

**MINUTES
OF
THE TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE TOWN BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 10, 2015
7:00 PM**

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 10th day of December 2015 at 7 o'clock in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury and the roll was called with the following results:

PRESENT WERE: Attorney Thomas Fallati
Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury
Councilman Robert Bolte
Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir
Councilwoman Marion Cooke
Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

ABSENT WAS: Councilman Gerald Wood

Also present were Highway Superintendent Randy Bates and Deputy Superintendent Dave Potter, Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Mark Overbaugh, Assessor Donna Kropp, Water/Sewer Treatment Officer Doug Story, Recycling Coordinator Jon Whitbeck, Investigator Tracy Mance, and two interested citizens.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Ernest Kuehl wished to thank Councilman Bolte for everything he has done for the Town. He hopes Mr. Bolte's influence on the Town Board will continue.

Bob has offered to continue to do volunteer work at Town Hall, such as the plumbing and electrical, the Veteran's Ring of Honor and the flower gardens.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the minutes of the November 5, 2015 – Public Hearing – Preliminary Budget; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (3) Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0); Abstains (1) Lounsbury

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the minutes of the November 10, 2015 – Work Meeting; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the minutes of the November 12, 2015 – Regular Meeting; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Bolte, and Cooke; Nays (0); Abstains (1) Sedlmeir

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the minutes of the November 12, 2015 - Public Hearing – Stop Sign at the Intersection of Gerard and Sayre Roads; 2nd by Councilman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Bolte, and Cooke; Nays (0); Abstains (1) Sedlmeir

TRANSFERS

None

ABSTRACTS/VOUCHERS

General Fund	29,428.41
Highway Fund	37,678.74
Lighting District	681.08
Sewer Fund	80.31
<u>T & A Fund</u>	<u>716.40</u>
Total	68,584.94

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to pay all signed vouchers and bills; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

CORRESPONDENCE

None

REPORTS

SUPERVISOR

1. Supervisor Lounsbury announced that she and Councilwoman Cooke attended a conference in Westerlo regarding broadband internet service and how funding has become available to under-served and non-served areas. The conference was also attended by Senator George Amedore and representatives from Mid-Hudson Cable, NY-Air & Mid-Hudson Data Corporation, and Hudson Valley Wireless. The Federal Government is increasing the minimum standards for internet speed, but the densely

wooded areas, hills, and valleys of this area make it much more difficult to reach the under and non-served areas.

2. The Library will be hosting a workplace safety course sponsored by the Albany County Sheriff's Department on December 22, 2015 at 6:00 PM. Investigator Mance noted that the program was very informative.

3. Supervisor Lounsbury announced that the Town Picnic will be held on June 5th from 2 to 4:30.

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury that, as a Community Event, the Town-Wide Picnic will be held on June 5, 2016 from 2 to 4:30 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

4. Supervisor Lounsbury announced that Kathy Wank had completed her certification and is now a Certified Assessor.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to accept the Supervisor's report; 2nd by Councilman Bolte.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

ATTORNEY

1. Attorney Fallati will address the Board later in the meeting.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

1. Highway Superintendent Bates reported that the Highway Department's snow and ice preparation has been completed; salt has been delivered; and the trucks have been serviced. Currently, the Highway Department has been busy cutting and trimming trees.

2. The new Western Star truck is due to be delivered any day.

3. Superintendent Bates announced that the stop signs have been installed at the intersection of Gerard and Sayre Roads and that seven 'Right to Farm' signs have also been erected.

4. Highway Superintendent Bates wished to thank Councilman Bolte on behalf of himself and the Highway Department for all he has done. He noted the vast amounts of money Bob has saved the Town. Bob has maintained the shop; spent time troubleshooting the trucks; done electrical work; done plumbing work; everything that breaks, Bob fixes.

Bob has purchased tools with his own money; has donated his personal tools; and has supplied a great amount of scrap steel from Albany Fabrication for repairs. Bob spear-headed the purchase of two Oshkosh trucks from the Town of Catskill, largely through donations. He sold the Town a patch roller at a very fair price when the Town desperately needed one; and the roller has significantly improved the quality of the hand-patching. He has researched websites for used equipment. Superintendent Bates added that personally, Bob always offered support and encouragement when the ‘road wasn’t always so smooth’.

Bob, again, extended his offer to continue to help in any way possible.

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the Highway Superintendent’s report; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

TOWN CLERK

Town Clerk Kraker reported for the month of November as follows:

Town Clerk Department – Total Collected \$2,800.75

Paid to the Supervisor - \$606.40 - the breakdown is as follows:

Clerk Fees	\$108.40
Recycling	137.00
Dog Licenses	71.00
Building Permits	130.00
<u>Zoning</u>	<u>160.00</u>
Total	\$606.40

Fees paid to NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets for the ‘Animal Population Control Program’ aka ‘dog surcharge’: \$11.00;

Electronic sweep from the Town Clerk’s checking account for the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation - Sporting Licenses: \$2,183.35

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the Town Clerk’s report; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/BUILDING INSPECTOR

1. Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Overbaugh reported for the month of November, 1 Accessory Building Permit and 1 Woodstove Permit.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to accept the Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector’s report; 2nd by Supervisor Lounsbury.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

ASSESSORS

1. Assessor Kropp announced that the Senior Star and Enhanced Star renewal notices have been mailed.
2. The Assessors are currently working on the Agricultural Exemption notices and they will be mailed shortly.

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to accept the Assessor's report; 2nd by Councilman Bolte.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

WATER/SEWER COMMITTEE

1. Water/Sewer Treatment Officer Story reported that, for the month of November, 345,500 gallons of water was filtered (an average of 11,517 gal/day); and 189,000 gallons of sewage was pumped (an average of 6,300 gal/day).
2. Officer Story noted that the concrete inside the tank is in seriously bad shape. As soon as Officer Story gets his confined-space training, he will be able to handle some of the issues before him.
3. Officer Story feels that the District needs to resign itself to the fact that meters should be installed. He feels that unless residents are held responsible for their usage, there are no consequences for misuse. Having proper meters would allow Officer Story the ability to monitor usage and if there were a leak, he could remedy the situation immediately

Councilman Bolte had offered the District meters that could be read remotely, twice in the past. He is willing to extend the offer one more time. Although Officer Story would prefer a more updated version which would allow him to monitor the water usage from a cell phone, he will present Councilman Bolte's offer to the Committee.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to accept the Water/Sewer Treatment Officer's report; 2nd by Supervisor Lounsbury.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

REFUSE/RECYCLING

1. Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck reported the following for the month of November:

Tires: 35

City of Albany Landfill: 52.75 tons
Sierra Fibers: Comingled 4.81 tons and O.C.C. 5.53 tons
Oil: 38 gallons

2. Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck reported that he had received a quote from Iron Horse Welding and also from Smith Welding and Fabrication for the repair of the container. Iron Horse's quote was \$6,000 plus \$3,700 for painting the entire container. Smith's Welding and Fabrication quote was \$3,830 for both the repair and the painting.

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to authorize Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck to hire Smith Welding and Fabrication to perform the repair work on the container for \$3,830; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the Recycling Coordinator's report; 2nd by Supervisor Lounsbury.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

CURRENT EVENTS

Investigator Tracy Mance announced that she had been promoted to 1st Sergeant, but would still continue with her current responsibilities.

Assessor Richard Tollner announced that he had been invited to join the Board of Directors for the Albany-Schenectady County Assessor's Association.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Attorney Fallati announced that the next step in the proposed zoning law is to schedule a final public hearing.

Attorney Fallati read the Resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE TOWN BOARD

WHEREAS, the Town of Rensselaerville has determined that its zoning law should be amended to better reflect the Town's needs and vision for future growth; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has revised the zoning law to reflect these changes.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the duly convened Town Board of the town of Rensselaerville that pursuant to the Municipal Home Rule Law and the General Municipal Law, a public hearing shall be conducted at the Town Hall on January 19, 2016 at 7:00 PM on the attached proposed Local Law, and notice of the time and place of such hearing shall be published on or before January 14, 2016 in a newspaper circulating in the Town.

By motion made by Marion Cooke, and seconded by Margaret Sedlmeir, the foregoing resolution was adopted by a majority of the members of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville on the 10th day of December, 2015 as follows:

Supervisor Lounsbury	Yes
Councilwoman Cooke	Yes
Councilman Bolte	Yes
Councilwoman Sedlmeir	Yes
Councilman Wood	Absent

END RESOLUTION

2. I.T.S. will be updating the server and associated programs. A portion of the process will take place and be paid for this year, and the remainder will be performed and paid for in early 2016.

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to authorize Supervisor Lounsbury to sign the contract with I.T.S. to upgrade the server and all associated programs; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

NEW BUSINESS

1. A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to renew, for the first quarter of 2016, the authority of the Highway Superintendent to participate in on-line purchases through Auctions International within the \$10,000 line-item amount budgeted for 2016; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

2. A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to schedule the final meeting of 2015 for December 30th at 7:00 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

3. A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to schedule the 2016 Organizational Meeting for January 1, 2016 at 10:00 AM; 2nd by Supervisor Lounsbury.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

4. A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to accept the 911 name of ‘Christmas Tree Lane’ for the former driveway of Allyn Wright; 2nd by Councilman Bolte.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

5. A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to accept the resignation of Substitute Recycling Coordinator, Edward Pizzigati, effective December 31, 2015; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

6. A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to allow the Westerlo Volunteer Fire Department to use the Senior Bus for their annual banquet to be held on January 23, 2016. This year they will be traveling to the Colonie Golf Club and Councilman Bolte has volunteered to drive.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Bolte.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Assessor Richard Tollner thanked Councilman Bolte for his years of service to the Town and stated that Bob has been a driving force for many things. Mr. Tollner especially wished to thank Bob for the work and volunteerism with regard to the Veteran’s Ring of Honor. Also, of significance, were Bob’s efforts to obtain the Senior Bus; he sets a good example of what the best of our Town can offer and makes others try harder to try to keep up. Richard stated: “This Town has a different shape and color to it because of what you (Bob) have done.”

Councilman Bolte thanked Richard and offered everyone to stay (before entering into Executive Session) to share the cake that Councilwoman Sedlmeir made for this occasion.

Supervisor Lounsbury extended her thanks as well for everything that Bob has done, noting that he was never more than a phone call away.

The Board also thanked Richard Tollner for his years of service as one of the Town’s Assessors.

Marie Dermody inquired into whether the new road, Christmas Tree Lane, is considered a private road. Supervisor Lounsbury explained that a driveway is considered a ‘Lane’ when there is more than one residence on it, and it must be named for the purposes of the 911 Emergency System. She further explained that each house on any given ‘Lane’ is also given an identifying number.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to enter into Executive Session at 8:05 PM for the purpose of discussing possible litigation; 2nd by Councilman Bolte.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to return from Executive Session at 8:32 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to retain the law firm of Tabner, Ryan, and Keniry to represent the Planning Board in the litigation that has come before the Town; 2nd by Councilman Bolte.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Nays (0)

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;

Victoria H. Kraker

Town Clerk