

State of New York
County of Fulton
Town of Stratford

Minutes of the regular Stratford Town Board meeting held on Thursday, January 13, 2022 at the municipal building located at 120 Piseco Rd.

Present:

Richard Fogarty	Supervisor
Lorraine Rumrill	Councilwoman
Tiffany Rutkowski	Councilwoman
Scott Seeley	Councilman
Todd Vedder	Councilman
Patricia Dineen	Town Clerk
Mark Rose	Town Attorney
Lawrence Staring	Highway Superintendent
Robert Knapp	Codes Enforcement Officer
Karen Jaquay	Dog Control Officer
Michael Sokira	BTI Director
Moira Marshall	Town Historian

Absent:

David Galarneau

Residents in attendance: Eight

Supervisor Richard Fogarty called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 PM with the Pledge of allegiance to the Flag.

Supervisor Richard Fogarty announced that the public speaking portion of the meeting will be at the beginning of the meeting per Roberts Rules.

Alicia Rice took the floor stating her objections to the public speaking being done first. Supervisor Richard Fogarty explained that he felt it allowed that residents who have an issue or complaint can have their time to speak without having to sit through the entire meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

HIGHWAY DEPT: The Superintendent reported that although there is little snowpack, we had many small snow events during the month. All of which were at very warm or very cold pavement temperatures. At warmer temps the snow would turn to ice, at the colder temps we stayed with it as best we could. We also had freezing rain to deal with. That being the case, we logged a lot of miles and used quite a bit of material.

Truck 9 (2014 Freightliner) is back in service with new wiring for the headlights.

Truck 10(2020 Mack) had the fan come apart and go through the radiator. It has been repaired and I am waiting to hear if it will be covered by warranty.

The F550 has had more electrical problems, currently everything is working.

We had one new employee pass his CDL road test, the other one passed his permit test. We are starting his driver training.

Weekly FEMA calls continue. We are still waiting for the engineer to finish the design for the Voorhees Rd repair.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER: Karen Jaquay reported that she transported 3 dogs to Brennan Humane Society. She was able to resolve an issue with an appearance ticket concerning a couple living in Little Falls. An additional crate was purchased and will be needing another one along with some slip collar leashes.

BTI DIRECTOR: Michael Sokira reported that in 2021, they used 28.3 gallons of VetoBac 12as larvicide. He currently has 20 gallons remaining in inventory. The required pesticide yearly report, due to the DEC by February 1 has been completed.

Our supplier can no longer sell the VectoBac 12as in the 5 gallon cases as the EPA has determined that the chemical PFAS can leach from the container into the pesticide. It is now sold in 264 gallon totes. He is working to partner with other towns in the area for a combined purchase of the pesticide. A 30 hour pesticide class was held on January 10th through January 13th along with Caroga for the two new Stratford BTI technicians which is required for certification..

He needs to get a list of all 2021 real estate transactions from our assessor in order to send out the annual letters to ask for permission to cross their property and treat the creeks if they are fast flowing water.

He attended a re-certification class on December 7th and 8th at a cost of \$120 for the course.

CODES ENFORCER: Robert Knap reported that he is almost complete with his trainings and certifications. Due to the training schedule he advised that his office hours will be Saturday's 12:00 – 2:00 pm and 2nd Thursday of each month from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm. He can be contacted by phone (315)-360-6239 or email: rknapp608@gmail.com.

JUSTICE: Judge Rissmeyer submitted a copy of his monthly report to the State Comptroller's office showing fines of \$343.00 turned over to The Town of Stratford of which \$240.00 is retained by the town and \$103.00 to the State Comptroller's Office.

ASSESSOR: He has met with incoming Supervisor Richard Fogarty to discuss assessment plans and doing field review of building permits, update assessment records in preparation of a 2023 reassessment.

TOWN HISTORIAN: Moira Marshall is working on sorting through old records and sorting them according to retention periods. She is working on setting up a date for a historical society meeting. It was discussed that she is looking into a grant for the town to maintain 4 local cemeteries. Supervisor Richard Fogarty asked that she meet to discuss what has been done so far so it can be further discussed at the next meeting.

TOWN CLERK: Patricia Dineen gave the clerks report for the previous clerk, Lawrence Neely. State, County and Local revenue was \$339.00 of which \$7 went to NYS Ag & Markets for the spay and neuter program and \$254.20 went to NYS Environmental Conservation leaving \$77.80 for local revenue.

SUPERVISOR: Supervisor Richard Fogarty asked to Thank Pat (town clerk), Janet (deputy town clerk) and Linda Gilbert (Town Clerk of Caroga) for the hours they have been putting in to get everything prepared and running with all the new officers and board members. Linda has graciously volunteered her time to train Pat and Janet on the clerk and tax systems.

The Annual Budget Report for January through December was given to the board.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

Motion was made by Councilwoman Lorraine Rumrill, and seconded by Councilman Scott Seeley to approve the payment of bills as follows;

January 2022 - General Fund	Vouchers #1-23	TOTALING \$13,314.75
January 2022 – Highway Fund	Vouchers #1-18	TOTALING \$20,990.35

ADOPTED AYES-5 Fogarty, Rumrill, Rutkowski, Seeley, Vedder
 NAYES-0

BOARD ENTERED EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE UNION CONTRACT at 7:03

Supervisor Richard Fogarty invited Heather VanDenburgh, Joan Ploss and Highway Superintendent Larry Staring to join them to clarify an aspect that they had a question about. Heather declined.

BOARD RETURNED FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION at 7:30

Motion was made by Councilwoman Lorraine Rumrill and seconded by Todd Vedder to accept the Union Contract for a 3 year period commencing January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2024 as corrected with Richard Fogarty and Scott Seeley to take over as negotiators for the contract period.

ADOPTED AYES-4 Fogarty, Rumrill, Seeley, Vedder
 ABSTAIN-1 Rutkowski
 NAYES-0

With no further business a motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Councilwoman Lorraine Rumrill and seconded by Councilman Scott Seeley.

All in favor

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Dineen, Town Clerk