

State of New York
County of Fulton
Town of Stratford

Minutes of the regular Stratford Town Board meeting held on Thursday, March 10, 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: Ten

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

Supervisor Richard Fogarty asked if anyone in attendance would like to speak.

Alicia Rice voiced her objection to increasing the Board of Assessment Review from 3 members to 5 at this time. She felt more time was needed to open appointment up to other possible candidates. Supervisor Richard Fogarty responded that due to the late time frame to get them into training for this year, the appointments should not be put off any longer. When the next position opens the board will look at any applicants interested.

Gary Rumrill addressed the board to commend Highway Superintendent Lawrence Staring for the good job he and his crew have been doing on the roads this winter.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

HIGHWAY DEPT: The Superintendent Larry Staring stated in his report that as the snow and ice events continue, the allotment of salt for the year is used up. He feels he will be able to stretch it through the end of the season. Superintendent Staring requested that the board consider increasing the salt

allotment for the upcoming budget year. He will need to submit a request for next season's salt in the month of April to OSG.

The trucks have been holding up well with the exception of a few minor problems with lights.

The break room project is almost complete. They have installed sheetrock, cabinets and a counter with a sink. The guys did an excellent job and improved the work environment greatly at a very minimal cost.

FEMA calls continue, focusing mainly on documentation for the Voorhees Rd project.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER: Karen Jaquay reported that she transported 3 dogs on 3/3 and 3/4/22 to Brennan Humane Society. Two were severely emaciated. She received information on the possible owners and has turned it over to the Fulton County Sheriff Department.

One of the dogs damaged the heavy crate. She is using it for now but it needs to be replaced in the near future. She has starting to search for a good price on a large metal dog crate usable for aggressive dogs. She will also be in need of doggie pads for the bottom of the crates.

BTI DIRECTOR: Michael Sokira reported that he has picked up 25 gallons of pesticide from Caroga and will be getting the other 25 as they empty the containers.

A check was sent to the DEC for \$450 which is the fee for certification for Kerry Pratt. Letters have been sent to the 46 new property owners requesting permission to cross and treat streams that fall within their property.

The DEC has been properly notified that Stratford intends to start treating it's creeks as soon as the ice is out.

CODES ENFORCER: Robert Knapp reported that he has completed the second 36 hours of online training course. He has issued 2 permits, responded to a residence that had a chimney fire and worked with some upcoming projects.

Mr. Knapp recommends that we raise our permit fees to match our expenses better. New pricing will be discussed with the board.

JUSTICE: Judge Rissmeyer submitted a copy of his monthly report to the State Comptroller's office.

TOWN HISTORIAN: Moira Marshall reported that the mold issue on old records stored is being addressed in the upcoming week.

The Historical Society now has a board of directors and Lorraine Rumrill as the president which now enables them to apply for non-profit classification. Lorraine asked the Town board to recognize the Historical Society as an organization within our town. All members of the board agreed.

ASSESSOR: David Galarneau was not present but sent the board and Update Timeline for assessment reviews from present through July 1, 2023. A copy of this is available at the clerk's office for your information.

TOWN CLERK: Patricia Dineen gave the clerks report for the month of February 2022. State, County and Local revenue was \$180.00 of which \$2 went to NYS Ag & Markets for the spay and neuter program leaving \$178.00 for local revenue.

SUPERVISOR: Supervisor Richard Fogarty gave a monthly board report, monthly Financial report and bank statements to be viewed.

The Annual payment was written to the Fire Department in the amount of \$70,000.00.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

Motion was made by Councilwoman Tiffany Rutkowski, and seconded by Councilwoman Lorraine Rumrill to approve the payment of bills as follows:

March 2022 - General Fund	Vouchers #24-33	TOTALING \$ 6,688.22
March 2022 – Highway Fund	Vouchers #19-38	TOTALING \$19,105.67
March 2022 – Prepay Fund	Vouchers #1-19	TOTALING \$77,179.96

AYES-5 Fogarty, Rumrill, Rutkowski, Seeley, Vedder

NAYES-0

ADOPTED

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lorraine Rumrill and second by Councilman Scott Seeley to contract Canada Lake Computer Services to maintain Town of Stratford email domain so that as a term is completed you will no longer be able to receive town emails. This will pertain to Supervisor, Town Clerk, Highway Superintendent, Codes enforcer and Town Assessor. This will be at a cost of \$150 set up and \$8 per month per email address.

AYES -5

NAYES-0

ADOPTED

We have been given a 20 day extension from the comptrollers office to have an outside auditor review our accounting ledger for the 2021 year.

A motion was made by Councilman Scott Seeley and second by Councilman Todd Vedder to employ Read Accounting Services at a cost of \$75 per hour (not to exceed \$2500.) to audit our 2021 Accounting Ledgers.

AYES-5

NAYES-0

ADOPTED

The United Public Service Employees Union has forwarded information from the Hartford Ins. Co. for Long-term Disability insurance. All of the Highway employees will pay out of their wages 100% of the premium each month.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 pm

Repectfully Submitted,

Patricia Dineen, Town Clerk