

## **Town of Fowler Meeting Minutes for September 5, 2017 at 7 PM**

The Regular Meeting for the Town of Fowler was held on the above date with all Board Members present. Also present were Town Clerk Kelly Harmer, Highway Superintendent Randy Durham, Assessor Sherry Geer, Bookkeeper Barb Finnie, CEO Glen Besaw, Rachel Hunter from the Tribune Press, Richard Clement, Lillith Griffith, Debbie Tupper, Gavin Simmons, Mike Macaulay, Tami Gale, Jeff Andrews, Dave Spilman, Shelly Dodds, Dave and Shelley Fackler and Michelle Durham from the St. Lawrence County Housing Council.

Supervisor Cappellino called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM then proceeded with the opening prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

Supervisor Cappellino asked for a moment of silence for Betty Shrewsberry who had recently passed. Mr. Cappellino stated that Mrs. Shrewsberry was a long time Code Enforcement Officer for the Town.

A motion was made by Councilperson Newvine and seconded by Councilperson Simmons to approve the August 1, 2017 meeting minutes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Michelle Durham, from the St. Lawrence County Housing Council, gave a report on the 2015 CDBG grant. She reported that a total of \$201,763 had been paid out, \$261,737 committed leaving a balance of \$36,500. There are 4 units complete and 3 under contract. There will not be enough for another mobile home replacement so the remaining balance will go straight to rehab.

Highway Superintendent Durham stated that he had been keeping busy. The new Tractor is being assembled and will be here in a week or two. Councilperson Newvine asked how the trucks have been running. Mr. Durham said that the new truck had been worked on and is ok now. He stated that the '12 truck is going to Route 11 Trucking in Canton to see if they can fix it. Councilperson Simmons asked Mr. Durham what he will be doing for plowing this winter. Mr. Durham said he will be fine and that he has 6 drivers with CDL's. He stated that John Walsh is still out and his summer help will be done by then. Mr. Durham said that the

Union doesn't want him to hire another CDL driver to plow because it will cut into their overtime. Councilperson Bishop commented what if someone were to get sick this winter and you didn't have enough people to plow.

Supervisor Cappellino asked Mr. Durham if the County had addressed the garbage issue by the Fullerville Bridge. Councilperson Newvine spoke with Mr. Hadfield and he said that they are still getting a lot of garbage up there. Mr. Durham stated that the County was supposed to put up a sign. Mr. Durham will check with the County about this matter. Supervisor Cappellino also asked Mr. Durham about the Audit that Paul Baxter, from the St. Lawrence County Self Insurance Plan did. Mr. Durham said that they are addressing the issues but he thought the audit still went good.

Councilperson Karen Simmons stated that she had not heard from Dog Warden Dan Moyer since the night of the Rabies Clinic so she didn't have a report for Dog Control or Beaver Control. Highway Superintendent Durham stated that he had put him on beavers on the Chub Lake Road and another on the Shantyville Road.

Town Clerk Kelly Harmer reported that she had issued 70 dog licenses, 2 death certificates, two marriage licenses, one marriage transcript and \$1,064.00 in hunting and fishing licenses. She stated that the Sylvia Lake Beach was now closed and that they had 935 people visit the beach this season. She stated that she had received a \$50.00 donation from the Rod and Gun Club for the Playground and the balance of the Playground account is \$7,052.58. She presented the board with a quote on replacing the copier in her room. After much discussion, the consensus of the board was to have the copier cleaned to see if that would take care of the issue.

CEO Glen Besaw reported that he had issued 9 permits for the month of September and that he had closed out 27 additional permits that were left opened. He stated that he had sent a letter to Supervisor Cappellino and the Town Board advising them that he had condemned the old store across from the Town Hall and that it was a public nuisance. That in turn made it so the Town would not be held liable if something were to happen. It was the consensus of the Board to have the Highway Department bulldoze the building in.

Assessor Sherry Geer stated that she had been working heavy on the Data Collection with Tami Gale doing the bulk of it. She stated that they just took 74 more data cards over to the County. There was discussion on how the Data Collection would be paid if there was more than one home on a parcel. Ms. Gale stated that a lot more time goes in to these parcels. It was the consensus of the Board that when there is more than one home in a parcel that the data collector would be paid per home.

Councilperson Bishop asked Mr. Durham if the sand had been put up and how much salt he had. Mr. Durham stated that the sand was up and that he didn't have much salt and that he would need to order more. Mr. Bishop also asked if Mr. Durham had addressed the issues on the Hull Road and the Island Branch Road with the shoulders. Mr. Durham stated that he swept those roads and put mulch down in spots and on the corners. He stated that he had put some gravel down around the mailboxes. Resident Shelly Dodds stated that she wouldn't really consider that a fix and that the grades are really steep. Mr. Durham stated that the only way to fix it would be to put new shoulders down on the whole road. Councilperson Simmons stated there is no sense of having nice roads if the shoulders aren't good. Mr. Durham stated that he would try to come up with a solution. Mr. Bishop asked Mr. Durham if he could put a snow plow turn around sign on the Stone Road and the Battle Hill Road. Mr. Durham will look into it.

Councilperson Newvine thanked Emily Bush, Kelly Harmer and Randy Durham for doing a great job taking care of the Sylvia Lake Beach this year. Mr. Newvine stated that he had someone call him complaining about people speeding down the Doane Road and the Hull Road. A motion was made by Councilperson Newvine and seconded by Councilperson Bishop to ask the County for a speed reduction on the Hull Road and the Doane Road. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Councilperson Newvine gave his condolences to the family of Betty Shrewsberry. He stated that we should donate something in memory of her. Town Clerk Kelly Harmer stated she would find out where to send the donation and get one sent out. Councilperson Simmons stated that the policy on sending flowers or a donation after someone passes is very vague and the Town should look into

revising it. Mr. Newvine thanked the Town crew for the hard work with the installation of the playground. Mr. Newvine said he had a fun time helping with it. Mr. Newvine had counted the houses down County Route 22 and said that there were 20 houses in a 2- mile stretch. He didn't know if that would be enough for Spectrum to extend service down the road further. He will contact Spectrum to see if it was sufficient enough. Mr. Newvine stated that he had tried contacting Converse Laboratories again to see about the air quality in the Town Hall. He still has not heard back from them. Mr. Newvine contacted Mike Gillette, from Fuller Insurance Company, concerning insurance coverage on the playground. Mr. Gillette came up and took pictures. Mr. Newvine said that the ballfield looked good and there was discussion on replacing the rest of the fence.

Councilperson Simmons reported that we made a profit of \$1,877.95 at the Fowler Family Day. This money will go into the playground account. She stated that we had a good turnout at the Rabies Clinic. There were 62 dogs and 30 cats. We received over \$200 in donations. Ms. Simmons said that \$50 will go to Friend for Pound Paws, \$150 donated to the playground fund, and she bought soda for the Highway workers for helping set up. Ms. Simmons stated that she also got cake and punch to enjoy after the meeting. She said that there have been a lot of good things happening in the Town and she thought it would be nice to celebrate that.

Bookkeeper Barb Finnie handed out budget requests to the department heads. She stated she needed them back before September 15. The Board decided to hold a special meeting on September 25, 2017 at 6 pm to discuss the budget requests.

A resolution was made by Councilperson Newvine and seconded by Councilperson Bishop to amend the 2017 Highway Fund budget. The amendment was for a check from the insurance company regarding truck 05 that was damaged on the Battle Hill Road last winter. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Newvine and seconded by Councilperson Simmons to approve the budget transfers for the general fund and the highway fund. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Supervisor Cappellino stated that he had been to Attorney Henry Leader's office to have him draft up a couple of local laws. One of the local laws would be regarding the Town not being responsible for if and when a mausoleum came into the Town of Fowler. The other law would state that any commercial projects would have to go before the Planning Board before being built. Mr. Cappellino stated that they should be drafted by the October meeting. Mr. Cappellino stated that there had been an audit done on the Town Hall by an employee of the St. Lawrence County Self Insurance Plan. He stated that there were a couple of minor things regarding electrical that need to be addressed. Mr. Durham stated that he would be contacting Link Electric to do some work in the Town Barn so he would have them check out the issues at the Town Hall.

Supervisor Cappellino reminded everyone of the Local Government Conference that is being held at SUNY Potsdam on October 10, 2017. He stated that if anyone is interested in going to this to see Kelly. The early registration deadline is September 30.

Supervisor Cappellino stated that he had called Lupine Construction and left a message concerning the basement.

There was discussion about the parking for the playground. The issue seemed to be small children running in the parking lot during working hours with the big Town trucks driving in and out. Councilperson Newvine suggested possibly putting a little parking area out front along the road. Mr. Durham said that he would look into it.

During the public comment, Tami Gale stated that the lady in the first camp by the Beach was very good to the lifeguards and brought them food and blankets all summer long. She thought her name was Billy.

The bills audited for the General and Highway Fund were #301- #349, with a total of \$377,270.50.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be on October 3, 2017 at 7 PM.

A motion was made by Councilperson Newvine and seconded by Councilperson Bishop to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 PM. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Kelly Harmer; Town Clerk