

State of New York
County of Fulton
Town of Stratford

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Stratford Town Board held on Thursday, September 13, 2012 at the municipal building located at 120 Piseco Rd.

Present:

Robert Johnson Jr.	---	Supervisor
Allan Perkins	---	Councilman
Bernard Leavitt	---	Councilman
Lorraine Rumrill	---	Councilwoman
Dawn Youker	---	Councilwoman
Diana Massicotte	---	Town Clerk
Douglas Gardner	---	Town Judge

Absent:

Mark Snowman	---	Superintendent
Lita Hillier	---	Bookkeeper
Dave Rackmyre Jr.	---	Code Enforcement Officer
Leigh Anne Loucks	---	Assessor

Councilman Leavit arrived at the meeting at 6:45 pm.

Supervisor Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm with the Pledge to the Flag.

Residents attending – Peter and Mary Szczebak, Carolyn Walker, David Cool, Ken Thompson, Allicia Rice, Lynn Stalnaker, Dorothy and Henry Eifert, Peg Klages, Donna Loucks, John and Joan Ploss and Marge Youker representing the Stratford Seniors.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Supervisor Johnson gave an inspiring talk regarding the innuendos that have been made at previous meetings. He said that the Board was happy to answer any questions that the residents may have as we are all trying to do our best for the town residents.

Allicia Rice thanked the residents for supporting the Vedder benefit. The barbeque was sold out. The committee was very happy with the overall results.

David Cool asked about the cost of the driveway that was put in at the highway garage. The driveway has been closed and put back the way it was. One of the positive results that came out of this was the sand pile was moved to the back of the garage. The new driveway out of the yard was put back the way it was per order of the DEC. He also asked where the money came for the equipment that was purchased. Supervisor Johnson said it had been budgeted for and that the Highway Department made \$16,000 selling scrap metal. Superintendent Snowman and Jim got the maps for the Town Garage and found the pins for the property, so the money that was slated for a survey was spent on the boiler.

Marge Youker speaking on behalf of the Stratford Seniors asked about the money that was budgeted for Programs for the Aging. She inquired if it could be used for other programs beside the bus trips. Supervisor Johnson said he would check into it and advise her. Supervisor Johnson said that the Seniors were an asset to the Town. He said the Christmas Party that the Seniors put on was very much appreciated.

Ken Thompson asked how many hours the Town Superintendent was suppose to work. The Town Superintendent can set his own hours. It is his responsibility to see that the work in the town is done.

Judge Gardner reported that two residents had been cited for property cleanup and were suppose to appear in court this evening but did not show. He said he gave them the opportunity to explain to the Board why they were not cleaning up their properties. Councilwoman Youker said that this had been going on for five years. Supervisor Johnson said while we had a junk law, due to an oversight, it was not filed until last fall, 2011.

Supervisor Johnson called the meeting to rest to go into executive session to discuss pending labor negotiations at 7:05 pm. The meeting was called back to order at 7:50 pm.

Supervisor Johnson checked with the Town Attorney to ascertain if it was legal for a Board Member who is a relative of who or what is discussed could sit in on an executive session. He said as long as there was no personal gain and confidentiality was maintained, it was legal.

REPORTS

Code Enforcement Officer Rackmyre's reports were read by Supervisor Johnson as follows:

August

New Permits: 2928 CoHwy 119 – Deck
1130 Stewart Landing – Permit renewal
764 Seeley Road – Engineered Septic System
100 E. Shore Road – Roof replacement
1010 Stewart Landing Road – Garage
180 Bickford Road – Modular Home
551 Avery Road – Residence
288 Mallet Hill – Shed
5152 StHwy 29A – Addition and Roof replacement
1124 Stewart Landing Road – Garage

Three Certificates of Compliance Issued. Eight Tickets were issued.

There were several follow-up inspections and code related phone calls. CEO contacted possible buyer who wanted him to do an inspection before he purchased the house, but was told he would have to contact a home inspector. The Town Assessor contacted the CEO about the corner of CoHwy 119 and CoHwy 104 regarding a demolition. The CEO had posted it unfit in 2010, but since then there was a new buyer who tore down the building without a permit. There is not fee for a demolition permit so he let it go as the building was an eye sore. It was an oversight on the CEO's part and he will issue a violation for demolition without a permit from this time forward. Also referred an individual to the APA.

September

New Permits: 683 Stewart Landing – Garage
2427 CoHwy 119 – Engineered Septic and Roof Replacement

Two Certificates of Compliance issued. One violation notice sent. Made follow up inspections and code related phone calls.

CEO received three requests for records which he researched and replied to all. The CEO placed the old code enforcement records upstairs for easier access. He received a few calls regarding codes for construction projects, lot size and setback requirements from potential buyers. Referred individual to the APA.

Supervisor Johnson read Superintendent Snowman's report for August:

Equipment

New guards built on screening plant to be in compliance with EMSHA.

Roads

Voorhees and Middle Sprite Roads men cutting brush and patching holes to get ready for new black top. Installed a 18" x 60' pipe on a 90° bend in road.

Bill and I cut tree off Mallet Hill Road and Kelly Road. Filled some washouts on Mallet Hill Road.

Bill and Roy fixed shoulder washouts on Stewarts Landing Road.

Jim is ditching Voorhees and Powerhouse Roads, men also patching. New guard rails installed on Voorhees Road.

New culvert pipe put in across Red House Road, also did some ditching. Put more gravel on pipe and cleaned drain basins. Cold patched pipe.

Cutting shoulders on Seeley Road, Allen Road, Red House Road and Dugway Extention.

Pulled out some big rocks on East Shore Road.

Garage

Heavy rock put in berm area of sand pile.

Miscellaneous

Men went after a load of winter mix and a load of heavy stones.

Materials ready to build 60' of guardrails.

Screening plant is ready for pit. Charlie is doing servicing work, changing oil and greasing.

Worked on building a plate protector for the blade of the excavator to protect the pavement.

Bill sweeping in Salisbury to help out the Highway Department, their sweeper broke down.

There was no Treasurer's report. Bookkeeper Hillier will notify Supervisor regarding the budget proceeding.

Supervisor Johnson read Assessor Loucks report as follows:

Small Claims Assessment Review Hearing was held September 12 in the Johnstown County Surrogate Court. The property owner voiced concerns that the BAR had two members instead of three. This was discussed at length with the Town Board prior to the meeting of the BAR and was also discussed with NYSORPTS and the County Real Property Office and determined legal to be held with a majority of the BAR, however, the Hearing Officer suggested it be brought to the Town Board's attention again. The property owner voiced concerns that the BAR members were new for 2012, but dismissed by the Hearing Officer as not pertinent to the case as all BAR members have training.

Mary Beth Salamone-Cammann's appointment to the BAR is up September 30, 2012. She completed Lenny Blood's term. She expressed an interest to remain on the BAR.

Mike Maxwell has completed the data collection of the town and is completing the data entry of all information which has been held up because the County is switching to the County maintained database. There will be a status update meeting September 25 at 11:00 am with the NYSORPTS and Maxwell Appraisal. At this meeting, they will determine when the next public information meeting will be held.

NEW BUSINESS

The Music Festival, sponsored by the Historical Society and FMAG, will be held September 15, 2012 from 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm. The festival was enjoyed by all.

RESOLUTION 15-2012

RESOLUTION BY TOWN BOARD APPOINTING MARY BETH SALAMONE-CAMMANN TO THE BAR

On a motion by Councilwoman Youker and seconded by Councilman Perkins the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Johnson, Perkins, Youker, Leavitt, Rumrill
Nays 0

WHEREAS, Mary Beth Salamone-Cammann's appointment to the BAR will expire September 30, 2012, and she has expressed an interest to be appointed again to the BAR,

RESOLVED, that this Board does hereby appoint Mary Beth Salamone-Cammann to the BAR and her term to be effective October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2017.

OLD BUSINESS

The paving on Voorhees and Middle Sprite Roads may take place on a Saturday. Superintendent Snowman is waiting to hear from Hanson Aggregates.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Councilwoman Rumrill, seconded by Councilman Perkins to approve the Board meeting minutes of August 9, 2012.

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Johnson, Perkins, Youker, Leavitt, Rumrill
Nays 0

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

Motion made by Councilwoman Rumrill, seconded by Councilman Leavitt to approve the bills on Abstract #9.

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Johnson, Perkins, Youker, Leavitt, Rumrill
Nays 0

Bills to be paid in the following amounts:

Highway Fund	Voucher Nos. 103 through 116	\$ 5,523.84
General Fund	Voucher Nos. 139 through 157	\$10,117.30

With no further business, on a motion of Councilwoman Rumrill, seconded by Councilman Leavitt, the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Massicotte
Town Clerk