

State of New York
County of Fulton
Town of Stratford

Minutes of the regular Stratford Town Board meeting held on Thursday, March 9, 2023 at the municipal building located at 120 Piseco Rd.

Present:

Richard Fogarty	Supervisor
Lorraine Rumrill	Councilwoman
Todd Vedder	Councilman
Scott Seeley	Councilman
Patricia Dineen	Town Clerk
Robert Knapp	Highway Superintendent
John Ploss	Councilman
Moira Marshal	Town Historian
Karen Jaquay	Dog Control Officer

Absent:

Residents in attendance: 8

Supervisor Richard Fogarty called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM with the Pledge of allegiance to the Flag.

Supervisor Fogarty called executive session at 6:37 for interviewing the candidates for the Board of Assessment Review.

Executive session ended at 6:48 and the meeting reconvened.

PUBLIC SPEAKING – 6:49 pm

Alicia Rice stated that The Board Of Supervisors will be voting on the Tax Exempt Act for Fire department members of 2-5 years of volunteer service. She wanted to encourage Supervisor Fogarty to vote yes in 2024 when the vote is brought up.

.Public speaking ended at 6:51 pm.

Communication:

Mr. Fogarty received the Fulton County Treasurers Report of 4th quarter of 2022 sales tax showing our portion as \$90,068.84

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lorraine Rumrill and second by Councilman Scott Seeley to appoint Ronald VanVaulkenburg as Bar Member for a 5-year term from 10/01/2021 through 9/30/2026.

AYES 5

NAY 0

A motion was made by Supervisor Richard Fogarty and second by Councilman Todd Vedder to accept the minutes of the February 9, 2023 Town board meeting.

AYE 5
NAY 0

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE: They reported that they held their second meeting and it was very productive. They have decided on a building plan and are getting quotes. There was a quote from JK Lumber for materials at \$13,558.01 and they are requesting other quotes. They are hoping to get volunteers for town people. If anyone would like to help or feels they have something to assist with please attend the meeting. Next meeting was set for March 17th at 10 am. They will meet every other Friday thereafter.

HISTORIAN: Moira Marshall stated that the Stratford Historian Facebook page is still gaining every day. It is up to 298 members and climbing daily. She also stated that April 11, 2023 is the 218th Birthday of the Town of Stratford. Mr. Fogarty has been creating a room upstairs in the town hall for Moira's office and record storage. It is coming along nicely.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

DOG CONTROL OFFICER:.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY: Lorraine Rumrill nothing to report.

HIGHWAY: Robert Knapp stated we have been dealing with various weather conditions from high winds to snow and freezing rain. Equipment and truck repairs are being done as needed. He is still working with engineer Andy Bell getting the survey and right of way documentation completed for the Voorhees rd project. They have met with National Grid on the site to go over pole relocations. Andy should have the plans completed so the project can go out to bid by mid April. He stated that a decision to repair the road sweeper which will cost upwards of \$11-\$12,000 for motor rebuild and parts or purchase another. Montano equipment has two difference used sweepers for \$26-\$30,000.

A motion was made to repair the road sweeper by Councilman Scott Seeley and second by Councilman Todd Vedder.

AYES 5
NAY 0

TOWN JUSTICE: Judge Nicholas Rissmeyer reported \$100 in funds for the month of February.

CODES ENFORCMENT: David Rackmyre reported he has been dealing with code related calls and various Code inspections. He has conferred with previous codes officer to make transition smooth. He has been having email and laptop issues so Mr. Fogarty has taken laptop to Canada lake computer services to be looked at. He has checked progress on open permits from 2022 not yet expired. Mr. Rackmyre will be out of town March 9-27 so please leave message on his voicemail.

ASSESSOR: Mr. Galarneau has received sale documents from the County Real Property office and discussed an issue with two lots where inventory was switched. He met with multiple taxpayers on exemption renewals and applications. Mr. Galarneau would like to continue his request to adjust the income limits for the Senior Citizen exemption and encourage Fulton County and Dolgeville School

district to do the same. Our seniors are in a dire situation not only in this county but in general. We should focus on what we can accomplish to help our seniors.

CLERK'S REPORT: Patricia Dineen reported that \$725.00 was received in state, county and local revenue of which \$720.00 was the local amount retained by the town and \$5.00 was sent to NYS Ag. & Markets for spay/neuter program.

TAX COLLECTOR: The tax collected so far is \$875,806.96 of which \$455.95 was late fees and turned over to the Town of Stratford.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: Mr. Fogarty reported that the next Regional Food Bank will be April 5, 2023(the first Wednesday of every month).

Mr. Fogarty also stated that the county may be able to assist in helping to remove trees and limbs that are in danger of falling on lines and roads by assisting with their bucket truck. He also has started to look for an engineer to inspect the town barn for repairs.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

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

	FEBRUARY 2023 - GENERAL FUND	VOUCHERS #23-37	\$ 13,191.33
	FEBRUARY 2023 - HIGHWAY FUND	VOUCHERS #34-40	\$ 10,850.86
	FEBRUARY 2023 - PREPAID FUND	VOUCHERS #32-47	\$ 12,163.35
AYE	5		
NAY	0		

CARRIED

Old business: The Security & Fire Alarm for the Town Hall has been installed but we had problems with the system faulty alarm on the outside of the building. It is being fixed.

NEW BUSINESS: Supervisor Fogarty would like to have a discussion of transfer station policy for 2024 to coincide with the Fulton County rules and regulations.

RESOLUTIONS #13-2023 FUNDING FOR THE 457B NEW YORK STATE DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN NUMBER 0045420

WHEREAS, being brought to the attention of the Town Supervisor & Town Board that the Roth 457B plan from Nationwide Retirement has not been up to date.

WHEREAS, the program was opened in 2017 by the Town of Stratford to be used by the Highway Department employees if they so desired.

RESOLVED, the withholding for the contributor (employees) has been brought up to date. A transfer made from the HIGHWAY CHECKING to the NBT PAYROLL ACCOUNT in the amount of Five Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty-Five Dollars and forty-eight cents. This amount covers 2017-February 23, 2023, and brings their retirement premiums up to date.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be available for public review at the Town Clerks' Office during normal business hours.

Offered by Supervisor Fogarty
Second by Councilman Todd Vedder

AYES 5

NAY 0

ADOPTED March 9, 2023

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Lorraine Rumrill and second by Councilman Scott Seeley.

AYE 5

NAY 0

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Patricia Dineen, Town Clerk