**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:** November 9, 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

John W. Wood, Jr. Brittany M Washburn

Meg Sprague

Eric Pappa

Ron Fisher

James Bremm

Peggy Rice

Norma Newman

Pat McDougal-out at 8:19 pm

John Howland @ 7:11 pm

Nancy Dingman

Amy & James Green

Cheryl Yerdon

Pete Backus-out @ 8:19 pm

Michael Yerdon-out @ 7:09 pm

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.

He opened the public hearing on the 2023 preliminary budget and the 2023 fire protection contracts at 7:02 pm. The hearing was closed at 7:03 pm.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**RESOLUTION 102-22**

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 September 12 and October 5, 12, and 19 meetings are approved as written.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

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

**REPORTS:**

Legislator – County Legislator Michael G. Yerdon reported that the legislature plans to pass the county budget November 10th with no increase in the tax levy. The county has approved the funding of 17 ARPA projects. Much paperwork is being done. Seven more will likely be approved. The Sandy Creek Lacona Joint Waterworks was awarded a $30,000 ARPA grant to get well #6 back online and to train the two water operators. The ethanol plant in Fulton closed and large storage buildings were left. Taxes had not been paid and the county was in litigation about it. They now have an agreement. A new company will be taking over. A fire has been smoldering there for 6 months. The company will put a hole in the tank and remove the corn and dispose of the bad corn. The pungent smell in that area should soon be resolved.

Highway/Water Superintendent – Michael C. Kastler read his highway and water department reports. The new 2023 truck was delivered. He will have the sander put on next week. Legislator Yerdon left the meeting to attend Redfield’s meeting. He discussed the purchase of a new truck and a loader.

**RESOLUTION 103-22**

On motion by Ruth E. Scheppard, seconded by Nola J. Gove, 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 will purchase a 2024 International plow truck for $238,275.64 on Onondaga County Contract #8896.

**RESOLUTION 104-22**

On motion by Dave Warner, 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 will purchase a Volvo loader for $197,849.00 on NYS OGS contract.

The snow and ice contract with Oswego County has been signed. A labor rate for the seasonal employees needs to be determined for this year. Three out of the four employees do have their CDL license. Water bills have been sent out with a notice of increase for the May 2023 bill included. In Water District #3 we are working on the punch list. WD Malone will be back in the spring after the winter shut down. Wayne Miller said that there should be language in the IMA against aggressive increases. Superintendent Kastler said we had an agreement to pay 20 cents over cost, but unfortunately it was a gentleman’s agreement. Norma Newman said the Town Board and especially Superintendent Kastler did a good job at the joint meeting advocating for the water district residents.

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

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

Historian – Peggy Rice’s monthly report was filed in the Town Clerk’s office.

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

Library – Library Director Jessica Godfrey distributed the library’s newsletter to the Town Board. She has added prices to the library’s furniture list and has released it to the public. Painting and steam cleaning the carpets will need to be coordinated in one week before the new furnishings arrive this winter. Girl Scouts decorated 4 small Christmas trees with a Christmas movie theme. They are on display at the library for voting on by the public. They will then be given to individuals or families in need. The library will participate in Light Up Lacona with some wreath coloring sheets and ornament making. They will be preparing their budget in December.

NOCA – Nancy Dingman reported that each of NOCA’s ambulances now have a narcotics safe.

Planning Board – Minutes from the meeting that was held on November 2nd have been filed in the Town Clerk’s office. They have prepared a draft local law regarding marijuana and other adult products for Town Board review.

Code Enforcement Officer – John Howland’s report of permits and violation notices for October is filed in the Town Clerk’s office. The parcel on Caster Road with three trailers and one house is in violation. They had until the 8th to correct it. Officer Howland will look at the property again tomorrow. Attorney Graham Seiter is drafting a local law for the NYS fire code updates.

Town Clerk – Tammy Miller reported that receipts and total disbursements for the month of October totaled $2,468.20 of which 1,854.87 was town revenue. The report is on file in her office and available for public inspection.

Upstate Freshwater Institute - Ron Fisher was present to share an update on the water quality monitoring agreement the town has with Upstate Freshwater Institute to address the HAB issue on North Sandy Pond. He

reported that he is involved in three separate projects. He will have a final report on the HAB results for 2022 in the spring. There will be a new contract for HAB monitoring in 2023. The contract with Oswego County has been signed for water quality monitoring of the five streams that feed North Pond. The streams will be monitored through the winter and spring.

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

The Sunset Lane project is complete and payment application #1 is ready for signature.

**RESOLUTION 105-22**

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 Town Supervisor Timothy D. Ridgeway to sign an application for funding of the Skinner Road bridge replacement project.

Restoration is nearly complete in Water District #3 and there will only be a couple more payments before the project is finished. The proposed Water District #4 project is on hold as the Village of Sandy Creek is no longer interested after the Town of Richland water rate increase. Pete Backus was present to speak about the CEHA hearing on December 6th and 7th. Attorney Fogel feels that the appeal will likely be unsuccessful. He would like to enhance and submit another variance application. He will include scientific statistics and more evidence of hardship. Therefore, he recommends canceling the December hearings. The timeline was discussed. Attorney Fogel was hired in July. The original hearing was scheduled in September and postponed to December. The joint project will be completed in 2023.

**RESOLUTION 106-22**

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 will cancel the December 6th and 7th CEHA hearings.

CEO Howland spoke about a $12,000 study being done on zebra mussels in a 500-foot circle zone. It can be seen on the DEC Mapper which also shows flood plains and wetlands maps.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: James Green** asked about getting an application from the town for the water operator trainee position.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Supervisor Ridgeway is still waiting for Department of Transportation permits to install the welcome signs.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION 107-22**

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 Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creekapproves the Williamson Law Book Municipal Accounting and Budget Software Support Contract for November 1, 2022 – October 31, 2023 for $1,008.00.

**RESOLUTION 108-22**

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 Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek authorizes Town Clerk Tammy Miller to sign the professional services agreement with Stantec for Sandy Pond Plant Installation.

**RESOLUTION 109-22**

On motion by Timothy D. Ridgeway, seconded by Nola J. Gove, 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 approves the contract agreement with Advanced Business Systems Incorporated for the EQ9948 Taskalfa 3553CI copier effective 12/1/2022 – 11/30/2024.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

**RESOLUTION 110-22**

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

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

0 No

**Resolved** that the bills be paid on Abstract #20 in the following amounts:

General Fund $ 645.86

Water District #2-SW $ 8,890.62

Trust & Agency $ 10,283.33

**And** on Abstract #21 in the following amounts:

General Fund $ 21,120.47

Highway Fund $ 252,307.94

Water District #3- H3 $ 323,111.79

N Sandy Pond Shore-H4 $ 7,689.00

Water District #1-SW $ 101,833.05

Water District #2-SW $ 14,869.08

Water District #3-SW $ 3,921.10

Trust & Agency $ 6,309.67

**RESOLUTION 111-22**

On motion by John W. Wood, Jr., seconded by Nola J. Gove, the following resolution was

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

0 No

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek will enter executive session at 8:34 pm for the purposes of collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law. Everyone left the meeting, except Town Clerk Miller waited in her office for the open meeting to resume.

**RESOLUTION 112-22**

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

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

0 No

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek will exit executive session at 9:46 pm.

**RESOLUTION 113-22**

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

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

0 No

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek adopts the Town Budget for 2023 for the Town of Sandy Creek and the fire protection contracts for 2023 with the Village of Lacona and the Village of Sandy Creek.

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

**On motion** by Nola J. Gove, and seconded by Ruth E. Scheppard, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 9:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy L. Miller, RMC

Town Clerk