**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:** May 12, 2021

**Kind of Meeting:** Regular Meeting and Public Hearing

**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. Brett McVoy

Brittany M. Washburn

**Absent** Dave Warner Eric Pappa

Michael G. Yerdon

Pat McDougal

Wayne Miller

Shirley Rice

Carol Rohrmoser

Ronald L. Fisher, Jr.-left at 7:51 pm

Nancy Dingman

Norma Newman

Bill Joyce- left at 7:51 pm

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Supervisor Nancy Ridgeway called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. The Annual Financial Report Update Document for the Fiscal Year Ended 12/31/2020 was filed on April 20, 2021. Supervisor Ridgeway offered a copy to the board members. She immediately opened the public hearing regarding granting a cable television franchise agreement by and between the Town of Sandy Creek and Spectrum Northeast LLC, l/k/a Charter Communications. No one present spoke for or against the cable franchise agreement and the public hearing was closed at 7:01 pm.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**RESOLUTION 35-21**

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 April 14th meeting are approved as written.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

The monthly financial report of the Supervisor for April 2021 was filed in the Town Clerk’s office today. 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 the 2021 tentative assessment roll is complete. The first day of sitting with the roll was today. There are several building permits to review after Grievance Day on June 1st.

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. Three highway employees have been out due to Covid19. Two are back to work and one is still on quarantine. Superintendent Kastler is interested in purchasing a Cimline Kettle tar machine 50/50 with the Town of Richland. Sandy Creek’s cost would be $3,500 and the invoice is in tonight’s bills if the Town Board approves the purchase. Purchasing a conveyor for the screen was agreed upon last month. Intermunicipal agreements will be done for each piece of shared equipment. The Town of Richland is paving their portion of Hinman Road and Superintendent Kastler is interested in paving our portion at the same time if it is possible to piggy-back on Richland’s bid.

Requests for water service are still being received in Water District #1. Nothing is really happening in Water District #2. WD Malone is doing restoration work in part of Water District #3. Superintendent Kastler asked them to have the roads done by May 31st. Mainline crews are back with mores crews coming back later this month. The Zenner meter system is working well.

Historian – Supervisor Ridgeway summarized Peggy Rice’s written report. She had the flower boxes in the cemeteries repaired and is painting them. The Lindsey, Harvey/Rice, and Clark/LaShomb families donated various items to the historian department.

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

Legislator – County Legislator Michael G. Yerdon reported the county will be filling the vacancies created by last year’s hiring freeze. There is state funding to help replace the staff. The legislature will vote on a resolution on May 13th to allow 12 and 13 year olds to hunt big game. NYS is allowing each county to decide if it is allowed. The county plans to have all employees back working in the offices this month. Mr. Yerdon hopes NYS fully opens the DMV offices soon. The YMCA bridge project is on hold. A meeting will be held on May 21st regarding the bridge replacement. This project is supposed to be completed by next year. Superintendent Kastler said the salt bid was awarded through Onondaga County this year and is $12 per ton less than last year from a different supplier. The county is also using BidNet Direct now for some purchases.

Library – Library Director Jessica Godfrey emailed her report. She wants to encourage everyone to vote on the school budget ballot on May 18th.

NOCA – Nancy Dingman reported that Northern Oswego County Ambulance has completed their employee handbook. ConnextCare is expanding their parking lot and the fill generated from the project will be used to fill the corner of the NOCA property. There are plans to build an accessible training building in that corner.

Planning Board – Bill Joyce reported for the Sandy Creek Regional Planning Board. The minutes from the May 5th meeting were filed. Pat McCullough verbally resigned at the May 5th meeting. Bill Joyce will take her position as Secretary-Treasurer. The planning board’s files are being stored at the Town Hall. Their by-laws state that the town will provide office space for the planning board. Although there is no office available at this time, it was agreed that a workspace can be provided when needed. Their by-laws need updating. Mr. Joyce also asked for a key and security code to the Town Hall. A letter of interest was received from Jarrid Pearson of North Main Street. He is a possible candidate for the vacancy that Mrs. McCullough’s resignation as a Village of Sandy Creek representative will create. NYS Sexual Harassment training is required for all officials, employees and volunteers of municipalities each year and will be completed by the planning board members in the near future.

Code Enforcement Officer – John Howland was absent this evening. His report for April 2021 is on file in the Town Clerk’s office.

Town Clerk – Tammy Miller reported that receipts and total disbursements for the month of April totaled $5,108.25. Of this total, $4,530.57 was town revenue. This report is on file in her office and available for public inspection. A notice of a new application for a liquor, wine, beer and cider license was received from Amy L. Steele for Eddies Cove AS, LLC. All fees collected during tax collection have been paid to Supervisor Ridgeway and the tax collection account has a zero balance.

Supervisor Nancy Ridgeway received notification from Oswego County regarding health department issues at the Bowen and the Coady properties.

Ronald Fisher, Jr, a resident of Sandy Pond and a representative of several area groups was present to advocate for more boardwalks at Sandy Island Beach State Park. He thanked the Town Board for the North Sandy Pond Resiliency Project. He feels it is a success and has worked with several volunteers planting beach grass. He is concerned about crowds trampling the sand dunes and the beach grass. He believes the rope based boardwalks will help prevent blow-outs of the dunes. He understands that we won’t place them on private property, but would like them for the state park as it is heavily used. He is asking the Town Board to pay for the materials to build these portable boardwalks out of the REDI grant funding for the project. Materials are estimated at approximately $3,700. Councilman Wood is not in favor as he feels the boardwalks could be easily stolen.

**RESOLUTION 36-21**

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

ADOPTED - 3 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove

1 No Wood

1 Absent Warner

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek authorizes the purchase of materials to construct eight ten-foot sections of sand boardwalk to be used at Sandy Island Beach State Park from the REDI funding for the North Sandy Pond Resiliency Project.

**RESOLUTION 37-21**

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

ADOPTED - 4 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove, Wood

0 No

1 Absent Warner

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek agrees to order 10,000 bareroots of Marram grass from Cardno, Inc for $4,500.00 plus approximately $200 for shipping for the North Sandy Pond Resiliency Project.

Supervisor Ridgeway announced that Councilman Warner was excused from this meeting due to surgery on April 30th. He is still in the hospital.

Engineers – Brett McVoy of Barton & Loguidice was present to update the Town Board on current projects.

The sewer study project is officially closed and Supervisor Ridgeway received the final check from the REDI funding for this project. Two main line crews are working in Water District #3. B&L will have the response to the DEC on the CEHA variance application done by May 14th. The Office of the State Comptroller has requested more documentation for the increase in cost of the Richland Sandy Creek Joint Water Project. Supervisor Ridgeway spoke to Anthony Young today and plans to go to Attorney Prosachik’s office next week.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Supervisor Ridgeway signed renewals for the phone system with Frontier and Tamco. A check for $3,287.04 was received from the Village of Sandy Creek from the Denham/Kessler fund for landscaping and beautification of the Library property. The interest can be spent for this purpose with the original $2,000 remaining unspent.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION 38-21**

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

ADOPTED - 4 Ayes Scheppard, Wood, Ridgeway, Gove

0 No

1 Absent Warner

**Resolved** as follows**:**

An application has been duly made to the Board of the **Town of Sandy Creek, County of Oswego,** New York, by **Spectrum Northeast LLC**, l/k/a Charter Communications, a limited liability company organized and existing in good standing under the laws of State of Delaware doing business at 6005 Fair Lakes Road, East Syracuse, NY 13057, for the approval of a renewal agreement for Spectrum Northeast LLC’s cable television franchise for fifteen (15) years commencing with the date of approval by the Public Service Commission.

The Franchise Renewal Agreement would bring the franchise into conformity with certain provisions of the Federal Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984, as amended, and certain court rulings.

A public hearing was held in the Town of Sandy Creek New York on May 12, 2021 at 7 P.M. and notice of the hearing was published in the Watertown Daily Times on May 5, 2021.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** the Board of the Town of Sandy Creek finds that:

1. Spectrum Northeast LLC has substantially complied with the material terms and conditions of its existing franchise and with applicable law; and

2. Spectrum Northeast LLC has the financial, legal and technical ability to provide these services, facilities and equipment as set forth in its proposal attached; and

3. Spectrum Northeast LLC can reasonably meet the future cable-related community needs and interests, taking into account the cost of meeting such needs and interests.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of the **Town of Sandy Creek** hereby grants the cable television franchise of Spectrum Northeast LLC and the **Town of Sandy Creek** for fifteen (15) years commencing with the date of approval by the Public Service Commission and expiring fifteen (15) years hence.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of the **Town of Sandy Creek** hereby confirms acceptance of this Franchise Renewal Agreement.

The foregoing having received a 4-0 vote was thereby declared adopted.

No direction has been received on the American Rescue Plan funding. Supervisor Ridgeway will have a telephone meeting on this on May 20th and it will be discussed at the Supervisor’s meeting on May 25th. Phil Church plans to host a meeting about this as well.

**RESOLUTION 39-21**

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 accepts the annual software support contract for the Town Clerk Plus program from Williamson Law Book Company for May 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022 for $720.00.

The Memorial Day parade and services will be happening this year. The Oswego County Fair is still undecided due to all of the Covid19 regulations. Joseph W. Russell has been recommended as a Town Attorney. The Town Board is interested in meeting him, possibly at our June meeting. Councilman Wood discussed the town’s 15 acres near his property. It is mostly brush and hardwoods. He asked to have Engineer Mike Lasell evaluate the property and see how much of the property can be developed. None of the board members were opposed to this idea. The town docks are in the water at the launch off Wigwam Drive. There is a bill for a separator for $850.00. Superintendent Kastler says that it is being returned.

**APROVAL OF BILLS**

**RESOLUTION 40-21**

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 bills be paid on Abstract #8 in the following amounts:

General Fund $ 701.85

Trust & Agency $ 10,569.75

**And** on Abstract #9 in the following amounts:

General Fund $ 17,098.83

Highway Fund $ 58,251.02

Water District #3- H3 $ 38,110.84

NPRP REDI Grant-H5 $ 7,000.08

Dunes & Wetlands-H6 $ 2,600.00

Water District #1-SW $ 2,389.22

Water District #2-SW $ 9,923.53

Water District #3-SW $ 5,470.30

Trust & Agency $ 6,351.82

The next regular monthly meeting will be held June 9th at 7 pm

**On motion** by Nola J. Gove, and seconded by John W. Wood, Jr., and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy L. Miller, RMC

Town Clerk