

**State of New York
County of Fulton
Town of Stratford REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Municipal Building, 120 Piseco Road
December 13, 2018**

Present:

Allicia Rice	Supervisor
Richard Fogarty	Councilman
Allan Perkins	Councilman
Joan Ploss	Councilwoman
Heather VanDenburgh	Town Clerk
Charles Goodwin	Highway Superintendent
Norman Wright	Code Enforcement Officer
Michael Sokira	BTI Director
Dominic Arena	Stratford Town Justice

Absent:

Lorraine Rumrill	Councilwoman
Karen Jaquay	Dog Control Officer

Town Officials Not Required to Attend:

Leigh Anne Loucks	Assessor
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Number of Residents in Attendance: 8

Supervisor Rice called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:30pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Introduction of Justice Arena: Super. Rice welcomed Justice Dominic Arena to our meeting. She reminded the public that Justice Gardner was forced to resign for no longer living in Stratford, and Albany appointed Justice Arena to fill the position until the end of 2018. However, the one person who was voted into the justice position by write-in declined the offer. Due to this, Albany has extended Justice Arena's term until the end of 2019. The Town Board members introduced themselves, and Justice Arena updated the Town Board on the status of the court. He received a new computer from Albany, and now Stratford's court is linked up electronically with Albany. He is catching up on tickets, and has collected \$925 within the last few weeks. He stated that he hopes to have everything caught up by mid to late 2019.

Correspondence:

Cell Service Resolution: The Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages (AATV) sent Super. Rice Resolution 5 of 2018: "Resolution imploring Adirondack intercounty, AOT, NYCOM, NYSAC, and NYS to come together with a plan to provide cell coverage for all NYS residents and visitors". Super. Rice read this resolution aloud, and stated that since Stratford is a member of the AATV, no action is necessary. This resolution supports the expansion of cell service throughout NYS in areas that have little to no cell coverage, such as Stratford. A copy of this resolution can be obtained in the Town Clerk's office.

BridgeNY: Super. Rice received a letter from the NYS Department of Transportation, dated November 9th, informing Stratford that Stratford was not selected by the 2018 Bridge NY grant program to repair the Irish Settlement Rd. Bridge. However, Stratford did repair this bridge earlier in 2018 for \$24,600, and

Superintendent Goodwin stated that these repairs will last at least 10 years. Stratford is still investigating the bridge at the end of Piseco Road, which is under a yellow flag and is in need of repairs as well.

CEO Job Description: Fulton County has revised the job specification for Code Enforcement Officers. Super. Rice requested that the Board Members review the changes.

Strategic Labor Services: Butch Ventura from Strategic Labor Services notified Super. Rice on December 5th that as of March 1, 2019, his rates will increase to \$95/hour.

REPORTS:

Highway Superintendent Goodwin's report was reviewed by the Town Board (See attached). Council. Fogarty and Super. Goodwin discussed nuisance beaver trapping. Super. Goodwin stated that he has a year-round permit to take care of nuisance beavers. (N. and S. Rissmeyer entered at 6:50pm)

Code Enforcement Officer Wright's report was reviewed by Town Board (See attached). Super. Rice requested that CEO Wright give a copy of a more in-depth report with names and addresses to the Town Clerk for filing. She stated that the Department of State requested this. (J. Waldorf from NYPA entered at 6:55pm)

There was no Assessor report for this month. Super. Rice took a moment to remind property owners of the 2019 Enhanced STAR program changes, and the need to enroll in the Income Verification Program (IVP). The deadline is March 1st, 2019. She also stated that STAR only applies to one property, and it must be your actual residence.

Dog Control Officer Jaquay's report was reviewed by Town Board (See attached). The 2019 Brennan Humane Society was reviewed by DCO Jaquay and she was satisfied with its terms. Currently, Stratford pays \$1000/year to the Humane Society which covers up to 10 dogs.

A motion was made by Councilman Perkins and seconded by Councilwoman Ploss to approve the 2019 Brennan Humane Society Contract.

4 Ayes **Rice, Fogarty, Perkins, Ploss**

0 Nays

1 Absent **Rumrill**

The BTI report for this month was reviewed by the Town Board (See attached). Two BTI employees need to renew their certification in 2019. BTI Director Sokira stated he will be renewing Stratford's permit at the end of 2019, which will be good for another five years.

Presentation by NYPA on LED Street Lighting: Jessica Waldorf from New York Power Authority (NYPA) gave a presentation with a handout on the different venues that Stratford could take to upgrade the town street lighting to LED lighting. Traditional lighting that we have now lasts 5-7 years and is owned by National Grid, whereas LED lights could last 20-25 years and be town-owned. The operational and upkeep costs are reduced significantly as well with LED lights. Her presentation included pricing models for the Board Members to consider, along with a low fixed-rate financing plan. This plan involves purchasing our 18 street lights from National Grid, using NYPA to install new LED fixtures, and for any future maintenance, have a private maintenance contractor on-call. This could mean that Stratford's street lights are fixed in days rather than months, as currently National Grid owns and maintains our current lighting and have been slow to repair them in the past. She answered various questions, and after her presentation, left the meeting at 7:25p.

The Town Clerk report for this month was reviewed by the Town Board (See attached). The Town Clerk requested in her report permission from the Town Board to refund R. Locke \$75 of her Community Center rental fee from December 9th due to the condition of the Community Center.

A motion was made by Councilman Perkins and seconded by Councilwoman Ploss to give the Town Clerk permission to refund R. Locke \$75 of her Community Center rental fee due to the hall condition.

4 Ayes **Rice, Fogarty, Perkins, Ploss**

0 Nays

1 Absent **Rumrill**

Supervisor Rice's Report:

Tax Levy: Fulton County budget was passed November 28th with no increase. Stratford's tax levy increased 2.46%, or an extra .20 per every \$1,000 assessment.

Sexual Harassment Policy: Super. Rice read aloud the NYS requirements regarding an official town sexual harassment policy. Sexual harassment training is required and to be interactive, such as a computer seminar. She requested the Board Members review the accompanying policy she provided from Workforce Solutions & NYMIR. They will pick up this discussion again in January's meeting.

Financial Report:

NOVEMBER ABSTRACTS:

2018 GENERAL FUND	VOUCHERS 119-137	\$ 9,286.78
2018 PREPAID FUND	VOUCHERS 156-167	\$ 8,640.75
2018 HIGHWAY FUND	VOUCHERS 154-169	\$ 27,632.86

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Ploss and seconded by Councilman Fogarty to approve the payment of these vouchers.

4 AYES **Rice, Fogarty, Perkins, Ploss**

0 NAYS

1 ABSENT **Rumrill**

PUBLIC SPEAKING: Commenced at 7:52p

P. Szczebak asked about the Enhanced STAR program. Clerk notified the public that all forms have been updated in her office. G. Rumrill asked how the \$190,000 CHIPS money will be spent if Stewarts Landing and West Shore Rd. aren't paved; Super. Goodwin stated that the money will either be rolled over into more paving projects next year, or if that's not possible, a new truck. S. Rissmeyer asked the Clerk if the 2019 Transfer Station policy could be posted on the Town's Facebook page; Clerk VanDenburgh stated that the new policy will be posted everywhere, effective December 19th. N. Rissmeyer asked about the extra income from the increased Transfer Station decal fee, and how money is distributed from court fees.

PUBLIC SPEAKING: Closed at 8:07

OLD BUSINESS: Councilman Fogarty stated that he would like to personally pay Mr. Pohlig to finish the kitchen floor before the end of the year as a donation to the town. The Clerk will provide him with the estimate given in July.

NEW BUSINESS: Super. Rice received a questionnaire regarding cyber security. It was discussed that the Clerk's computer needs some software upgrades for cyber security purposes, and that the other town-owned computers should be assessed as well. It was decided to first contact Fulton County IT before contacting Bill Reynolds regarding this assessment.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ploss and seconded by Councilman Fogarty to contact Fulton County IT to assess town-owned computers for potential cyber-security vulnerabilities.

4 AYES **Rice, Fogarty, Perkins, Ploss**

0 NAYS

1 ABSENT **Rumrill**

On a motion from Councilwoman Ploss and seconded by Councilman Perkins, the Town Board entered Executive Session at 8:13p to discuss Contract Negotiations.

4 AYES **Rice, Fogarty, Perkins, Ploss**

0 NAYS

1 ABSENT **Rumrill**

On a motion from Councilwoman Ploss and seconded by Councilman Perkins, the Town Board exited Executive Session at 8:26p.

4 AYES **Rice, Fogarty, Perkins, Ploss**

0 NAYS

1 ABSENT **Rumrill**

With all business concluded, on a motion from Councilwoman Ploss and seconded by Councilman Fogarty, the December 2018 regular meeting was adjourned at 8:27p.

-Heather VanDenburgh, Town Clerk

REGULAR MEETING
December 13, 2018
AGENDA

1. Call to order of regular meeting
2. Introduction of Judge Arena
3. Presentation by NY Power Authority on LED street lighting
4. Correspondence
 - Cell service resolution
 - BridgeNY
 - Code enforcement job description
 - Strategic Labor Services
5. Reports
 - Highway Superintendent
 - Codes Enforcer
 - Assessor
 - Dog Control Officer
 - BTI Director
 - Town clerk
 - Supervisor: Tax levy
6. Brennan Humane Society contract
7. Sexual harassment policy
8. Financial report
9. Monthly budget update report
10. Payment of bills
11. Public speaking
12. Old Business
13. New Business
14. Adjournment

Highway Report 12-11-18

Spading And plowing snow
Cutting Trees From Ice Storm And Wet
Snow Storm
Working on Equipment And checking
Road's out And Review Dam's on Culvert Pipe

Highway Superintendent
Charles Louch

Ceo report.

nov- 6th-dec-10th

4 inspections
Issued 2-permits- porch & roof
1 meeting
Issued 2 c of c's
1 court appearance
many calls

Town Of Stratford DCO Report For
November 9th, 2018 To December 12th, 2018

1. I picked up one dog and transported it to Brennan Humane society in Gloversville.
2. I also went over and discussed the upcoming contract with Brennan. The contract is for 10 dogs and has a clause pertaining to any number over the contracted # of dogs. I believe the contract is a good one and should be signed.
3. The rest of the month has been quiet.

Town Of Stratford DCO
Karen Jaquay

Town of Stratford

Town Clerk – Heather VanDenburgh
120 Piseco Road
PO Box 186
Stratford, NY 13470
PHONE: (315) 429-8612 FAX: (315) 429-0527

Town Clerk's Report: December 13th, 2018

Town Hall: Roberta Locke rented the hall on 12/9/18. When she arrived, the community center was in disarray due to the women's bathroom renovation by Rachel Adams from the Seniors Club. Due to the clean-up she had to do in order to use the hall, the Clerk's office would like a motion from the Town Board to refund Mrs. Locke \$75 instead of the typical \$25 deposit for her inconvenience.

Financial Year-End: The Town Clerk's office has received over \$3,800 in revenue for the Town as of the December 13th, 2018 meeting. We sold over \$1,300 in conservation licenses, 111 new or renewed dog licenses, 14 building permits, and 15 hall rentals. I would like to thank the residents of the town for getting the word out that the Town Clerk can sell DEC hunting and fishing licenses- many came in to buy one on word of mouth, and we received over \$80 in commission this year alone from those sales. After reviewing my records, I will have \$609.70 extra to hand over to the Town Supervisor at the end of fiscal year 2018 that was leftover from the previous Town Clerk.

Reminder: I will be posting the 2019 Transfer Station permit policy and application on the Town of Stratford website as of December 19th, as well as posting it on the public boards. The newspaper notification will go out towards the end of December. I encourage the public to become familiar with the new policy.

Heather VanDenburgh, Town Clerk

BTI

1. Used 32 gallons of VectoBac 12AS for the 2018 treatment season.
2. 2018 spending for BTI was \$8,896.69
3. As reported to the DEC on the November aquatic insect control report, the treatment season was successful. We had very low water conditions at the end of May through the month of June. Elizabeth Hastings was unable to treat this year. Her assigned area was completed by others.
4. We have one treatment year left on our aquatic permit. It expires April 2020.
5. Current inventory of VectoBac 12AS is 18 gallons. Clarke is no longer the distributor for VectoBac 12AS. The new distributor is Adapco, located in Sanford, Florida. I will need to set up an account with them.