

**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:** February 14, 2018

**Kind of Meeting:** Regular Meeting

**Place:** Town Hall

**Board Members Present:** Nancy Ridgeway  
Ruth E. Scheppard  
Nola J. Gove  
John W. Wood, Jr.

**Others Present:**  
Tammy Miller  
Michael C. Kastler  
Allison J. Nelson, Esq.  
Brittany M. Washburn  
Margaret Kastler  
Dustin J. Clark  
Shirley Rice  
Wayne Miller  
Jessica Godfrey  
John Howland @ 7:19 pm  
Mary Lou Mills  
Kyle Faulkner  
Shelley Fitzpatrick  
Andrew Ridgeway  
Tom Halstead  
Kerry Tarolli  
Marcy Newman

**Absent:** Dave Warner

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Town Supervisor Nancy Ridgeway called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. She introduced Kyle Faulkner, Superintendent of Sandy Creek Central School District. He introduced Kerry Tarolli of King + King Architects who led a presentation of the school's proposed capital project. The project will improve parking, safety, and security on campus. A new bus maintenance facility with renovations to the existing bus garage is included in the plan. The total project cost is estimated at \$25,118,000. State aid and capital reserve funds will pay for the project. There is no anticipated school tax increase. A public vote will be held March 6<sup>th</sup> from noon to 8 pm in the school district's board room. If the referendum passes, construction will likely take place in 2020 and 2021. Mr. Faulkner and Ms. Tarolli, along with Shelley Fitzpatrick, Business Administrator and Andrew Ridgeway, Director of Facilities answered questions.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**RESOLUTION 16-18**

On motion by Ruth E. Scheppard, seconded by John W. Wood, Jr., the following resolution was

**ADOPTED** - 4 Ayes                      Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove, Wood

0 No  
1 Absent Warner

**Resolved** that the minutes of the January 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> meetings are approved as written.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

The January monthly financial report of the Supervisor was made available to the Town Board members today and filed in the Town Clerk’s office.

**REPORTS:**

Highway/Water Superintendent – Michael C. Kastler read his reports and they are on file in the office of the Town Clerk. A purchase offer has been prepared for the Ackerman property and is subject to permissive referendum.

**RESOLUTION 17-18**

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

**ADOPTED** - 3 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove  
0 No  
1 Absent Warner  
1 Abstain Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek authorizes the Town Supervisor to enter into a Purchase Contract for the purchase of part of a parcel of property owned by Eugene and Cecelia Ackerman, located at 99-115 Snyder Road, Sandy Creek and known as Tax Map Number 20.00-03-27.02 for the purchase price of Twenty Thousand (\$20,000.00) Dollars. The property is 20± acres of vacant rural land and the Town Board believes the purchase of the property is in the best interest of the Town and the Town Board deems the purchase price of said property to constitute fair and adequate consideration. Pursuant to Section 220 of the Town Law of the State of New York, **this resolution is subject to permissive referendum.**

Assessor- Rhonda Weigand’s report has been filed in the Town Clerk’s office. Supervisor Ridgeway reported that the town’s equalization rate has fallen to 97%. Dog Control Officer – Elisa Dunn was absent tonight. Her report is filed in the office of the Town Clerk.

Historian – Charlene Cole’s monthly report is on file in the Town Clerk’s office. Supervisor Ridgeway summarized it for the public. Office hours in January have been limited due to illness and winter storms. Mrs. Cole has written a Pomeroy Foundation grant for a roadside marker to be placed on the former site of the Blount Lumber Company which operated from 1894 to 1993.

Town Justice- The monthly reports of the Town Justices have been received by the Town Supervisor. Town Justice Stoker was successful in his application to the 2017- 2018 Justice Court Assistance Program. The town has been awarded \$1,473.98 for a desk, chair and filing cabinet for the courtroom.

Legislator – Margaret Kastler reported that a private company wants to open a Hospice House in the Scriba area. Families would be able to stay there with patients. The number

of beds is unknown at this time. She will meet representatives from this company February 15<sup>th</sup> and the Oswego County Health Department will meet with them in March. Library – Library Director Jessica Godfrey reported that the annual report has been submitted to North Country Library System. She provided Town Board members with copies of the Annie Porter Ainsworth Memorial Library Yearly Statistics Report 2017. Attendance was down possibly due to the flooding issues at Sandy Pond last summer. Computer use was down, but Wi-Fi use was up. One of the most important statistics, circulation was greatly increased especially for DVD’s and children’s books. Nancy Stark of Cupcake Mushing will have sled dogs at the library February 17<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 to 12:30 pm. This is for all ages and a portion of the presentation will be held outside. At the Love Your Library Wine Tasting Event on February 10<sup>th</sup> wine baskets were won by Nancy Ridgeway, Pat McDougal and Tammy Miller.

Planning Board – Chairman Shirley Rice read the report from the Sandy Creek Regional Planning Board’s meeting on February 13<sup>th</sup>. Due to two site plan reviews, the board did not have enough time to review the RV local law. They will be holding two public hearings in March.

**RESOLUTION 18-18**

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

ADOPTED - 3 Ayes            Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove, Wood  
                  0 No  
                  1 Absent            Warner  
                  1 Abstain            Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek reappoints Frank Dixon as member of the Sandy Creek Regional Planning Board for a term beginning March 1, 2018 and ending February 28, 2021.

Water Advisory Committee- Wayne Miller reported that there was no meeting in January. The next meeting is scheduled for February 26<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.

Code Enforcement Officer – John Howland’s report for the month of January is filed in the Town Clerk’s office. He will attend school April 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>. He purchased a GPS app for his phone that allows him to better identify parcels of property. A committee is working on drafting a new local law for recreational vehicles. Copies of Williamstown’s local law and a proposed law for the Town Sandy Creek were given to the Town Board and Planning Board for review.

Town Board – Deputy Supervisor Ruth E. Scheppard reported on the Oswego County Supervisor’s meeting where the county land bank was discussed.

**RESOLUTION 19-18**

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING COUNTY OF OSWEGO RESOLUTION NO. 134 OF 2014, A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE TREASURER’S OFFICE TO RELEVY ONLY CERTAIN CHARGES ALLOWED BY LAW**

**WHEREAS**, the Oswego County Legislature passed a resolution on June 12, 2014 directing the County Treasurer to cease the re-levy of fees or charges other than

delinquent real property taxes, penalties, interest, sewer and water charges, and solid waste charges under GML Section 120-cc and Town Law Section 198(9)(c) or those taxes, interest, penalties, charges, and fees, allowed specifically by current or subsequently enacted state statute; and

**WHEREAS**, a clean, wholesome, attractive environment is declared to be of importance to the health and safety of the residents of the Town of Sandy Creek, and the general welfare of its citizens. It is further declared that unsecured vacant buildings, unsafe buildings and the unrestrained accumulation of junk are hazardous to the health, safety and welfare of citizens of the Town, necessitating the regulation, restraint, and elimination thereof; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek has had great success in addressing unsecured vacant buildings, demolishing unsafe buildings and removing the accumulation of junk on private property in violation of the Town's local laws by re-levying the cost of such onto the tax bills of the offending property owners prior to the enactment of Oswego County Resolution No. 134 of 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek is concerned with the implications and unintended consequences of Oswego County Resolution No. 134 of 2014 and the impact of such resolution on the Town of Sandy Creek and its residents by severely limiting local enforcement methods to secure unsecured vacant buildings, to remove or demolish unsafe buildings and to remove the accumulation of junk in violation of the Town's local laws; and.

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board overwhelmingly supports the repeal of Oswego County Resolution No. 134 of 2014 in an effort to better serve the public, and maintain the health, safety and general welfare of the residents of the Town of Sandy Creek and encourages the County of Oswego to find other ways to curtail costs; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, upon a motion made by Ruth E. Scheppard and seconded by John W. Wood, Jr. and after due deliberation, it is hereby

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek strongly opposes Oswego County Resolution No. 134 of 2014 and urges the County of Oswego Legislature to repeal the resolution and to seek alternate means to curtail costs; and it is further

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Supervisor of the Town of Sandy Creek is authorized to send a letter to the Chairman of the County of Oswego Legislature stating the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek's opposition to Oswego County Resolution No. 134 of 2014, copied to the Legislator representing the Town of Sandy Creek.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED** by Board members present:

Nancy Ridgeway, Supervisor	Aye
Ruth E. Scheppard, Councilman	Aye
Nola J. Gove, Councilman	Aye
John W. Wood, Jr., Councilman	Aye
Dave Warner, Councilman	Absent

Supervisor Ridgeway reminded the Town Board that the Annual Audits are overdue.

Town Clerk – Tammy Miller reported that receipts and total disbursements for the month of January totaled \$1,483.25. This report is on file in her office and available for public inspection. Information on the 2018 Training School and Annual Meeting of the

Association of Towns is available in the Town Clerk's office. Over \$3 million of town and county taxes have been collected and the town budget for 2018 was fully funded on February 1<sup>st</sup>. The standardized notice form for renewal of an on-premises alcoholic beverage license was received from Brewsters.

**RESOLUTION 20-18**

**On motion** by Nancy Ridgeway, seconded by John W. Wood, Jr., the following resolution was

**ADOPTED** - 4Ayes                    Ridgeway, Gove, Wood, Scheppard  
                   0 No  
                   1 Absent            Warner

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek approves the Polling Site Agreement with the Oswego County Board of Elections for the purpose of conducting elections on June 26<sup>th</sup>, September TBA and November 6, 2018.

**RESOLUTION 21-18**

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

**ADOPTED** - 4 Ayes                    Ridgeway, Scheppard, Wood, Gove  
                   0 No  
                   1 Absent            Warner

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Sandy Creek/30327 hereby establishes the following standard work days for these titles and will report officials to the New York State and Local Retirement System based on their record of activities:

Title	Standard Work Day (Hrs/day) Min. 6 hrs Max. 8 hrs	Name (First & Last)	SS # (Last 4 digits)	Registration Number	Tier 1 (Check only if member is in Tier 1)	Current Term Begin & End Dates (mm-dd-yy-mm/dd/yy)	Record of Activities Result	Not Submitted (Check only if official did not submit their Record of Activities)
<b>Elected Officials</b>								
Town Clerk	6	Tammy L. Miller	xxx2	41018656		01/01/14-12/31/17	23.25	
Highway Superintendent	8	Michael C. Kastler	xxx4	42620286		01/01/14-12/31/17	25.05	
<b>Appointed Officials</b>								
Bookkeeper	6	Jill Mattison	xxx6	39580378		01/01/16-12/31/16	7.83	
Code Enforcement Officer	6	John Howland	xxx5	38111068		01/01/16-12/31/16	5.03	
Dog Control Officer	6	Elisa Dunn	xxx7	60848027		01/01/16-12/31/16	1.19	
Clerk to the Assessor	6	Julie Cronk	xxx8	41887613		01/01/16-12/31/16	10.83	
Deputy Town Clerk	6	Brittany Washburn	xxx0	60996352		01/01/16-12/31/16	19.56	

Supervisor Ridgeway announced that our Attorney Allison J. Nelson is running for Oswego County Family Court Judge in the fall.

Engineers – Dustin J. Clark, P. E. of Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. was present to update the board on its projects. He explained the steps to proceed with the public sewer system evaluation. The Force Account paperwork for this project was discussed. An application for the 2018 WIIA Grant will be submitted again this year by May for Water District #3. B&L plans to have an engineering agreement for the water project completed for review and approval in March. Also, the bond resolution should be ready for the next regular meeting.

A legal advertisement for the Solar Request for Proposals was placed in the Watertown Daily Times. Sixteen solar companies requested information about this today. CEO Howland explained some of the details of the solar farm proposals.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** **Jessica Godfrey** had questions about the possible solar project. She wondered how long before a town-owned solar farm could be built and if the library could see savings on their electric bill as a result.

CEO Howland will get an update on a possible cell tower for the water tower site. Supervisor Ridgeway reported that paperwork has been filed for the 2017 grant totaling \$10,000 that the Town received for the Sandy Pond Sportsmen’s Association fishing tournaments and programs.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION 22-18**

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

**ADOPTED** - 4 Ayes            Ridgeway, Gove, Wood, Scheppard  
                  0 No  
                  1 Absent            Warner

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek accepts the annual software support contract for the Highway Superintendent program from Williamson Law Book Company for 2/1/18 through 1/31/19.

**RESOLUTION 23-18**

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

**ADOPTED** - 4 Ayes            Ridgeway, Gove, Scheppard, Wood  
                  0 No  
                  1 Absent            Warner

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek has found no record showing known ownership and has not received any tax payment on the property labeled as Franklin Ave at Sandy Pond.

On Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> from 11 am to 1 pm Oswego County Office for the Aging will be here to help senior citizens apply for the Home Energy Assistance Program.

**BUDGET AMENDMENT AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS  
RESOLUTION 24-18**

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

**ADOPTED** - 4 Ayes               Scheppard, Wood, Gove, Ridgeway  
                  0 No  
                  1 Absent             Warner

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek authorizes the creation of line # SW2-8397.4 in the Water District #2 fund and the following transfers of funds:

<b>FROM Line #</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>TO Line #</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>\$ Amount</b>
From SW2-1990.4	Contingent	To SW2-8397.2	Water, Meters & Equipment	\$ 500.00
From SW2-1990.4	Contingent	To SW2-8397.4	Water, Meters & Equipment Contractual	\$ 1,000.00

**APPROVAL OF BILLS  
RESOLUTION 25-18**

**On motion** by John W. Wood, Jr., seconded by Ruth E. Scheppard, the following resolution was

**ADOPTED** - 4 Ayes               Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove, Wood  
                  0 No  
                  1 Absent             Warner

**Resolved** that the bills be paid on Abstract #2 in the following amounts:

General Fund           \$ 324.02  
Trust & Agency       \$ 25,569.71

**And** on Abstract #3 in the following amounts:

General Fund           \$ 63,630.85  
Trust & Agency       \$ 14,060.15  
Highway Fund         \$ 43,391.45  
Water District #1-SW \$ 465,324.15  
Water District #2-SW \$ 962.65

Superintendent Kastler intends to keep his town pick-up truck until spring and then may send it to auction. Councilman Wood is attending the 2018 Training School and Annual Meeting of the Association of Towns in NYC.

**On motion** by Ruth E. Scheppard, seconded by Nola J. Gove and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 pm.

The next regular monthly meeting will be held March 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy L. Miller, RMC  
Town Clerk