**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:** July 8, 2020

**Kind of Meeting:** Regular Meeting

**Place:** Town Hall

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

Ruth Scheppard Tammy L. Miller

Dave Warner Pat McDougal

Nola J. Gove Rebekah Prosachik, Esq.

John W. Wood, Jr Pete Backus- out at 8:47 pm

Eric Pappa

Michael Kastler

Dustin Clark

Michael Yerdon

Jessica Godfrey

Shirley Rice

Carol Rohrmoser

Lyndie Wood- 7:13 to 8:15 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 83-20**

On motion by John W. Wood, Jr, seconded by Dave Warner, the following resolution was

ADOPTED - 5 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove, Warner, Wood

0 No

**Resolved** that the minutes of the June 10th, 24th and July 1st meetings are approved as written.

**FINANCIAL REPORT-** The Monthly Report of the Supervisor was received by the Town Board tonight and is on file in the Town Clerk’s office.

**REPORTS:**

Sole Assessor- Rebecca Trudell’s monthly report is on file in the Town Clerk’s office. Supervisor Ridgeway summarized her brief report. There are three Small Claims Assessment Review applications that may possibly be filed. The Town Clerk printed the Final Assessment Roll as it was sent to her in electronic format only due to COVID-19.

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

Highway/Water Superintendent – Mike Kastler read his highway and water reports aloud at the meeting. They are on file in the Town Clerk’s office. The screen purchase with Richland is on hold for now. Richland isn’t willing to approve the purchase at this time. We will need to hire someone to screen unless we purchase a screen. A discussion followed. The screen will cost $125,000. The board asked for a written quote and tabled the decision until more information is provided. Final notices have been mailed to water customers for unpaid May water bills. A draft construction schedule was received for the joint water project and a Zoom meeting was held with B&L, town officials from Richland and Sandy Creek and Attorney Prosachik. Superintendent Kastler disagrees with a long winter break during project construction. He is also concerned and disappointed about the number of easements that are still outstanding. Attorney Prosachik explained that she is waiting for about 84 stub searches of the approximately 400 that are needed. Approximately 53 drawings are still needed. Twenty drawings had to be revised. Approximately 26 property owners have not responded after easements were mailed to them. She met with the owner of the title company and shared the draft work schedule with him. He said he will get them completed. A new quote from Blair Supply Corp was received for Zenner meters. The paperwork that was signed for Sensus meters is not binding. The package with 200 Zenner meters is quoted at $73,412.00. This is a savings of approximately $70 per meter over the Sensus brand. Because nearly 40% of the water district is not readable with cellular technology, the water department is recommending the Zenner meters. The technology is radio-read, uses the cloud and should work here. Meter readings will update constantly and the water department will receive automatic notification alerts regarding leaks and tampers. The overall cost for this equipment will be approximately the same as in Water District #1.

**RESOLUTION 84-20**

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

ADOPTED - 5 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove, Warner, Wood

0 No

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek authorizes the Water Department to proceed with the purchase of Zenner water meters and does not authorize the installation of Sensus meters in the water districts at this time.

Councilman Warner asked about the status of the cellular antenna installation at the water tower. Superintendent Kastler stated that the electrical is done and the generator installed. The sub-contractor is coming soon to mount the antenna.

Historian – The office is still vacant. Councilman Warner will schedule interviews soon.

Judges – Judge Stoker has filed his monthly financial report with the Town Supervisor.

Legislator – Michael G. Yerdon reported that the Oswego County Legislature met last month in chambers and will meet again on July 9th at 2 pm in legislative chambers at the county office building. Last month a resolution was passed and sent to NYS demanding the county’s share of Medicaid funding. NYS has received Medicaid funding from the federal government, but has not paid the county its share in over two years. They are in violation of federal law and owe Oswego County approximately $1.5 million. Mr. Yerdon serves on the Human Services Committee. There are 3 employees that handle veterans’ services applications in our county. The county pays administration and wages while all other expenses are paid by NYS. The state has decided not to fund any veterans’ programs this year. Oswego County also has a hiring freeze in place. It is hoped that the CHIPS reimbursement does not fall below 80%. NYS funding is questionable and revenues are unstable this year. He handed out copies to the Town Board of all properties going to the county tax auction next month. Catalogs should be coming soon. The auction will be live with online bidding possible this year. Property owners can bid on their own property, but minimum bids are now listed.

Library – Library Director Jessica Godfrey reported that the library re-opened with pick-up service only beginning on June 15th. They plan to reopen for walk-in service on July 13th. However, they are concerned about the air quality in the building. Councilman Warner asked about the driveway plans and drainage problem. Ms. Godfrey said that bids came in around $70,000 and they plan to have the work done this summer. Mike Lasell engineered the project. Supervisor Ridgeway thanked the library staff for goodie bags that were delivered to Senior Citizens in the community. It was a welcome pick-me-up for folks during quarantine. The library staff has provided materials to families through Meals on Wheels, the local food pantry, the school, home school families and has provided materials for the Summer Reading Program three times so far this year. Supervisor Ridgeway met with Sandy Creek Mayor Miller this morning. The village is interested in giving the parcel of land that the library sits on to the town. The town is being offered it first and if isn’t interested, the library board may be offered the land. According to Village Clerk Mattison there is a landscaping fund established by a gift from Peg Denham that might come with the land.

**RESOLUTION 85-20**

On motion by John W. Wood, Jr., seconded by Dave Warner, the following resolution was

ADOPTED - 5 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove, Warner, Wood

0 No

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek agrees to accept the parcel of property that the town library sits on at 6064 South Main Street in the Village of Sandy Creek, tax id #029.07-02-01.

Planning Board – The Sandy Creek Regional Planning Board’s monthly report has been filed in the Town Clerk’s office. Chairman Shirley Rice read this report from their July 1st meeting. A decommissioning plan and bond for the Seber Shores solar farm was discussed. Attorney Prosachik will review the sample plan.

Lyndie Wood was present to express her interest in being appointed as a Town Constable. She had spoken with Constable-in-charge Robert Dalton. She left the meeting at 8:15 pm.

Water Advisory Committee- There was no meeting in June.

Code Enforcement Officer – John Howland’s report for June is on file in the Town Clerk’s office and available for public inspection.

Town Clerk – Tammy Miller reported that receipts and total disbursements for the month of June totaled $1,393.10. Of this total, $1,277.66 was paid to Supervisor Ridgeway for town revenue. This report is on file in the Town Clerk’s office and available for public inspection. Supervisor Ridgeway re-opened the Town Hall on July 6th. A new laptop dedicated to the Department of Environmental Conservation Automated Licensing System has been purchased after the last one was damaged to a plumbing failure. Albany is in the process of installing new software and new printers will be received to print the hunting, fishing, and trapping panels. The Town Clerk and Deputy Clerk will complete training for the new system.

Engineers – Dustin Clark, P.E. of Barton & Loguidice was present to update the Town Board on current projects. The sewer study has received formal approval for REDI funding. A new survey to be mailed to residents should be available at the August meeting for Town Board review. We are working on getting the MWBE plan approved for WD#3. WD Malone has drafted a possible work plan to begin construction at the end of the month. It is not looking like that will be possible. B&L will check on what drawings are still needed to complete the easements. Superintendent Kastler does not agree with long winter breaks during this water project. If there are some below zero days, it will be understandable.

**Carol Rohrmoser** of **US Rt 11** was present to ask how long she will have to wait to get public water installed. She has been having trouble with her well since April. Her well is 1000 feet from her home and it was too wet in April to fix it. She got a new pump, but has been having electrical and pressure problems and issues with leaks.

**Shirley Rice** asked if the Town Board would allow the Sandy Creek Regional Planning Board to come back to the Town Hall for their meetings the first Wednesday of every month. The Town Board agreed that it was no problem and asked to know ahead of time when they would be returning to the Town Hall.

**Pete Backus** was present to update the Town Board on a meeting with Matt Marko of the NYS DEC. Mr. Backus, Pat McDougal, Engineer Clark, Terry Wilbur of Assemblyman Barclay’s office and 7 or 8 other residents of South Sandy Pond Inlet and North Rainbow Shores Road met with Mr. Marko on July 2nd. They did not walk the area of concern, but spent time talking and listening to each other. Mr. Backus is requesting that the town hold off on any decision to apply for a variance until August or September as they have submitted a Freedom of Information Law request to the DEC. They provided lists of the property owners that want public water in this CEHA area. Attorney-for-the-Town Prosachik has been in communication with Tom West, an attorney that this group of property owners has hired to help overturn the DEC’s decision. Mr. Clark agreed that this meeting was productive. Both sides have strong opinions and a third party may need to make a decision. The group will not go to the press at this time. This action could cost an additional $25,000 and Mr. Backus believes that the group of property owners affected are willing to pay the cost. Mr. Backus left the meeting at 8:47 pm.

**OLD BUSINESS**

The town received the remaining $15,000 for the sewer study. The general fund will be repaid and the H1 fund will be closed. The town received $6,608 from the Sandy Pond Channel Maintenance Association from t-shirt sales for the North Pond Resiliency Project. The paperwork for the $7,500 fishing grant administered by the Sandy Pond Sportsman’s Association has been submitted.

**RESOLUTION 86-20**

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

ADOPTED - 5 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove, Warner, Wood

0 No

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek agrees to accept the Labor Agreement between the Town of Sandy Creek and Teamsters Local Union 317 for the term January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2022.

**RESOLUTION 87-20**

On motion by Dave Warner, seconded by Nola J. Gove, the following resolution was

ADOPTED - 4 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove, Warner

0 No

1 Abstain Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek appoints Sybil K. Cummins as alternate member of the Sandy Creek Regional Planning Board.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION 88-20**

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 Abstain Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek appoints Michael S. Morrison and Lyndie Wood as Town Constables with a term ending December 31, 2020.

**APROVAL OF BILLS**

**RESOLUTION 89-20**

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

**ADOPTED** - 5 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove, Warner, Wood

0 No

**Resolved** that the bills be paid on Abstract #12 in the following amounts:

General Fund $ 279.97

Trust & Agency $ 15,729.23

**And** on Abstract #13 in the following amounts:

General Fund $ 44,685.11

Highway $ 29,326.99

Water Project #3- H3 $ 46,441.93

N Pond Shoreline-H4 $ 2,385.25

Water District #1-SW $ 2,275.42

Water District #2-SW $ 303.88

Water District #3-SW $ 1,006.32

Trust & Agency $ 4,832.11

The next Water Advisory Committee meeting is July 27th at 6 pm.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Town Board will be held August 12th at 7 pm.

**On motion** by Nancy Ridgeway, and seconded by Nola J. Gove, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Tammy L. Miller, RMC, Town Clerk