filed the inventory of Highway Machinery, Tools and Equipment with the Town Clerk.

The position for the Highway Department was posted in the paper. Supervisor Rice read from the Highway and Town manuals that the Superintendent has the right to hire and fire without Town Board approval. The only requirement is he has to be a Stratford resident. He hired Benjamin Rutkowski for the position. Superintendent Goodwin announced that Leonard Blood has retired.

Superintendent Goodwin is still working on FEMA paperwork.

RESOLUTION 11-2017

RESOLUTION FOR ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL BY TOWN OF STRATFORD TO UNDERTAKE SNOW REMOVAL AND ICE CONTROL FOR THE WINTER OF 2017-2018 ON COUNTY ROADS

TOTAL MILES: 8.91 PRICE PER MILE: \$5,000.00 TOTAL CONTRACT: \$44,550.00

WHEREAS, the County Superintendent of Highways and Facilities of Fulton County has submitted a contract for the removal of snow and ice control from certain designated County Roads within the Town under Section 135A of the Highway Law, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 135A of the Highway Law, this Board does hereby accept the contract for snow removal and ice control as submitted and authorizes the Supervisor and Town Board to execute the contract.

OFFERED BY: Councilman Perkins, seconded by Councilwoman Ploss

ADOPTED; Ayes 3 Rice, Ploss and Perkins

Nays 0

CEO Norman Wright's report as follows:

August 8, 2017 – September 11, 2017

Twelve inspections

One meeting

Issued five permits for shed, camp, septic system and 2 roofs

Issued one Appearance ticket

Issued one Stop Work Order.

Many phone calls

Supervisor Rice is working on an amendment to the junk law so we can charge back to the property owner the cost of cleanup when done by the Town. There have been many complaints on a resident property. There was concern regarding the stream that runs by the property. Supervisor Rice said she

would call DEC about it. Also there is concern regarding property on 29A. Supervisor Rice checked with NYMIR and the Town Attorney regarding safety issues. They both stated that CEO Wright could have engineer check property to see if it is safe to work on. CEO Wright is keeping eye on safety issues. He told resident that if walls lean out, he would have to tear it down.

Supervisor Rice suggested to the Town Clerk that our laws be put online. Clerk Massicotte said she would put them on our web page.

Dog Control Officer read her report as follows:

August 9, 2017 through September 12, 2017

Looked for 2 lost dogs. Called surrounding DCO's to advise them of the situation. I also set our humane live trap in case they returned to their owner's camp. Was unable to find or capture them. I will be returning to court on 9/19/2017 for an old case that has been pending since before 2016. At this time I will ask the judge to question the plaintiff about the number of dogs she is harboring on her property.

I spoke to the Fulton County DA about a pending case and was informed I will be testifying on October 2017.

I am continuing with the census.

I worked on a DCO job description and the new codes law.

I received another call on 2 more dogs lost. They were found by owners.

The rest of the month was quiet.

Supervisor Rice thanked the CEO and DCO for their calendars.

Supervisor Rice said the BTI Director is finished until November when he starts training again.

No Assessor's report.

Supervisor's Report

The term on the BAR runs from October 1 to September 30 for a five year term. Mary Beth will be retiring from the BAR. Supervisor Rice talked to Peter Galarneau regarding new appointment. She would like to replace her with someone from the town proper.

Thanked Jann Dickson for donating new flag for the flag pole out front.

Historical Society had their musical festival and Supervisor thanked Carolyn Walker for her work.

The Seniors had two speakers at their meeting, one for yellow dot program and one from RCIL.

Committee met to discuss job descriptions. Copies were handed out to Board members and the heads of departments. Included was the information on the new laws that were just passed. Copies of descriptions will have to be sent to County.

The school tax went down 1.21% because we have a lower tax base and our current equalization rate is 105%.

Budget requests are due today, September 14. Budget workshop is October 10 at 6:30 pm.

MOVAC will be attending our October 12 meeting to update the town.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

Motion made by Councilman Ploss, seconded by Councilman Perkins to approve the bills on Abstract #9

ADOPTED Ayes - 3 Rice, Ploss, and Perkins
 Nays – 0

General Fund – Abstract 9	Voucher Nos. 96 through 101	\$ 1,310.91
Highway Fund - Abstract 9	Voucher Nos. 129 through 154	\$107,166.70
Prepaid Fund - Abstract 9	Voucher Nos. 133 through 143	\$ 5,650.31

When the checks clear, then we will receive the chips money.

OLD BUSINESS

Supervisor Rice said she found a company that builds barn shells. We have estimate on the electrical. If anyone has suggestions for a plumber let the Supervisor know.

Working on the 2016 AUD. Councilwoman Ploss asked if bookkeeper would be attending the budget workshop. She will attend.

Councilwoman Ploss asked about having the floors finished. Precision Cleaners did the floors the last time. Supervisor Rice will check into it.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Gary Rumrill stated that there is a problem regarding a horse that keeps getting out. He talked to DCO Jaquay about the horse, she said call the sheriff. Harry Jaquay said the horse is dangerous. Supervisor Rice said she would call the sheriff to see what they could do regarding the horse.

Supervisor Rice stated that they would put an amount in the budget for emergency repairs.

Resident asked if we would have to put in a salt bin. Supervisor Rice said that eventually every town would be required to have a salt bin. Jay Pierz stated that the salt was affecting the ground water.

Superintendent Goodwin said he was going to contact County regarding the brush hanging over road on Rts. 104 and 119.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Councilman Perkins, seconded by Councilwoman Ploss to approve the Board meeting minutes of August 10, 2017.

ADOPTED Ayes - 3 Rice, Ploss, and Perkins
 Nays – 0

NEW BUSINESS

Supervisor Rice said there is a 4% tax on properties that are rented for the week or month. The residents that rent their property by the week or month have to be registered. The County Treasurer is suppose to enforce this law.

With no further business, on a motion by Councilwoman Ploss seconded by Councilman Perkins, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Massicotte, Town Clerk