**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:** June 9, 2021

**Kind of Meeting:** Regular Meeting

**Place:** Town Hall

**Board Members Present:** Nancy Ridgeway  **Others Present:**

Ruth E. Scheppard Michael C. Kastler

Nola J. Gove Tammy L. Miller

John W. Wood, Jr. Dustin Clark, P.E.

**Absent:** Dave Warner Eric Pappa

Michael G. Yerdon

Pat McDougal

Wayne Miller

Shirley Rice

Carol Rohrmoser

Norma Newman

Bill Joyce- left at 7:51 pm

Tim Ridgeway

Darrin Harten

Steve Balcom

Jessica Godfrey

Pete Backus

Byron Ellis

Peggy Rice

John Howland in at 7:16 pm

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**RESOLUTION 41-21**

On motion by John 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 minutes of the May 12th meeting are approved as written.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

The monthly financial report of the Supervisor for May 2021 was filed today in the Town Clerk’s office. The Town Board received a copy tonight.

**REPORTS:**

Sole Assessor- Rebecca Trudell’s report has been filed in the Town Clerk’s office. Supervisor Ridgeway reported that there were three grievance applications that were mailed in for review and three stipulations on Grievance Day. No face-to-face hearings were held. Decision letters have been mailed to the property owners.

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. All highway employees that were out due to Covid19 have now recovered and have returned to work. The department is busy doing roadside mowing. New budget numbers came out last week for CHIPS and Extreme Winter Recovery Program funding. A budget amendment may be needed in the near future. Due to a Governor’s order in May the water department cannot charge late fees or shut water off for non-payment during the Covid19 emergency. In Water District #3 all of the seasonal roads have been resurfaced. Topsoil and grass seed has been done on most of them as well. There are two drill crews working in the district and one mainline crew working on Upton Road.

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

Historian – Peggy Rice reported that her written report has been filed. The Historian’s department is open Fridays from 10 am to 2 pm. Mrs. Rice is also available for special events and by appointment.

Legislator – County Legislator Michael G. Yerdon reported that on June 10th the Oswego County Legislature will meet at 7 pm. A public hearing will be held at 6:45 pm regarding allowing 12 and 13 year olds to hunt big game. He has participated in several conference calls with Supervisor Ridgeway regarding the dredging issue with the DEC, Army Corps of Engineers and US Congresswoman Claudia Tenney. Congresswoman Tenney traveled to Sandy Creek twice lately. There will be a free STEAM Quest Camp for children age 6 to 12 at Camp Zerbe July 12th -16th from 8 am to 4 pm. Breakfast and lunch will also be provided free of charge. Supervisor Ridgeway stated that she definitely wants to know by next month’s meeting if the county is going to move the bridge near Sandy Island Beach State Park. Councilman Scheppard stressed that the town doesn’t want to see the county let this grant opportunity expire.

Library – Library Director Jessica Godfrey was present to give her report. She gave the board a copy of the monthly newsletter and a flyer for the summer reading program. “Tails and Tales” with be held July 1st through August 9th. Registration is required for toddler age through age 17. A kit to take home must be picked up. There will also be programming for adults. The vote to increase funding passed. There will also be a story walk on the library lawn during the summer reading program weeks.

NOCA – Nancy Dingman sent Supervisor Ridgeway a message that Northern Oswego County Ambulance will meet next on June 14th.

Planning Board – Bill Joyce reported for the Sandy Creek Regional Planning Board. A public hearing was held regarding Guile and Sons, LLC moving the Sandy Creek Redemption Center and Bait and Tackle Shop to the former Sancona Lumber building. No one from the public showed up and the site plan was approved. The Site Plan modification for Pond Pit BBQ was also approved. SCRPB Chairman Shirley Rice is resigning after 30 years of service. Her dedication is very much appreciated. Planning board members are reviewing their by-laws and will present proposed changes to the Town Board for input. The Association of Towns legal service may also be asked to review the by-laws. SCRPB will recommend alternate Sybil Cummings be appointed as a Village of Sandy Creek representative on the planning board. Kevin and Darcy Presley have also expressed interest in joining the planning board. Supervisor Ridgeway thanked Shirley Rice for her years of service.

Code Enforcement Officer – John Howland reported that his report for May 2021 is on file in the Town Clerk’s office. He is working on training. The Coady property is being cleaned up.

Town Clerk – Tammy Miller reported that receipts and total disbursements for the month of May totaled $2,846.05. Of this total, $2,503.34 was town revenue. This report is on file in her office and available for public inspection.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: Timothy Ridgeway** of **Bremm Road** introducedhimself and announced that he is running for Town Supervisor in the November General Election.

Engineers – Dustin Clark, P.E. of Barton & Loguidice was present to update the Town Board on the current water project. There are 14 miles of water main left to install. The contractor is laying 1,000 to 1,600 feet of pipeline per day. Approximately 2/3 of the total number of water services have been installed. There are two mainline crews and two drill crews working. One mainline crew is working in Richland. A pressure reducing valve (PRV) vault was installed partially outside of the road right-of-way at the corner of Hilton Rd and Co Rt 62. The PRV is needed to reduce the water pressure on Hilton Rd and St Rt 3. It was planned to be placed at a different spot on Co Rt 62 originally. However, the equipment needed for the installation will not fit under the power lines at that location. B&L would like to find another location and remove the vault from the corner as soon as possible as the location and situation on the corner property is not ideal. Darrin Harten owns the property on the corner. He was present at this meeting and stated that he is not happy that he was not asked for permission for the equipment to be installed there and that workers trespassed on his property. He stated that no one is to enter his property again without permission from him. Additional documentation was submitted to the Office of the State Comptroller on May 25th. We are waiting for Comptroller approval to increase the total project cost by $3 million. The project is on schedule for the base area to be at substantial completion by November 2021. Pipe is being installed as fast as the supply is delivered. Final completion should be in the spring of 2022. The schedule may change when OSC approval is received. There are seasonal restrictions that must be followed. The extra money is needed as prices have escalated, but will be offset by a $3 million WIIA grant. This will also allow all optional areas to be completed. NYSDEC has tentatively denied the variance application for the CEHA area. We are in the public comment period now and awaiting the final decision. Pete Backus was present and said that the CEHA property owners group will meet and will be sending letters. They will also reach out to our local politicians. If the final decision is not to allow water in the area, the residents plan to appeal. They plan to use the town’s name only and not the town’s money. Pat McDougal was present and stated that she spoke with US Congresswoman Claudia Tenney and she said that the DEC is required to consider the health and lives of the public that are affected. If the DEC does approve the CEHA area for public water, each homeowner would need to apply for an individual DEC permit before construction could occur.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

The town has received no definite guidance on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The amount of money that the town may receive is still unknown. Supervisor Ridgeway and Deputy Scheppard attended a County Supervisor’s meeting and Supervisor Ridgeway attended a meeting at CiTi regarding ARPA. Supervisor Ridgeway also attended a meeting on June 5th at Green Point with Claudia Tenney regarding the need to dredge and the protection of the Piping Plover. There was a large number of residents in attendance.

**RESOLUTION 42-21**

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

ADOPTED - 4 Ayes Scheppard, Wood, Ridgeway, Gove

0 No

1 Absent Warner

**Resolved** as that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek authorizes an upgrade to the internet service at the Town Hall to Frontier Communications Broadband 90 for $84.99 per month.

**RESOLUTION 43-21**

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

ADOPTED - 4 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Wood, Gove

0 No

1 Absent Warner

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek approves a volunteer hour value of $15.00 per hour for the North Sandy Pond Resiliency Project.

There will be one more planting of beach grass in the fall. However, Sandy Bonanno is retiring and a new person will need to be in charge.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

There is another meeting on June 16th in Oswego regarding ARPA. The Town Board needs to decide whether or not to enact a local law opting out of cannabis retail sales by the end of the year. This would cover dispensaries and lounges. There is a 13% tax on cannabis sales in NYS. The state keeps 9%. The county gets 1% and the town would get 3% of the tax. The board tabled the topic for a later date.

**RESOLUTION 44-21**

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 Board of the Town of Sandy Creek approves the understanding of services from Bowers and Company CPAs PLLC for the capital project fund for a total cost of between $15,000 and $19,000.

Supervisor Ridgeway gave an update on Councilman Dave Warner who is excused from the meeting due to illness. Superintendent Kastler received a landscaping proposal from Charlie Trust for weed mat, mulch and shrubs at the Library not to exceed $2,500.00. Some plants will be kept and the highway department will assist. The mulch will be brown with plans for stone in the future. Mr. Trust has insurance.

**RESOLUTION 45-21**

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

ADOPTED - 4 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Wood, Gove

0 No

1 Absent Warner

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek accepts the proposal from Charlie Trust for landscaping services at the Annie Porter Ainsworth Memorial Library for a cost not to exceed $2,500.00.

Superintendent Kastler apologized to Darrin Harten and Steve Balcom about the placement of the PRV vault. He said that it was not handled properly and the blame falls on many shoulders. Dustin Clark also apologized. Mr. Harten responded that he is frustrated with the rudeness and the failure to ask for permission to use his land in the first place as he is always home. He said that the first thing he asked for was for it to be moved.

**APROVAL OF BILLS**

**RESOLUTION 46-21**

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 #10 in the following amounts:

General Fund $ 290.25

Trust & Agency $ 10,478.78

**And** on Abstract #11 in the following amounts:

General Fund $ 55,733.30

Highway Fund $ 24,191.15

Water District #3- H3 $ 868,517.93

NPRP REDI Grant-H5 $ 18,853.66

Sandy Creek Fire District $ 157,000.00

Lacona Fire District $ 76,500.00

Water District #1-SW $ 2,554.82

Water District #2-SW $ 4 71.72

Water District #3-SW $ 28,042.49

Trust & Agency $ 6,200.12

The next regular monthly meeting will be held July 14th at 7 pm

**On motion** by Nola J. Gove, and seconded by Ruth E. Scheppard, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Tammy L. Miller, Town Clerk