# State of New York County of Fulton

# Town of Stratford REGULAR MEETING MINUTES Municipal Building, 120 Piseco Road January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Present:

Allicia Rice Supervisor
Richard Fogarty Councilman
Allan Perkins Councilman
Joan Ploss Councilwoman
Lorraine Rumrill Councilwoman

Charles Goodwin Highway Superintendent

Heather VanDenburgh Town Clerk

Norman Wright Code Enforcement Officer

Absent:

Leigh Anne Loucks Assessor
Michael Sokira BTI Director

Number of Residents in Attendance: 7 (See attached attendance sheet)

Supervisor Rice called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:55pm.

Correspondence: Supervisor Rice received the February 2018 Training School and Annual Meeting for the AOT. Councilman Fogarty expressed interest, and passed on the information to the Town Clerk. They will discuss further at the next meeting.

Highway Superintendent Goodwin presented his January 2018 report to the Town Board. (See attached). FEMA quoted \$12,530.47 towards the March 2017 snowstorm, with \$2,266.89 going to Fulton County. There was a general discussion on the condition of the 2002 Freightliner. The wood boiler at town barn is in the way of snow clearing; it will be unhooked, the anti-freeze stored into drums, and the unit safely stored. The Board discussed selling the wood boiler. Councilman Fogarty requested that Superintendent Goodwin place a bucket over the pipe to the boiler pipe to protect it from water damage. The board reviewed & discussed the 284 agreement, listing Superintendent Goodwin's highway priorities for the year 2018.

Superintendent Rice, and Councilpersons Fogarty, Perkins, Ploss, and Rumrill signed the 284 Agreement.

Code Enforcement Officer Wright's January 2018 report was reviewed by Town Board. (See attached). CEO Wright stated he was still working on the Secretary of State report. A court case was discussed. The next appearance date is for February 6<sup>th</sup>.

There was no Assessor report for January 2018.

DCO Jaquay's report was reviewed by the Town Board (See attached). Supervisor Rice has made a verbal agreement with Oppenheim Supervisor regarding the use of our DCO services-should the local township be unable to contact their own DCO, DCO Jaquay will attend with that township paying for her services. Mastiff still at large on Route 104; Supervisor Rice reiterated that our DCO is unable to help capture due to the court case pending. Citizens are encouraged to call the James Brennan Humane Society for help,

Supervisor Rice will provide cell number if needed. The DCO job description has been updated by Fulton County to direct DCO officers to NOT investigate cases of animal cruelty, but call State Police when suspected.

No BTI reporting- permit was continued, paperwork remaining the same.

#### Supervisor Rice's Report:

Supervisor Rice took 2 individuals from the Fulton County Center for Regional Growth (FCCRG) on a tour of Stratford between Christmas and the New Year. She commended Superintendent Goodwin on the condition of the road, and stated it was an overall positive experience. She hopes that the FCCRG will consider adding Stratford's snowmobiling trails to their winter county promotion video. She notified the board that the State Route 29A bridge repair is currently out for bid, and construction is due to start as soon as weather permits. Fire Department discussed; Salisbury FD willing to help with calls. She is applying for state grants to repair (2) bridges, located on Middle Sprite Road and at the end of Piseco Road. Emma Baulch can only clean Mondays and Fridays. Town Clerk VanDenburgh stated she is willing to work with Baulch's schedule. Supervisor Rice wants to express gratitude to a senior for mopping up the snow/dirt mess left in the Town Hall after their weekly meeting. Caroline Walker agreed to keep her Historian appointment, but expressed that the Town should consider a replacement due to her age. Fire contract will be paid, with Supervisor Rice noting that tax season is the best time of year to pay this large bill. The Town Information Brochure is out of date, and she will be updating and printing new copies. TC VanDenburgh will be printing out a voucher schedule for Town officials. On March 15<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30pm (date subject to change), a MOVAC meeting will be held at HCCC for all official and public citizens concerning rural ambulance services. Supervisor Rice encourages the Town Board Members and Fire Department members to attend.

NYMIR Recommendations were presented. Supervisor Rice recommended that Superintendent Goodwin discuss options at the County Highway Superintendent Meeting, to ensure proper collaboration between local townships.

We are complying with the Prior Notice Law and Hold Harmless Clause.

**NYMIR Cyber Security**: Quote given of \$346.50 to purchase a cyber security policy to protect the town from cyber attacks. A general discussion regarding the cost/benefit of this plan occurred, with a consensus that the policy be purchased to protect the town from data breaches that could financially impact the Town.

Motion to purchase the NYMIR Cyber Security policy offered by Councilman Rumrill, seconded by Councilman Fogarty.

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Rice, Fogarty, Perkins, Ploss, Rumrill

0 NAYS

# **RESOLUTION 6-18 OPTING OUT OF PAID FAMILY LEAVE COVERAGE**

**WHEREAS,** The Town Board has reviewed the Paid Family Leave Coverage requirements for New York State;

**WHEREAS**, The Town Board has stated that the decision to opt-in to coverage would be made through the Collective Bargaining Agreement;

WHEREAS, The Town Board has reviewed the requirements to opt-out of Paid Family Leave Coverage;

**RESOLVED**, The Town Board of Stratford will Opt-Out of Paid Family Leave Coverage.

Offered by Councilwoman Ploss, seconded by Councilwoman Rumrill.

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Rice, Fogarty, Perkins, Ploss, Rumrill

0 NAYS

# **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

2 mistakes were found in the budget. The Assessor's salary should be corrected and zeroed out. There was also a concern of incorrect department voucher numbering, and Bookkeeper Kelly will go through the AUD for 2016-2017 years.

The annual Town Clerk and Justice audit was tabled until January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 6:30pm. At this time, the Town Board members will convene in the Municipal Building to review financial documents. The Town Procurement Policy is also tabled until the next regular meeting, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

2017 End-of-Year Abstracts and January Abstracts were reviewed by the Town Board Members.

### **JANUARY ABSTRACTS:**

| 2018 GENERAL FUND | VOUCHERS 1-6 | \$6,326.10 |
|-------------------|--------------|------------|
| 2018 PREPAID FUND | VOUCHERS 1-2 | \$541.77   |

#### 2017 END OF YEAR ABSTRACTS:

| 2017 EOY GENERAL FUND | VOUCHERS 144-155        | \$1,408.99  |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| 2017 EOY PREPAID FUND | <b>VOUCHERS 182-195</b> | \$5,992.02  |
| 2017 EOY HIGHWAY FUND | VOUCHERS 206-218        | \$11,472.81 |

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

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Rice, Fogarty, Perkins, Ploss, and Rumrill

0 NAYS

#### **PUBLIC SPEAKING: Commenced at 8:25pm**

Resident expressed concern about Avery Road's plowing to Superintendent Goodwin, but stated he is overall happy with road conditions. Comments on the new appointments and electors. Resident gave Supervisor Rice ideas to further winter video idea. Overall discussion of the meeting topics. There is now gas at the East Canada Stop and Shop. **PUBLIC SPEAKING: Closed at 8:40pm**.

December 2017 meeting minutes were discussed; Meeting minutes will no longer need board approval.

# RESOLUTION 7-18 THE APPOINTMENT OF LAWRENCE NEELY TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW

**WHEREAS,** there has been a Board of Assessment Review position vacant since the term ending of Mary Beth Salamone in September 2017;

WHEREAS, Lawrence Neely has expressed interest in being appointed to the Town of Stratford BAR;

**RESOLVED,** the Town Board of Stratford appoints Lawrence Neely to the Board of Assessment Review.

Offered by Councilwoman Ploss, seconded by Councilwoman Rumrill.

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Rice, Fogarty, Perkins, Ploss, Rumrill 0 NAYS

A public hearing date will be set for February 8<sup>th</sup> during our normal Town Board Meeting to discuss the passing of the Real Property Tax Exemption for Cold War Veterans. Public notices will be placed.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Councilman Fogarty would like to consider contract negotiations next month regarding the union.

With no further business, on a motion from Councilwoman Ploss and seconded by Councilwoman Rumrill, the regular meeting was adjourned at 8:52pm.

-Heather VanDenburgh, Town Clerk