

**State of New York  
County of Fulton  
Town of Stratford**

Minutes of the Stratford Regular Board meeting held on Thursday, September 10, 2020 at the municipal building located at 120 Piseco Rd.

**Present:**

|                     |     |                          |
|---------------------|-----|--------------------------|
| Heather VanDenburgh | --- | Supervisor               |
| Allan Perkins       | --- | Councilman               |
| Joan Ploss          | --- | Councilwoman             |
| Tiffany Rutkowski   | --- | Councilwoman             |
| Lorraine Rumrill    | --- | Councilwoman             |
| Lawrence Staring    | --- | Superintendent           |
| Norman Wright       | --- | Code Enforcement Officer |
| Michael Albanese    | --- | Town Attorney            |
| Diana Massicotte    | --- | Town Clerk               |
| Michael Sokira      | --- | BTI Director             |

**Absent:**

|                 |     |                     |
|-----------------|-----|---------------------|
| David Galarneau | --- | Sole Assessor       |
| Karen Jaquay    | --- | Dog Control Officer |
| Moira Marshall  | --- | Town Historian      |

**Residents in Attendance:** Allicia Rice, Gary Rumrill, Peter and Mary Szczebak.

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

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

None.

**REPORTS:** Given prior to September 10 meeting to be reviewed by the Town Board.

**Highway Superintendent** Staring read his report as follows:

Finished shoulder cutting and ditching project on Avery Road. Still have work to be done on some pipes.

Cut shoulders and started ditching on Seeley Road, from 29A to Allen Road. Also cut shoulders on Allen Road.

We helped Oppenheim hauling millings, also helped Salisbury hauling blacktop.

Salisbury helped us hauling gravel to the Piseco Road Bridge.

FEMA Work

The Category A work has been obligated; we should get an electronic transfer to the General Fund in the next couple of weeks.

The Hawes Road Project is in final review.  
I am finishing up the paperwork for the Edick Road Project and the Blacktop Project.  
The Piseco Road Bridge project is progressing, the new Wingwall is up and poured. The repairs to the North East Wingwall are completed.  
Backfilling is underway at the new Wingwall.  
We need to place some medium stone fill on the backside of the north East Wingwall.  
The damaged or missing pipes on the Road North of the bridge have been repaired or replaced.  
The large washed out areas have been filled.  
Some of the ditches have been reestablished.  
We still need to place more gravel, complete the ditch work and place Light Stone Fill as needed.  
We will also be placing Crusher Run on the repaired areas to bring the entire road back to Pre Disaster Condition.

**Equipment:**

We only had a few minor breakdowns, hydraulic line on the Sod Loader, Also a hydraulic line on the old John Deere Loader.  
Truck 9 was sent to Dunham's to have the Walking Beams rebuilt.  
The new Pickup is scheduled to be delivered Tuesday, September 15.

Councilwoman Rutkowski asked how old the Sod Loader and the John Deere Loader were; Superintendent Staring said the year was 1980. Councilwoman Rutkowski asked about a mileage voucher for this month. Superintendent Staring said he would combine August and September together as a final mileage voucher.

Supervisor VanDenburgh asked about the Federal Motor Carrier Clearinghouse Compliance letter. Superintendent Staring said he would set up querie plan with Boces.

**RESOLUTION #27-2020 FOR ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL BY TOWN OF STRATFORD TO UNDERTAKE SNOW REMOVAL AND ICE CONTROL FOR THE WINTER OF 2020-2021 ON COUNTY ROADS 104 AT 2.35 MILES AND 119 AT 6.56 MILES**

**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 Rutkowski

**ADOPTED:** Ayes 5      VanDenburgh, Perkins, Rutkowski, Ploss and Rumrill

**Code Enforcement Officer Wright reports:**

August 10 – September 7

Issued six permits – deck, porch, two garages, renewal, camp remodel

Many calls

**Assessor No Report**

**Dog Control Officer Jaquay's report follows:**

August 14, 2020 to September 9, 2020

I finished the add on to the Pleasant Lake Association newsletter. I enclosed a copy with this report. It reads as follows:

*To all residents and vacationers at Pleasant Lake in the Town of Stratford.*

*Please be advised that according to Ag & Mkts and local dog control laws – Section 5, subsection A. All dogs must always be leashed. You must maintain a current license and rabies vaccination. You also must be able to produce evidence of both upon request of the Town of Stratford DCO.*

*Failure to comply can result in the issue of an appearance ticket and fine.*

*Please be respectful to all your neighbors and keep your dogs leashed when out. Thank you for your compliance on this matter.*

I have also included with the report a copy of a notice I would like the Town to consider having printed. It is a straightforward message to offenders.

Supervisor VanDenburgh said she would check into having 100 of the warning notices to Dog Owners printed.

I am still working on gathering evidence from the last month's dangerous dog incident. Please be advised there is no time limit to bring this case before the Town Judge. Just once served with an appearance ticket we have just 5 days before the offender must be seen by our Town Judge.

The rest of the month was filled with evidence gathering.

Otherwise quiet.

**BTI Director Michael Sokira read his report as follows:**

Used 37.32 gallons of VictoBac 12AS for the 2020 treatment season.

The evaluation of the treatment season is rated good. Mid March start on the creeks helped a lot. Mostly low water after April. Lots of larvae found and treated.

No new permits or certifications are required for next year. I adjusted the 2021 budget to reflect that.

I have 26 gallons in inventory for next year. Will purchase another 25 gallons for next year.

The same crew (5) is ready to stay on board for next year.

**Judge** Rissmeyer submitted a copy of his monthly report showing receipt of \$50.00.

**Town Historian** No report.

Town Clerk Massicotte announced that her Deputy Town Clerk is Lawrence Neely. She also called the Board of Elections regarding November 3 election. It will be held at the Community Center in Stratford.

Supervisor VanDenburgh reported that the Sexual Harassment training has been completed with the exception of a couple employees. This will be done by the end of the year. She announced that there will be a Budget Workshop held Wednesday, September 23 at 6:30.

NYMIR recommends Cyber training for all necessary employees. We should perform periodic phishing training and exercises. Supervisor VanDenburgh will talk to NYMIR regarding the training.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Monthly budget update report was given to the Town Board.

### **AUDIT OF CLAIMS**

Motion made by Councilwoman Ploss, seconded by Councilman Perkins to approve the September bills.

**ADOPTED** Ayes - 5 VanDenburgh, Ploss, Rutkowski, Rumrill and Perkins  
Nays – 0

|                   |                        |             |
|-------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| 2020 General Fund | Voucher Nos. 103 - 109 | \$ 3,360.94 |
| 2020 Prepaid Fund | Voucher Nos. 64 - 71   | \$ 3,580.49 |
| 2020 Highway Fund | Voucher Nos. 63 - 70   | \$ 5,769.30 |

### **PUBLIC SPEAKING**

Public Speaking opened at 6:50.

Councilwoman Ploss said it was nice to meet the two young men who are working with BTI Director Michael Sokira.

Gary Rumrill asked about Charlie Goodwin's building on Route 29A. CEO Wright said it would be down by the end of the year. Supervisor VanDenburgh said they could not be added. Thanked Superintendent Staring for the good work on Avery Road.

CEO Wright asked about putting the fines on the tax bill if they weren't paid. Fines cannot be added to Tax Bill.

Attorney Albanese reiterated that during Public Speaking there is no discussion. Residents can comment but the Board does not have to respond.

Supervisor VanDenburgh welcomed back Peter and Mary.

Public speaking closed at 7:05 pm.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Supervisor VanDenburgh suggested the Shared Services Code Enforcement agreement with the Town of Bleecker be tabled until next month.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

With no further business, on a motion by Councilwoman Ploss, seconded by Supervisor VanDenburgh, the meeting was adjourned at 7:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Massicotte, Town Clerk