

State of New York  
County of Fulton  
Town of Stratford

Minutes of the Stratford Regular Board meeting held on Thursday, January 21, 2016 at the municipal building located at 120 Piseco Rd.

Present:

Alicia Rice	---	Supervisor
Allan Perkins	---	Councilman
Richard Fogarty	---	Councilman
Lorraine Rumrill	---	Councilwoman
Joan Ploss	---	Councilwoman
Charles Goodwin	---	Superintendent
Diana Massicotte	---	Town Clerk
Leigh Anne Loucks	---	Assessor
Norman Wright	---	Code Enforcement Officer
Janet Dickson	---	Deputy Town Clerk
Peg Klages	---	Deputy Town Clerk

Absent:

Michael Sokira	---	BTI Director
----------------	-----	--------------

Supervisor Rice called the regular Town Board meeting to order at 6:30 pm with the Pledge to the Flag.

Residents in attendance: Dorothy Eifert, Susan Fogarty, Heidi Christiansen, Jay Pierz, Pete Jaikin, Roy Cool, Mary and Peter Szczebak, Karen Jaquay, Gary Rumrill, Carolyn Walker, Bob Knapp and Ken Thompson.

Supervisor Rice stated her work number would be: 315 429-0527.

**REPORTS**

Dog Control Office, Karen Jaquay reported as follows:

December 9, 2015 through January 20, 2016

I received a call on a dog bite. Followed Public Health protocol. Dog quarantined on owners property for 10 days. Dog was up to date on rabies and license.

I was called on an animal neglect case. Advised caller to notify State Police. The dog was then moved off the owners property to another county.

I was called for a dog running at large and unidentified. Dog was picked up and transported to Brennan Memorial Humane Society the same day.

I was called on a dog running at large. Owner identified and called. Owner brought proof of current license and rabies. Owner redeemed dog.

The rest of the month has been quiet.

Supervisor Rice asked the councilmen who attended the Town Board Training in Albany to give a report. They said there was so much information, they would have to sort it out before giving a report. The councilpeople who attended were: Lorraine Rumrill, Joan Ploss, Alicia Rice and Dick Fogarty.

Superintendent Goodwin gave the following report:

The men have been plowing and getting trees out of road.

Richard Fogarty owner of Comstock Logging said while he was on the Town Board he would not be selling to employees of the town.

Code Enforcement Officer, Norman Wright reported as follows:

December 10, 2015 through January 13, 2016

Issued one building permit  
Issued one order to remedy  
Two inspections  
Some phone calls

Assessor Loucks stated the exemptions forms were mailed. She will be having a meeting Friday, January 29 at 2:00 pm.

Historian, Carolyn Walker read the following report:

I have responded to several letters and phone calls looking for family information.

I took part in the book "Adirondack 102 Club" organized and published by Martin Podkoch which contains information from each of the 102 towns in the Adirondacks. Each historian was allowed two pages to write about their town and show a picture or two. This book is available in many businesses and in our Town Clerk's office for \$20.00 each.

I have attended meetings presenting information relating to history.

On December 6, I set up a meeting in our Community Center on the life of French Louis, a French Canadian guide and trapper around the Speculator and Canada Lake areas. Peter Hemmerich, a retired teacher presented his material to fifty-four guests, all of whom were delighted with his use of French Canadian dialect and expressions.

Motion made by Councilwoman Ploss, seconded by Councilman Perkins to accept Judge Gardner's books after they had audited them.

**ADOPTED** Ayes - 5 Rice, Rumrill, Fogarty, Ploss and Perkins  
Nays – 0

Motion made by Councilwoman Rumrill, seconded by Councilwoman Ploss to have the Board members, no more than two at a time, come to the office at their leisure to check the bills and sign vouchers.

**ADOPTED** Ayes - 5 Rice, Rumrill, Fogarty, Ploss and Perkins  
Nays – 0

**OLD BUSINESS**

Motion made by Councilwoman Ploss, seconded by Councilwoman Rumrill to change the regular January 14 meeting to January 21 at 6:30.

**ADOPTED** Ayes - 5 Rice, Rumrill, Fogarty, Ploss and Perkins  
Nays – 0

Supervisor Rice gave a copy of an Agreement for the Expenditure of Highway Moneys to Superintendent Goodwin to fill out and bring to next meeting. Copies were given to Board members.

Sue Fogarty asked who the new bookkeeper would be. Supervisor Rice said it would be Kelly Wilder.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion made by Councilman Perkins, seconded by Councilwoman Ploss to approve the Board meeting minutes of January 4, 2016.

**ADOPTED** Ayes - 5 Rice, Rumrill, Fogarty, Ploss and Perkins  
Nays – 0

Motion made by Councilwoman Rumrill, seconded by Councilman Perkins to go into executive session at 6:55 for the purpose of discussing personnel matter.

**ADOPTED** Ayes - 5 Rice, Rumrill, Fogarty, Ploss and Perkins  
Nays – 0

Supervisor Rice called meeting back to order at 7:08.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Supervisor Rice asked for a motion to send a certified letter to the former bookkeeper Friday, January 22, asking for the town financial records.

Motion made by Councilwoman Ploss, seconded by Councilwoman Rumrill to mail certified letter to former bookkeeper.

**ADOPTED** Ayes - 5 Rice, Rumrill, Fogarty, Ploss and Perkins  
Nays – 0

**AUDIT OF CLAIMS**

Motion made by Councilwoman Ploss, seconded by Councilwoman Rumrill to approve the bills on Abstract #1.

**ADOPTED** Ayes - 5 Rice, Rumrill, Ploss, Fogarty and Perkins  
Nays – 0

General Fund – Abstract 1	Voucher Nos. 1 through 14	\$27,111.26
Highway Fund - Abstract 1	Voucher Nos. 1 through 14	\$ 6,613.13

Councilwoman Rumrill questioned the phone calls that CEO Wright made while attending school. He explained he had to be contact one of the residents to clarify construction.

**PUBLIC SPEAKING**

LeighAnne Loucks asked about the calendars for the employees on the retirement program if they were turned in. Supervisor Rice will check into it.

Jay Pierz brought up the invasive species issue. He gave the Town Clerk a poster to put on bulletin board which had informative information for residents.

**RESOLUTION 9-16**

The following resolution was passed on a motion by Councilwoman Rumrill, seconded by Joan Ploss:

**ADOPTED** Ayes - 5 Rice, Rumrill, Ploss, Fogarty and Perkins  
Nays – 0

**WHEREAS** the Town Board of Stratford recognizes the threat to the lakes and ponds in The southern Adirondacks posed by the threat of aquatic invasive species,

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Stratford being on the highway corridor of a number of lakes which includes Pleasant Lake within our town’s boundaries to be served by this decontamination station, the Town Board recognizes that the town of Stratford would benefit directly from the decontamination station, and

**WHEREAS**, keeping our lakes free of invasive species is important for encouraging tourism and maintaining property values in our area,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of Stratford unanimously supports Caroga’s application as lead agency for funding through the State Department of Environmental Conservation’s Invasive Species Prevention program to operate and maintain the decontamination station.

Sue Fogarty brought to the attention of the Town Board, changes in the 2016 Budget that had not been made. Supervisor Rice said she had discussed it with the County and was advised to adjust the budget as needed.

Agreement between the Town Superintendent and the Town Board was signed agreeing that moneys levied and collected in the Town for the repair and improvement of highways, and received from the State for State Aid for the repair and improvement of highways.

Motion made by Councilman Fogarty, seconded by Councilwoman Ploss to allow Superintendent of Highways \$2,000 for necessary repairs without coming before board.

**ADOPTED** Ayes - 5      Rice, Rumrill, Ploss, Fogarty and Perkins  
Nays – 0

Motion made by Councilwoman Rumrill, seconded by Councilman Fogarty to purchase Quikbooks monthly.

**ADOPTED** Ayes - 5      Rice, Rumrill, Ploss, Fogarty and Perkins  
Nays – 0

Motion made by Councilwoman Ploss, seconded by Councilwoman Rumrill to move into executive session at 8:10 to discuss hiring attorney.

**ADOPTED** Ayes - 5      Rice, Rumrill, Ploss, Fogarty and Perkins  
Nays – 0

Meeting called back to order at 8:40.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Rumrill, seconded by Councilwoman Ploss to interview three attorneys.

**ADOPTED** Ayes - 5      Rice, Rumrill, Ploss, Fogarty and Perkins  
Nays – 0

The Town Clerk's books were audited by the Town Board and found in good order.

With no further business, on a motion by Councilwoman Rumrill seconded by Councilman Fogarty, the meeting was adjourned at 9:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Massicotte, Town Clerk