**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD**

TOWN OF SANDY CREEK  
1992 HARWOOD DRIVE, PO BOX 52

SANDY CREEK, NEW YORK 13145-0052

**Date:** April 13, 2022

**Kind of Meeting:** Regular Meeting

**Place:** Town Hall

**Board Members Present:** Timothy D. Ridgeway  **Others Present:**

Ruth E. Scheppard Michael C. Kastler

Nola J. Gove Tammy L. Miller

Dave Warner Brett McVoy

**Absent:** John W. Wood, Jr. Meg Sprague

Michael G. Yerdon

Pat McDougal

John Howland @ 7:08 pm.

Andrew Zahler

Wayne Miller

Jessica Godfrey

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Town Supervisor Timothy D. Ridgeway called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**RESOLUTION 30-22**

On motion by Ruth E. Scheppard, seconded by Nola J. Gove, the following resolution was

ADOPTED - 4 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove, Warner

0 No

1 Absent Wood

**Resolved** that the minutes of the March 9th and 23rd meetings are approved as written.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

The monthly financial report of the Supervisor for March was filed in the Town Clerk’s office and copies were delivered to Town Board members’ mailboxes.

**REPORTS:**

Sole Assessor- Rebecca Trudell’s Town Board report for March has been filed in the Town Clerk’s office.

Dog Control Officer – Anne Derr prepared a report for the Town Board and it is filed in the Town Clerk’s office.

Highway/Water Superintendent – Michael C. Kastler read his highway and water department reports for March.

Mr. Kastler reported that three sealed bids were received and opened April 12th for the Sunset Lane water project in WD#1. WD Malone was the low bidder at $104,000. The bid was complete and correct. Other bidders were F.P. Kane Construction at $127,000.00 and R.B. Robinson Contracting at $129,427.00.

**RESOLUTION 31-22**

On motion by Dave Warner, seconded by Ruth E. Scheppard, the following resolution was

ADOPTED - 4 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove, Warner

0 No

1 Absent Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek awards the bid for the Town of Sandy Creek Water District No. 1 Sunset Lane Water Main Installation – Contract no. 1 - General Construction to W.D. Malone Trucking & Excavation for $104,000.00.

Money may need to be moved from the reserve fund to pay for this project. All water meters have been read and bills will be mailed before May 1st. In water district #3 WD Malone is onsite with a direct drill and a water main crew. The Sawmill, Hilton, Rt 3 area can be completed. A spot on Co Rt 62 will be sub-contracted to a company with a rock drill to get under the creek there. Restoration will not be started until after May 1st. Water Operator Eric Pappa will be going to school in May. A second water operator position was discussed. Sharing an operator with the Town of Richland may not be ideal as the two towns pay different hourly rates. Superintendent Kastler suggested using ARPA funds for six months of this year for the new position and we can budget for it in 2023. The new hire must do a year’s apprenticeship under a licensed water operator. Eric should be with us at least three more years before retirement.

**RESOLUTION 32-22**

On motion by Timothy D. Ridgeway, seconded by Ruth E. Scheppard, the following resolution was

ADOPTED - 4 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove, Warner

0 No

1 Absent Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek authorizes Water Billing and Collection Clerk Brittany Washburn to set up credit card payments for water usage bills through Williamson Law Book Company.

Historian – Peggy Rice filed her monthly report.

Town Justice- The monthly reports of the Town Justices have been received by the Town Supervisor.

Legislator – County Legislator Michael G. Yerdon spoke about the recent controversy regarding the Oswego County Department of Social Services. He stated that the news reports are not totally accurate. They are showing old clips of meetings. There is tremendous turnover of employees in that department. The pay is low for the amount of education the employees need. During Covid there was a hiring freeze. A contract has been approved with a pay increase. There are 30 positions to fill. Currently all calls for DSS go to NYS and they send someone to the site. In this recent case, the family had moved into our county. These families know when a caseworker is coming and have time to prepare and make conditions look better. There definitely was a breakdown in the system. Oswego County has hired an outside contractor to evaluate procedures and reporting. Another county has been hired to do the criminal investigation. The parents are responsible for what happened. The next meeting of the Oswego County Legislature is April 14th at 7 pm. They will be voting on a local law to increase the income limit for Senior Exemptions and one for Disability Exemptions. Superintendent Kastler stated that the three-year snow and ice contract with the county expires this year and the county highway association wants to negotiate. Costs are up and towns would like an increase of $10,000 per mile, a 20% increase. He would also like to see the county’s contract with NYS.

Library – Library Director Jessica Godfrey distributed copies of the library’s newsletter and calendar to Town Board members. She has a wish list for the library to be paid from ARPA funds. She will email her list. There was a recent flood in the basement. There is a story walk and other activities at the library for screen-free/spring break week. They will have a poetry contest and May 7th is free comic book day. Councilman Warner asked about the age of their computers.

**RESOLUTION 33-22**

On motion by Timothy D. Ridgeway, seconded by Ruth E. Scheppard, the following resolution was

ADOPTED - 4 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove, Warner

0 No

1 Absent Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek appoints Tricia Santschi as a trustee of the Annie Porter Ainsworth Memorial Library filling the term that expires on December 31, 2024 and appoints Odett M. Ferguson as a trustee of the Annie Porter Ainsworth Memorial Library filling the term that expires on December 31, 2023.

NOCA – Northern Oswego County Ambulance representative Nancy Dingman emailed a report.

Planning Board – The minutes from the April 6th meeting have been filed.

Code Enforcement Officer – John Howland’s report for March is filed in the Town Clerk’s office. Four violation notices were issued. He attended an in-person training April 5th – 7th and has completed training for this year.

Town Clerk – Tammy Miller reported that receipts and total disbursements for the month of March totaled $2,943.00 of which $2,775.84 was town income. The report is on file in her office and available for public inspection. Tax collection was settled with the county last week. Over 92% of the tax bills were collected with 194 bills returned to the county unpaid and two bills returned half paid. The office will be closed on April 19th because Brittany and Tammy are attending the NYS Tug Hill Commission 31st Annual Local Government Conference at Turning Stone Event Center. Tammy will also be attending tax collector school in June.

Engineers – Brett McVoy, I.E. of Barton & Loguidice was present to update the Town Board on the water projects. In Water District #3 the CEHA variance request was formally denied on February 8, 2022. The town requested an appeal and it was confirmed that the letter of request was received and sent to the correct office. The surveys for a possible Water District #4 are coming in. On April 11th the Village of Lacona agreed that they would be willing to work together with the town and Village of Sandy Creek on a possible joint project. The willingness to buy-in and work together is an important first step for the possible project. Some of the surveys were mailed to some village residents and some former property owners. Those brought to our attention were re-mailed. Supervisor Ridgeway will sign the notice of award for the Sunset Lane project and Form E #16 for the Water District #3 project tonight.

**RESOLUTION 34-22**

On motion by Ruth E. Scheppard, seconded by Nola J. Gove, the following resolution was

ADOPTED - 4 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove, Warner

0 No

1 Absent Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek authorizes Town Supervisor Timothy D. Ridgeway to sign authorizing Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. to proceed with the services in accordance with the terms and conditions described in the proposal for engineering services for the Skinner Road culvert replacement over Blind Creek.

**RESOLUTION 35-22**

On motion by Ruth E. Scheppard, seconded by Nola J. Gove, the following resolution was

ADOPTED - 4 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove, Warner

0 No

1 Absent Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek authorizes the transfer of the unallocated fund balance in the DB fund to a line item in the budget for the Skinner Road culvert replacement project.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: Andrew Zahler** presented a letter of petition to have a 65 X 250 feet parcel of his property annexed into the Village of Lacona. The town would give up the property and it would become part of the Village of Lacona. He wants to build a home on the current town/village property line. He met with Town Clerk Miller to research the parcels involved. CEO Howland explained the situation. It is believed that Lacona is willing to take the town parcel.

**RESOLUTION 36-22**

On motion by Dave Warner, seconded by Timothy D. Ridgeway, the following resolution was

ADOPTED - 4 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove, Warner

0 No

1 Absent Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek is willing to give the parcel of real property tax ID #030.00-01-21 to the Village of Lacona.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Councilman Scheppard requested a portion of the ARPA funds for the Sandy Pond Channel Maintenance Association again. They need a total of $14,392.00 to pay $5,000 to Tom Hart and $9,392 toward 2021 dredging expenses. Past Supervisor Nancy Ridgeway will not continue working on the ARPA funding plans.

**RESOLUTION 37-22**

On motion by Nola J. Gove, seconded by Ruth E. Scheppard, the following resolution was

ADOPTED - 4 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove, Warner

0 No

1 Absent Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek will commit $14,392.00 from the ARPA funds to reimburse the Sandy Pond Channel Maintenance Association.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION 38-22**

On motion by Ruth Scheppard, seconded by Nola J. Gove, the following resolution was

ADOPTED - 4 Ayes Ridgeway, Gove, Scheppard, Warner

0 No

1 Absent Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek authorizes Supervisor Ridgeway to sign the license agreement with ProQuest LLC for Ancestry Library Edition for a price of $622.41.

**RESOLUTION 39-22**

On motion by Dave Warner, seconded by Ruth E. Scheppard, the following resolution was

ADOPTED - 4 Ayes Ridgeway, Gove, Scheppard, Warner

0 No

1 Absent Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek authorizes Supervisor Ridgeway to sign accepting the agreement from 5/1/2022 through 4/30/2023 with Hyde-Stone Mechanical Contractors for their planned service program for $2,732.00.

**RESOLUTION 40-22**

On motion by Ruth E. Scheppard, seconded by Nola J. Gove, the following resolution was

ADOPTED - 4 Ayes Ridgeway, Gove, Scheppard, Warner

0 No

1 Absent Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek accepts the agreement with Bowers & Company CPAs PLLC for an audit of the water project finances for 2021 for a gross fee between $15,000 and $18,000.

**RESOLUTION 41-22**

On motion by Ruth E. Scheppard, seconded by Dave Warner, the following resolution was

ADOPTED - 4 Ayes Ridgeway, Gove, Scheppard, Warner

0 No

1 Absent Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek accepts the annual audits of Town Supervisor and Tax Collector for 2021 and Town Clerk and Water Billing and Collection Clerk for 2019 - 2021 as completed by Nola J. Gove on March 11th and 22nd 2022.

**TRANSFER OF FUNDS**

**RESOLUTION 42-22**

**On motion** by Ruth E. Scheppard, and seconded by Dave Warner, the following resolution was

ADOPTED - 4 Ayes Warner, Scheppard, Ridgeway, Gove

0 No

1 Absent Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek authorizes the following transfer of funds:

**From Description To Description Amount**

A-1990.4 Contingent A1220.2 Supervisor- Equipment $ 324.00

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

**RESOLUTION 43-22**

On motion by Ruth E. Scheppard, seconded by Dave Warner, the following resolution was

ADOPTED - 4Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove, Warner

0 No

1 Absent Wood

**Resolved** that the bills be paid on Abstract #6 in the following amounts:

General Fund $ 719.20

Trust & Agency $ 14,426.54

**And** on Abstract #7 in the following amounts:

General Fund $ 20,598.21

Highway Fund $ 58,968.54

Water District #3- H3 $ 555,135.28

North Sandy Pond Shore-H4 $ 2,435.20

Water District #1-SW $ 3,458.94

Water District #2-SW $ 574.02

Water District #3-SW $ 25,118.96

Water District #4- SW $ 6,250.00

Trust & Agency $ 8,025.71

The next regular monthly meeting will be held May 11th at 7 pm.

**On motion** by Nola J. Gove, and seconded by Dave Warner, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy L. Miller, RMC

Town Clerk