

State of New York
County of Fulton
Town of Stratford REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Municipal Building, 120 Piseco Road
June 13th, 2019

Present:

Allicia Rice	Supervisor
Allan Perkins	Councilman
Richard Fogarty	Councilman
Joan Ploss	Councilwoman
Lorraine Rumrill	Councilwoman
Heather VanDenburgh	Town Clerk
Charles Goodwin	Highway Superintendent
Norman Wright	Code Enforcement Officer

Absent:

Michael Sokira	BTI Director
Karen Jaquay	Dog Control Officer

Town Officials Not Required to Attend:

Leigh Anne Loucks	Assessor
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Number of Residents in Attendance: 9

Supervisor Rice called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:30pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED AT 6:30PM ON PROPOSED LOCAL LAW 1-2019, A LOCAL LAW TO REQUIRE PRIOR WRITTEN NOTICE AS A CONDITION PRECEDENT TO THE MAINTENANCE OF A CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST THE TOWN OF STRATFORD, NEW YORK, and OVERRIDING LOCAL LAW 1-1980

Supervisor Rice stated that NYMIR suggested that Stratford update Local Law 1-1980. NYMIR provided a sample copy, which was reviewed by Attorney Macri, and Town Clerk VanDenburgh posted public hearing notices on the StratfordNY.com website, Stratford Facebook page, public boards outside of her office and transfer station, along with notices printed in the official town newspapers on June 3rd, 2019. Supervisor Rice asked those in attendance if they had any comments, and besides clarifying what the law was, no person in attendance objected to the updated law. PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED AT 6:37PM

RESOLUTION 18-19: TO ADOPT NEW LOCAL LAW 1-2019, A LOCAL LAW TO REQUIRE PRIOR WRITTEN NOTICE AS A CONDITION PRECEDENT TO THE MAINTENANCE OF A CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST THE TOWN OF STRATFORD, NEW YORK, and OVERRIDING LOCAL LAW 1-1980

WHEREAS, the Town of Stratford enacted Local Law 1-1980, a local law to require prior written notice as a condition precedent to the maintenance of a cause of action against the Town of Stratford, New York, and

WHEREAS, Local Law 1-1980 was recently reviewed by and considered insufficient by New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal (NYMIR), and

WHEREAS, under NYMIR's recommendation, an updated law was presented to the Stratford Town Board for review to override Local Law 1-1980 and public notices presented to the public;

RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Stratford agrees to adopt new Local Law 1-2019, a Local Law which requires prior notice of defect as a condition precedent to the maintenance of a cause of action against the Town of Stratford, New York, and Overriding Local Law 1-1980 ("Prior Notice of Defect Law overriding Local Law 1-1980")

Offered by Councilwoman Ploss, seconded by Councilwoman Rumrill

Councilman Perkins: AYE

Supervisor Rice: AYE

Councilwoman Rumrill: AYE

Councilwoman Ploss: AYE

Councilman Fogarty: AYE

ADOPTED: 5 AYES, 0 nays

Correspondence: CDPHP RATE HIKE REQUEST: CDPHP is proposing a 1.4% premium rate change.

Reports:

Highway Superintendent Goodwin's report was reviewed by the Town Board (See attached). A tire flew off their 2014 Freightliner and hit a car in a resident's parked car. They investigating the nut/hub assembly and the damage from the accident is going through town insurance. Supt. Goodwin stated that Hanson's quoted him \$84,000 for Stewart Landing and \$105,000 for West Shore Road. He is looking to begin that work after Labor Day. Super. Rice passed out an invoice from Tom's Electric, showing that the repairs/upgrades recommended by NYMIR for the Highway Dept. fuel shed had been completed on Tuesday. The highway dept. wood boiler was listed on the auction website, but the highest bid was, almost \$4,000 short of the minimum acceptable bid. Supt. Goodwin declined the bid, and a discussion was had on whether to advertise it on Facebook/Craigslist. He will also check on the warranty of the new truck being purchased by the town. Super. Rice will email the purchase contract to Board Members Fogarty, Ploss, and Rumrill and will work on the purchase contract next week. Attorney Macri is reviewing it.

BRIDGE ON PISECO ROAD: Engineer Bell sent a letter to NYSDOT stating that the bridge in question did not need posting or flagging, stating "... we believe this bridge no longer needs to be posted for load, and the Town of Stratford can remove the 8 Ton posting signs." We are awaiting their response.

KEYBANK CONTRACT: Super. Rice discussed the purchase agreement of the new Mack Granite 64FR plow truck. Supt. Goodwin will check on the warranty of the new truck being purchased by the town. Super. Rice will email the purchase contract to Board Members Fogarty, Ploss, and Rumrill and will work on the purchase contract next week. Attorney Macri is reviewing it. Since the Keybank contract is time-sensitive, a special meeting might be needed to complete the purchase agreement before the next meeting.

Code Enforcement Officer Wright read his report to the Town Board (See attached).

There was no Assessor report for this month.

DCO Jaquay's report was reviewed by the Town Board (See attached). Super. Rice reminded the public that you need a kennel license if you own more than five dogs, and that residents should report any questionable dog activity to DCO Jaquay or CEO Wright when it comes to buildings.

BTI Director Sokira read his report to the Town Board (See attached). He stated "Bugs are bad," and that many other towns are having a similar issue. Unfortunately, the creeks couldn't be reached early enough to treat due to snow/ice. He discussed proposed DEC changes to pesticide regulations that will financially impact the town should they be adopted. BTI Director Sokira left at 7:10pm.

Stratford Historian Marshall: Historian Marshall requested that Donna Hasbrouck be appointed her Deputy Historian so Ms. Hasbrouck would have the same access that Ms. Marshall has to historian-only meetings. There will be no salary or cost to the town.

RESOLUTION 19-19, THE APPOINTMENT OF DONNA HASBROUCK AS DEPUTY HISTORIAN

BE IT RESOLVED that Donna Hasbrouck has been appointed Deputy Historian to Moira Marshall, FURTHERMORE, this position shall be a volunteer position with no compensation or reimbursement from the Town of Stratford.

Offered by Councilwoman Rumrill, seconded by Councilman Perkins

ADOPTED: 5 AYES **Rice, Fogarty, Perkins, Ploss, Rumrill**
0 NAYS

Justice Arena's report for this month was reviewed by the Town Board (See attached). He collected \$300 in fines for the month of May. He gave Super. Rice a check on June 4th for the Town's portion.

The Town Clerk's report for this month was reviewed by the Town Board (See attached). A discussion was had about a complaint sent to Super. Rice regarding a Salisbury resident who was upset about being denied a transfer station permit. Super. Rice stated that although their zip code was Stratford, their residence was the Town of Salisbury and paid taxes to Herkimer County. TC VanDenburgh emphasized that you must be both a Fulton County and Town of Stratford resident in order to qualify for a transfer station permit.

Supervisor's Report: Super. Rice thanked all who attended the public hearing on the school budget. She reminded those in attendance about the budget vote on June 18th. She stated that Stratford is looking at decreased revenues in 2020; we anticipated this and our budget for 2019 will probably break even this year, but we will have to lower our anticipated revenue for 2020.

CONTRACT WITH HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: All Board Members received a copy of the Memorandum of Agreement between Stratford and the United Public Service Employees Union (UPSEU).

A motion to go into Executive Session for Contract Negotiations was made at 7:25pm by Councilwoman Rumrill, seconded by Councilwoman Ploss.

5 AYES **Rice, Fogarty, Perkins, Ploss, Rumrill**
0 NAYS

Two students left at approximately 7:30pm.

A motion to return to the regular meeting was made at 7:47pm by Councilwoman Ploss, seconded by Councilwoman Rumrill.

5 AYES **Rice, Fogarty, Perkins, Ploss, Rumrill**
0 NAYS

RESOLUTION 20-19, ACCEPTANCE OF MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of Stratford accepts the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) by and between the Town of Stratford and United Public Service Employees Union (UPSEU). This tentative settlement covers the period of January 1, 2019 through December 31st, 2021.

Offered by Councilwoman Rumrill, seconded by Councilwoman Ploss

ADOPTED: 5 AYES **Rice, Fogarty, Perkins, Ploss, Rumrill**
0 NAYS

CONTRACT LED STREET LIGHTING: Super. Rice explained the NYPA authorization to proceed with turn-key street light project and the payment structure. She stated that pursuing National Grid's LED upgrade project "Didn't pan out," and that if we want to pursue LED street lights, this is the way to go.

A motion to authorize the New York Power Authority (NYPA) to proceed with the full turn-key solution of the LED street light project was made by Councilman Perkins, seconded by Councilman Fogarty.

5 AYES **Rice, Fogarty, Perkins, Ploss, Rumrill**
0 NAYS

TRAINING ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT PREVENTION: Super. Rice will send a link of (2) 20-minute videos to Councilwoman Ploss and TC VanDenburgh regarding sexual harassment training from the NYS Commissioner to begin planning the interactive training for town employees.

Financial Report:

Stratford's equalization rate is down to 97% (from 100%). Super. Rice presented the financial spreadsheets/reconciliation and bank statements to the Board Members. She is still visiting Senator Tedisco's office and inquiring on the grant to repair the Highway Department. There is new leadership, so the grant process has stalled.

JUNE ABSTRACTS:

2019 GENERAL FUND	VOUCHERS 58-67	\$ 2,465.72
2019 PREPAID FUND	VOUCHERS 64-77	\$ 5,916.45
2019 HIGHWAY FUND	VOUCHERS 60-72	\$10,474.33

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Ploss, seconded by Councilman Fogarty to approve the payment of these vouchers.

5 AYES **Rice, Perkins, Fogarty, Ploss, Rumrill**
0 NAYS

PUBLIC SPEAKING: Commenced at 8:03pm

G. Rumrill questioned a \$3,000 increase in tax assessments across the board in Stratford. Super. Rice was unsure what he was speaking about, but she'll inquire around. N. Rissmeyer asked in the 2014 Freightliner that lost a wheel had any TSB's open on it. He also asked about putting an orange cone on the intersection of Cty Rd 104 and 29A so the turn would be more visible since the street light has been out. P. Szczebak asked if it was possible to upgrade Stratford to three phase wires; Super. Rice said National Grid would have to be willing to do that, and she'll check on it.

PUBLIC SPEAKING: Closed at 8:24 pm

OLD BUSINESS: Nick Rissmeyer has had some personal issues and has been unable to remove the men's bathroom floor. Councilwoman Ploss has an appointment with Perfection Cleaners at 9:30am on Monday the 17th to get a quote on getting the Town Hall floor cleaned and waxed.

NEW BUSINESS: TC VanDenburgh helped CEO Wright with a computer problem, and suggested that the Town look into an antivirus/malware software subscription to comply with NYMIR'S requirements.

With all business concluded, on a motion from Councilwoman Rumrill and seconded by Councilwoman Ploss, the June 2019 regular meeting was adjourned at 8:36pm.

5 AYES Rice, Perkins, Fogarty, Ploss, Rumrill

0 NAYS

-Heather VanDenburgh, Town Clerk

REGULAR MEETING
June 13, 2019
AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Public hearing on "Notice of Defect" Law
3. Correspondence
 - CDPHP rate hike request
4. Reports
 - Highway Superintendent
 - ✓ Bridges on Piseco Road
 - ✓ Key Bank contract for plow truck
 - Codes Enforcer
 - Assessor
 - Dog Control Officer
 - STI Director
 - Historian: Request for appointment of deputy
 - Judge
 - Town clerk
 - Supervisor
5. Contract with highway department
6. LED street lighting
7. Training on Sexual Harassment Prevention
8. Financial report
 - Equalization rate
 - Key Bank contract for plow truck
9. Monthly budget update report
10. Payment of bills
11. Public speaking
12. Old Business
 - ✓ Men's room floor
13. New Business
14. Executive session
15. Adjournment

Highway Report 6/10/19

Sweeping Roads And Grading Roads
Some of Roads still had mud on them
Working on Trucks And Equipment.
Mowing Cemetery And Town Hall & Park
But working on West Shore Rd And
Ditching And Taking Roads out

Highway Superintendent
Charles Jordan

Town Of Stratford DCO Report For
May 10th, 2019 To June 13th, 2019

Ceo report.

MAY-7TH - june 10th

2 MEETINGS
ISSUED 2 PERMITS - renewals
4 INSPECTIONS
Issued 1 c of c

many calls

1. Went to court and was told the case was still pending.
2. I will be in court on June 17th to continue the case from last month.
3. I was able to get an answer to the rabies protocol for our county. Anyone refusing or failing to produce any animal for viewing at beginning and end of quarantine can be charged with obstruction.
4. I helped a resident find their lost dog. Dog is licensed in our town and up to date on all vaccines.
5. I was called by a resident requesting I remove their dog. They wanted the town to have the dog put down. I informed him this was his responsibility and not the towns.
6. The rest of the month I was on call.

Town Of Stratford DCO

Karen Jaquay

1. Received 20 gallons of VectoBac 12AS.
2. Continuing treatments to the streams.
3. The DEC is considering changes to the entire series of pesticides regulations contained in Parts 320 through 329. Some of these changes will affect us.

Town of Stratford

Town Clerk – Heather VanDenburgh

120 Piseco Road

PO Box 186

Stratford, NY 13470

PHONE: (315) 429-8612 FAX: (315) 429-0527

June 13, 2019 Town Clerk Regular Meeting Report

- Attached to this report is my semi-annual Town Clerk's report for Board review.
- The Town Clerk's office has migrated to the Electronic Death Registry System (EDRS). Fulton County was part of the spring 2019 rollout. The Registrar can now process death certificates electronically, in compliance with NYS Public Health Law §4148.
- Supervisor Rice received a complaint about my office via email from a resident of Salisbury on June 4th 2019. I had to unfortunately deny this person a transfer station decal due to their residency being the Town of Salisbury. Although their mailing address is Stratford, their actual residence is taxed and lies in Herkimer County. This person has received a transfer station decal for the last 10 years, and was upset that they were denied this year. She made a complaint about my behavior, and asked Supervisor Rice to reconsider issuing her a decal. As I stated to Supervisor Rice, there is no easy way to tell someone that they do not qualify for a permit, and many Salisbury residents have been angry at my decision. I'd like to reiterate again that you must live in the Town of Stratford and pay taxes to Fulton County in order to qualify for a transfer station decal.
- A gentleman who has a seasonal residence on Stewart Landing was recently told by Verizon that they are no longer issuing new home numbers in our area and refused to install a copper phone line to his camp. I am currently looking into this.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather VanDenburgh