

State of New York
County of Fulton
Town of Stratford

Minutes of the regular Stratford Town Board meeting held on Thursday, September 8, 2022 at the municipal building located at 120 Piseco Rd.

Present:

Richard Fogarty	Supervisor
Tiffany Rutkowski	Councilwoman
Lorraine Rumrill	Councilwoman
Todd Vedder	Councilman
Scott Seeley	Councilman
Patricia Dineen	Town Clerk
Robert Knapp	Highway Superintendent/Codes Enforcement Officer

Absent: David Galarneau
Karen Jaquay
Moirra Marshall
Mike Sokira

Residents in attendance: 10

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

GUEST SPEAKER #1– Supervisor Fogarty introduced our guest speaker Sheriff Richard Giardino. Mr. Giardino introduced himself and presented a print out of the Fulton County Sheriff’s office Departmental statement to give people and awareness of the amount of service the sheriff’s office provides to the communities of Fulton County. He also brought signs for local businesses to display on their premises to state **LAWFUL CONCEALED CARRY PERMITTED ON THESE PREMISES**. In accordance with the new laws, a notice must be visible at entry. These signs are available from the town clerk. He spent a few minutes explaining the new gun laws and their effects. Several residents asked questions about some of the rules and he explained them.

GUEST SPEAKERS #2- Representatives of the Stratford Fire Department. Fire Chief Donald Vedder spoke about the importance of the Volunteer Fire Dept. They serve the community 24/7 for not only fire calls but they get called in for every motor vehicle accident, trees down in roadways and many other smaller incidents. Chief Vedder explained that just like everybody’s cost of living has gone higher and higher so has the cost of operating the fire department. There is training expenses in addition to the expenses of maintenance and fuel for the vehicles and building which have increased greatly.

Alicia Rice also spoke up to add that they usually are the first responders to motor vehicle accidents.

PUBLIC SPEAKING – 7:10 pm

Gary Rumrill was the first speaker. Mr. Rumrill, first of all, wanted to thank Alicia Rice for giving a monthly report on the Volunteer Fire Department. She has been giving a report since the beginning of 2022 at the board meetings and Mr. Rumrill feels that it is important for the residents and town board to hear what is going on with the fire department.

Mr. Rumrill also wanted to commend Superintendent Robert Knapp for the excellent job his crew did on the repairing of Avery Rd.

Mr. Rumrill did raise a concern about an incident that happened during the work done on Avery Rd. He stated that he witnessed a town employee operating machinery without any safety gear on. Mr. Rumrill brought this to the attention of the employees supervisor, Wade Allen. Wade corrected the issue by taking the safety gear to the employee and told him to put it on. The employee later was disrespectful and sarcastic to Mr. Rumrill because he had brought this to Mr. Allen's attention. Mr. Rumrill brought the situation to the attention of Superintendent Knapp and Mr. Knapp dealt with it.

Public speaking ended at 7:15pm

CORRESPONDENCE-none

A motion was made by Richard Fogarty and second by Councilman Todd Vedder to accept the Town of Stratford Board minutes of August 8, 2022.

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

NAYES – 0

ABSTAINED Rutkowski

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Highway Superintendent Robert Knapp reported that his crews have been working on cutting shoulders with the grader and fixing washouts as needed. They have fixed the tractor mower which has been down for a month. R&B Construction has fixed the erosion on the bridge by the town hall for about half of his original estimate due to the water level being low.

There have been some concerns about keeping Bliss Rd open for emergency purposes through the winter. Superintendent Knapp has decided that his crews will keep Bliss Rd plowed and open all winter.

Andy Bell is working on the right of way and survey variances for the Voorhees rd project.

Superintendent Knapp has spoken with a scrap dealer and they will come and dismantle scrap and haul it away for a 60/40 split. He acquired an additional quote of \$9000.00 from TNT for mounting the truck body and they are able to do it immediately. He is still waiting on quotes from Trius and Viking for the mounting but they cannot do it until next year. He stated the installation needs to move forward asap.

The equipment that was put out for auction has good offers totaling \$18,942. He is asking the board for approval.

A motion was made by Supervisor Richard Fogarty and second by Councilwoman Lorraine Rumrill to dispose of the scrap at a 60/40 split with the check being made out to Town of Stratford and deposited into account; DA2650 Surplus scrap.

AYES Fogarty, Rumrill, Seeley, Vedder

NAYES

ABSTAINED RUTKOWSKI

A motion was made by Superintendent Fogarty and second by Councilman Scott Seeley for the mounting of the truck body to TNT at the cost of \$9000.00.

AYES Fogarty, Vedder, Rutkowski, Rumrill, Seeley
NAYES

A motion was made by Supervisor Richard Fogarty and second by Councilman Scott Seeley to accept Auction Bids 1-4 and 7 totaling the amount of \$18,532.00

AYES Fogarty, Rutkowski, Rumrill, Vedder and Seeley
NAYES

Complete Bid may be viewed at the clerks office.

CODES ENFORCER: CEO Robert Knapp reported that he issued six permits for various projects and continues inspection of on-going projects. It was reported that there was a portable carport close to the road on Bliss Rd. Upon inspection the owner was told he needs to move it off the right of way as soon as possible (25" from center of road).

JUSTICE: Judge Rissmeyer submitted a copy of his monthly report to the State Comptroller's office which showed \$760.00 in revenue for the month of August, 2022

TOWN CLERK: Patricia Dineen gave the clerks report for the month of August 2022. State, County and Local revenue of \$338.60 of which \$8.00 was submitted to the NYS Ag & Markets spay/neuter program an \$22.50 was submitted to NYS Dept of Health for marriage license issued.

SUPERVISOR REPORT: Supervisor Richard Fogarty reported that the first Regional Food Bank pick up at the town hall was a great success on September 7th. At this time we provided food boxes for approximately 50 people.

He reported that Canada Lake Computer Services is moving forward with a technology policy for the town employees to sign and there is 1 more computer to be updated. He will forward a copy as soon as it is completed.

The dialing system for the Town Hall Fire system is still waiting for parts.

The Mold removal is complete and a \$600.00 credit to the balance of the invoice was given.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

Motion was made by Supervisor Richard Fogarty, and seconded by Councilwoman Lorraine Rumrill to approve the payment of bills as follows:

August 2022 - General Fund	Vouchers #104-118	TOTALING \$	4,379.27
August 2022 – Highway Fund	Vouchers #113-158	TOTALING \$	247,494.35
August 2022 – Prepay Fund	Vouchers #83	TOTALING \$	2,631.44

AYES-4 Fogarty, Rumrill, Seeley, Vedder, Rutkowski
NAYES-0

PUBLIC HEARING FOR RESOLUTION #22-2022 Qualified Abandonment of a Portion of Edick Rd
#23-2022 Qualified Abandonment of a Portion of Hawes Rd

PUBLIC HEARING DATE: October 19th, 2022 at 6:30pm

Copies of the resolutions may be obtained from the town clerks office or viewed on the Town of Stratford website.

Supervisor Fogarty would like to start a discussion about the replacement of the Gazebo. An amount of \$10000.00 was received from the insurance company. He suggested that the property should be surveyed prior to replacing it due to the fact that it has never been surveyed and true lines are not known.

AGENDA RULES-Anyone wishing to be placed on the meeting agenda must contact the Town Clerk during business hours no later than the 1st Thursday of the month and complete a form stating the subject matter to be discussed.

ALL BOARD MEMBERS IN AGREEMENT

RESOLUTION #26-2022 TRANSFER OF BUDGET FUNDS

WHEREAS, to transfer funds from the General Account number to the General Account.

WHEREAS, to transfer funds from the Highway Account number to the Highway Account.

General Account

To: A1410.11 Deputy Clerk	\$ 45.00	
From: A1340.4 Tax Collection Contractual		\$ 45.00
To: A1220.4 Supervisor Contractual	\$2315.43	
From: A4010.4 Board of Health Contractual		\$500.00
A8160.4 Refuse & Garbage		\$500.00
A1010.4 Town Board Contractual		\$500.00
A1355.4 Assessor Contractual		\$815.43
To: A1920.2 Municipal Association Dues	\$ 99.00	
From: A1340.4 Tax Collection Contractual		\$ 99.00

Highway Account

To: DA9089.8 Highway Uniforms	\$ 400.00	
From: DA5142.4 Snow Removal Contractual		\$ 400.00

Motion made by Supervisor Fogarty
Second by Councilman Vedder

AYES Fogarty, Rumrill, Seeley and Vedder
NAYES Rutkowski
ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 8, 2022

FULL RESOLUTION May be viewed at the Clerk's office.

RESOLUTION #27-2022 Climate Smart Communities

WHEREAS, The Town of Stratford (hereinafter "local government") believes that climate change poses a real and increasing, threat to our local and global environments and is primarily due to the burning of fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, The effects of climate will endanger our infrastructure, economy, and livelihood; harm our farms, orchards, and ecological communities, including native fish and wildlife populations; spread invasive species and exotic diseases; reduce drinking water supplies and recreational opportunities, and pose health threats to our citizens; and

WHEREAS, we believe that our response to climate change provides us with an unprecedented opportunity to save money, and to build livable, energy-independent, and secure communities, vibrant innovation economies, healthy and safe schools, resilient infrastructures; and

WHEREAS, we believe the scale of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions required for climate stabilization will require sustained and substantial efforts; and

WHEREAS, we believe that even if emissions were dramatically reduced today, communities would still be required to adapt to the effects of climate for decades to come,

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town of Stratford, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate, adopts the New York State Climate Smart Communities pledge, which comprises the following ten elements;

1. Build a climate-smart community.
2. Inventory emissions, set goals, and plan for climate action.
3. Decrease energy use.
4. Shift to clean, renewable energy.
5. Use climate-smart materials management.
6. Implement climate-smart land use.
7. Enhance community resilience to climate change.
8. Support a green innovation economy.
9. Inform and inspire the public.
10. Engage in an evolving process of climate action.

Motion made by Supervisor Fogarty
Second by Councilwoman Rumrill

AYES Fogarty, Seeley, Rumrill and Vedder
NAYES Rutkowski
ADOPTED September 8, 2022

BUDGET WORKSHOP-There will be a budget workshop TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2022 at 6:30 pm

TENTATIVE BUDGET-a TENTATIVE date of October 13th, 2022 at the regular town board meeting was scheduled

A Motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor Fogarty and second by Councilwoman Rumrill.

AYES 5 – Fogarty, Rumrill, Vedder, Seeley, Rutkowski
NAYES 0

Meeting adjourned at 8:48PM

Respectfully submitted

Patricia Dineen, Town Clerk