

State of New York  
County of Fulton  
Town of Stratford

Minutes of the regular Stratford Town Board meeting held on Thursday, October 13, 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  
Mike Sokira

Residents in attendance: 7

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 NYS District #118 Assemblyman Robert Smullen. Assemblyman Smullen introduced himself and wanted to inform everyone that he has an office in Herkimer and another in Johnstown for anyone wishing to speak with him. After questions from the public about some of the new concealed carry gun laws Assemblyman Smullen concluded his talk.

PUBLIC SPEAKING – 6:55 pm

Alicia Rice spoke concerning the misunderstanding as to when the budget workshop vs. budget hearing was to be held. She asked that in the future it be made more clear which is the public hearing.

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 September 8, 2022 as amended.

AYES - 5 Rumrill, Fogarty, Seeley, Vedder

NAYES – 0

ABSTAIN – Rutkowski

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

**DOG CONTROL OFFICER:** Karen Jaquay DCO reported that she had issued 2 tickets for 2 dogs at large, One Pit Bull was unlicensed. After giving ample time to license in the town, the dog was taken to Brennan and is still there. The owners did not appear at court to answer the tickets. Full details may be viewed in the clerks office or on the town website.

**TOWN HISTORIAN –** Moira Marshall reported that she attended the Kingston Convention where she learned valuable information. She also is exchanging emails with a former Stratford family to acquire information and photos to add to the historical website.

Lorraine Rumrill, President of the Stratford Historical Society thanked Moira Marshall for the great job she is doing and the historical website gains new members every week.

**TOWN JUSTICE:** Judge Nicholas Rissmeyer reported that \$1,455.00 was turned over to the Town of Stratford for payment of fines for the month of September.

**TOWN ASSESSOR –** David Galarneau reported he has been updating rolls from building permits, organizing his improved office and has been discussing issues with Supervisor Fogarty. He attended a small claims hearing on Sept 10<sup>th</sup> and has been entering sales and address changes into the rolls. He has begun sorting past exemption applications by year and by renewal. Renewals can be destroyed after 6 years. Applications may be destroyed 6 years after exemption renewal.

**TOWN CLERK:** Patricia Dineen gave the clerks report for the month of September 2022. State, County and Local revenue of \$262.00 of which \$6.00 was submitted to the NYS Ag & Markets spay/neuter program.

**CODE ENFORCER:** CEO Robert Knapp reported that he issued five permits. A stop work order was issued at 80 W Shore Rd at the request of National Grid due to safety concerns about the distance of the electrical wires to the home. After a conference call it was decided that work can continue after the revisions requested by National Grid are completed.

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT:** Superintendent Knapp reported that his crew has been repairing wash outs, cutting trees and filling potholes as needed. T&T picked up the truck body and truck for new body installation. Tony Crews cleaned up the scrap metal, the towns share was \$5491.32. The hydraulic thumb was mounted on the excavator and is waiting for some fittings to complete the project. He also met with John Persh from soils and water on the 3 large culvert pipe replacements that need to be completed. Superintendent Knapp's complete report may be viewed at the town clerks office or on the Town website.

Superintendent Knapp requested that the money from the scrap be used to pay for the disposal of the old car and truck tires on the town barn property. The fee for truck tires is \$350/ton. There are about 20 tires (approximately 100lbs per tire).

The board decided to move this request to next month after it is determined exactly how many truck tires there are to be disposed of.

**SUPERVISOR REPORT:** Supervisor Richard Fogarty reported that the next Regional Food Bank will be November 2, the first Wednesday of each month thereafter.

Mr. Fogarty contacted a land surveyor for a quote on surveying the town properties which has not been done in the past.

The total for scrap received was \$5491.32 and posted to DA2650.

There was an overpayment of \$24.57 from A. Montano, check #329426, which has been posted back into proper account.

Mr. Fogarty wanted to correct his wording from a previous meeting. The corrected statement is "Larry Staring, Highway Superintendent between January 1, 2020-April 2022 handled \$1,232,449.00 in FEMA/Chips Money"

He also wanted to clarify the usage of the Town Hall by not-for-profit organizations. Wording to be any not- for -profit organization located in the town of Stratford may use the town hall at no rental fee. Examples are boy scouts, girl scouts, Historical society, senior citizens, Food Pantry etc.

Mr. Fogarty is asking for a Committee of citizens to help make plans for the replacement of the gazebo. Anybody interested please contact Supervisor Fogarty.

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

#### AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

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

September 2022 - General Fund	Vouchers #104-118	TOTALING \$	5,456.75
September 2022 – Highway Fund	Vouchers #159-176	TOTALING \$	62,423.72
September 2022 – Prepay Fund	Vouchers #84-97	TOTALING \$	9,932.73

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

NAYES-0

A tentative budget work session is scheduled for October 25, 2022 at 6:30 pm in the Stratford Town Hall. A copy of the revised tentative budget will be available from the clerk's office after October 20<sup>th</sup> during normal office hours and available to view on the town website.

A motion was made by Supervisor Fogarty and second by Councilwoman Lorraine Rumrill to give permission to use a VISA Credit card to Supervisor Fogarty & Highway Superintendent Knapp with a cap of \$2,500.

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

NAYES-0

The resolution for NYSLRS Form #RS2417A was tabled until November to clarify some of the figures/titles.

A motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor Fogarty and Second by Councilwoman Lorraine Rumrill.

AYES 5 Fogarty, Rumrill, Vedder, Rutkowski, Seeley

NAYES 0

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm

Respectfully submitted

Patricia Dineen, Town Clerk