

State of New York
County of Fulton
Town of Stratford

Minutes of the regular Stratford Town Board meeting held on Thursday, September 14, 2023 at the municipal building located at 120 Piseco Rd.

Present:

Richard Fogarty	Supervisor
Lorraine Rumrill	Councilwoman
John Ploss	Councilman
Todd Vedder	Councilman
Patricia Dineen	Town Clerk

Department Heads:

Moira Marshal	Town Historian
Karen Jaquay	Dog Control Officer
David Rackmyre	Code Enforcement Officer

Absent:

Residents in attendance: 10

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

Public Hearing for Local Law 2-2023 Notice of Highway Defects opened at 6:45.

Local law 2-2023 is a local law providing for written notification of defects and obstructions on town highways, bridges, streets, sidewalks, crosswalks or culverts within the Town of Stratford, New York.

A motion was made by Supervisor Richard Fogarty and second by Councilman John Ploss to adopt Local Law #2-2023 Notice of Highway Defects.

AYE 5
NAY 0

ADOPTED September 14, 2023

PUBLIC SPEAKING opened at 6:47 pm

Alicia Rice questioned if the Piseco Rd Bridge is completed and if so where is the excess money it cost to complete coming from. Supervisor Fogarty stated that the money was coming from fund balance and that the additional repair charges were for changes required by NYS DOT.

Curtis Abare was next to speak. He wanted to let everyone know that despite the fact that he was in an accident that he is still going to be on the ballot for Highway Superintendent in November. He also

stated that if anyone has an issue with him about his property to contact him directly. He stated, do not trespass on his property.

Gary Rumrill questioned the possibility of abandonment of some of the unused town roads. He felt that they should not be abandoned so that additional homes could be constructed to help raise the tax base. Supervisor Fogarty stated that many of these road have been unmaintained for years therefore would require more expense than what would be acquired by the additional tax collected. He stated that he will price it out in the future for further discussion.

SEALED BIDS for the VOORHEES RD PROJECT were opened and recorded as follows;

WOLFE EXCAVATION LLC	\$269,000.00
BP EXCAVATION LLC	\$293,764.00
JAMES H MALOY, INC.	\$309,000.00
HEIDELBERG MATERIAL NORTHEAST NY LLC	\$348,000.00
CARVER CONSTRUCTION, INC	\$269,145.00

Bid will be awarded after engineers have verified that all bids opened meet the qualifications and requirements.

Communication:

NYMIR Insurance Reciprocal EQ Disconnect Report was received asking for assurance that the vehicles stored in our town barn have battery disconnect switches and that they are used due to the costliness of the large vehicle fires when there is a malfunction. The report is to be signed and returned to NYMIR by October 23, 2023.

A BOCES Drug and Alcohol Program 6 month report was received. These reports need to be kept on file for 2 years (7 years if there is a positive test result).

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Historical Society President Lorraine Rumrill informed that there will be a meeting of the Historical Society on September 18th at 6:30pm.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS Complete department head reports will be posted on website.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER: Karen Jaquay informed the board that a town law is needed for Dangerous Dog Policy. It is no longer the responsibility of the Ag & Mkts to do. She created one and gave it to the attorney to look over. The dog census is going slow and she will continue working to get it completed.

CODES ENFORCMENT: Mr. Rackmyre reported that he continues to carry out inspections and respond to calls and emails. A letter was sent advising the owner of the property next to our park the date that the tree was removed and gave him an extension on his violation until October 1, 2023. If not in compliance at that time a ticket will be issued. Five projects were referred to APA for approval.

BTI: none

JUSTICE: Judge Rissemyer reported that he has turned over \$ 60.00 to the town of Stratford in fine money for the month of July.

ASSESSOR: none

HIGHWAY: The Piseco Road Bridge has been completed by R&B construction. Stewarts Landing road re-profiling started 9/14 and 9/18 weather permitting. Voorhees road has been trimmed and is ready for pole relocation. Any questions on the Voorhees Rd project should be referred to Staring Enterprises LLC. (Lawrence Staring) who is the consultant for the FEMA projects.

A motion was made by Supervisor Fogarty and second by Councilwoman Lorraine Rumrill to hire Staring Enterprises LLC as consultant for all FEMA projects currently open until completion at \$45 per hour, not to exceed 10 hours per week.

AYE 5
NAY 0

ALL IN FAVOR
CARRIED

CLERK’S REPORT: Patricia Dineen reported that \$515.00 was received in state, county and local revenue of which \$507.00 was the local amount retained by the town and \$8.00was sent to NYS Ag. & Markets for spay/neuter program.

A motion was made by Supervisor Fogarty and second by Councilman John Ploss to accept the minutes of the August 10, 2023 Town Board Meeting.

AYE 5
NAY 0

ALL IN FAVOR
CARRIED

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT: The next food pantry will be October 4th from 9am -11am. Supervisor Fogarty attended 3 meetings for Fulton County in August, one meeting in Long Lake for the APLGRB and 3 budget workshops with the accountant Brandon Loren.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

Motion was made Supervisor Fogarty and second by Councilman Scott Seeley to approve the payment of bills as follows:

AUGUST 2023 - GENERAL FUND	VOUCHERS # 111-121	\$ 4,516.65
AUGUST 2023 - HIGHWAY FUND	VOUCHERS # 110-109	\$ 107,750.87
AUGUST 2023 - PREPAID FUND	VOUCHERS # 95- 103	\$ 3,999.65

AYE 5
NAY 0
CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Supervisor Fogarty and Second by Councilwoman Lorraine Rumrill to accept the proposal received from David Smith for the installation of all LED lights in the Town Hall at a fee of \$6,425.00. (\$5,000 of which will be grant money.)

AYE 5
NAY 0

CARRIED

A motion was made by Supervisor Fogarty and second by Councilman Scott Seeley to accept the proposal of L&S Energy Services for an Energy Audit of the Town Hall and Town Barn at \$7,000.00. (Down payment of \$3,500.00 to start)

AYE 5
NAY 0

CARRIED

A motion was made by Supervisor Fogarty and second by Councilman Scott Seeley for the proposal of Center State Propane to install and fill tanks at the Town Hall (\$1138.30) and Town Barn (\$925.80) with no charge for the tanks.

AYE 5
NAY 0

CARRIED

A motion was made by Supervisor Fogarty and second by Councilman John Ploss to accept the proposal of Panda Roof Repair of the Town hall Roof of \$5,626.00 and to complete it before winter.

AYE 5
NAY 0

ADOPTION OF THE STRATFORD TRANSFER STATION DECAL POLICY
ONE-TWO-YEAR DECAL
Effective January 1, 2024

RESOLUTION #19-2023

WHEREAS, the Stratford Town Board affirms a formal transfer station decal policy for the Clerk's Office.

WHEREAS, the Town Board affirms the (2) transfer station decal limit and (2) replacement transfer station decal limit for a total of (4) transfer station decals for residential property, NO exceptions.

WHEREAS, the Town Board affirms the price of \$10.00 per decal for the first (2) decals issued, followed by \$15.00 per decal for additional decals. This will be a (1) year transfer station decal.

WHEREAS, the Town Board affirms the price of \$20.00 per decal for the first (2) decals issued, followed by \$15.00 per decal for additional decals. This will be a (2) year transfer station decal.

WHEREAS, the Town Board affirms an additional cost of \$3.00 per transfer station decal for lamination will be available.

WHEREAS, the Town Board affirms unimproved properties within Stratford, Campers and Travel trailers with wheels will be eligible for a ONE-YEAR (1) transfer station decal per trailer at \$20.00 per unit. Properties with Mobile Homes will be considered improved properties.

WHEREAS, the Town Board affirms the NEW transfer station decal design, along with the transfer station decal policy and application as amended above, to be used by the Stratford Transfer Station. This Resolution will replace #34-2022, December 8, 2022.

WHEREAS, the Stratford Town Board reviewed the Stratford Transfer Station Decal policy.

8. Laminated transfer station decals are available for an extra \$3.00 per decal.
9. Transfer station decal must be affixed to the passenger side window of vehicle.
10. The town will enforce all Fulton County regulations at the Stratford Transfer Station.
11. The Stratford Transfer Station Attendant (employed by Fulton County) can deny usage of the Transfer Station when the license plate information displayed on a decal does not match the Vehicles license plate.
12. The Stratford Transfer Station Attendant (employed by Fulton County) may have anyone removed if not following the Fulton County regulations and Town of Stratford's Policy.

Motion made by: Supervisor Fogarty
Second by: Councilman Lorraine Rumrill

AYES 5
NAY 0

Adopted September 14, 2023

TOWN HALL RENTAL COST POLICY
(REPLACING RESOLUTION #7-20)
RESOLUTION #20-2023

WHEREAS, the Stratford Town Board held its regular meeting on September 14, 2023.

WHEREAS, the Policy for renting the Town Hall to organizations for a fee was discussed;

WHEREAS, it was decided to allow free access to Town Hall usage to Dolgeville Central School for informational meetings, Historical Society, Historian, Senior Citizens , Stratford Volunteer Fire Dept and any events sponsored by these organizations.

WHEREAS, it was decided to allow Non-profit Organizations located within the Town of Stratford, to use the Town Hall free for meetings. All meetings must be placed on the Town Calendar.

WHEREAS, for all events, you must notify the Town Clerk to be placed on the Town Calendar.

RESOLVED, that the Stratford Town Board stated everyone else will pay the \$125.00 for the use of the Town Hall. A deposit of \$25.00 will be required to have a date put on the Town Calendar. The \$25.00 deposit is refundable when the Town Hall is left clean.

Motion made by: Supervisor Fogarty

Second by: Councilman Scott Seeley

AYES 5

NAY 0

Adopted September 14, 2023

TOWN OF STRATFORD TAX RATE SCHEDULE
RESOLUTION #21-2023

WHEREAS, the Stratford Town Board, by resolution adopted on September 14, 2023, at the Town Board meeting, has been determined to be in the public interest.

WHEREAS, on their Town and County Tax Invoice mailed on or before January 1 of each year, their Fire Protection Appropriation will be separated from the Appropriation of the Stratford Town Tax Rate Schedule.

WHEREAS, there will be two lines Fire Protection and Town Tax.

WHEREAS, this will define the Appropriation for the Fire Protection Service.

BE IT RESOLVED, the copy of the Resolution will be on file in the Town Clerk's Office during regular business hours.

Motion made by: Supervisor Fogarty

Second by: Councilman John Ploss

AYES 5

NAY 0

Adopted September 14, 2023

Meeting adjourned at 7:37pm.

I hereby certify that the aforementioned is a true and accurate copy of the minutes of the Town of Stratford Board meeting held on September 14, 2023.

Patricia Dineen, Town Clerk