

## **Town of Fowler Meeting Minutes for June 2, 2015 at 7 PM**

The Regular Meeting for the Town of Fowler was held on the above date with all the Board Members present. Also present were Town Clerk Kelly Harmer, Highway Superintendent Mike Sweeney, Bookkeeper Gary Higgins, Beaver Control Officer Paul Cappellino, Code Enforcement Officer Rick Whitford, Justice Paul Lamson, Legislator Joel LaPierre, Assessor Robert Fuller, Assessor Robert Andrews, Vicky Cappellino, Mike Macaulay, Barb Cross, Grant Mitchell, Randy Durham, Lisa Durham, Wanda Fayette, Dustin Fayette, Debbie Tupper, Jeff Hill, Herbert Fuller, James Hadfield, Nancy Fuller, Jessica Serviss, Henry Leader, Dan Moyer, Kathy Moses, Marjory Farr and family.

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

After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Newvine and seconded by Councilperson Simmons to approve the May 5, 2015 Meeting Minutes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Marjory Farr was presented with a plaque for her years of dedicated service for keeping the Hailesboro Ball diamond and surrounding area clean and free of debris.

A motion was made by Councilperson Newvine and seconded by Councilperson Bishop to go into executive session at 7:35 PM. The board returned from executive session at 8:18 PM.

A resolution to accept the agreement for the assessment of the Ampersand Hollow Dam was discussed. After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Newvine and seconded by Councilperson Spilman to approve the resolution. Cappellino: yes, Newvine: yes, Spilman: yes, Simmons: yes, Bishop: no. MOTION CARRIED.

Legislator Joel LaPierre stated that hopefully the Emeryville Bridge will be put into the schedule for bridge replacement. He reported that sales tax numbers were down in St. Lawrence County for the second quarter. He also discussed the

recently passed pistol permit law. He thanked Paul Cappellino, Mike Macaulay and Supervisor Cappellino for coming to the last legislators meeting in Canton.

James Hadfield, from the Gouverneur Volunteer Fire Department, was here to give a report. They had 115 calls for all 5 fire districts since January 2015. There were 16 calls total in the town of Fowler. Mr. Hadfield thanked the Highway Department for fixing the dry hydrant on the Doane Road. He stated that they had received a \$50,000 donation that they will be using toward building a training tower that will be constructed behind the fire hall.

Councilperson Simmons reported for the Dog Control Office that they had received one complaint in May. They are still looking for a Dog Warden. So far only two people have applied. They had 63 animals (18 cats, 45 dogs) at the rabies clinic on May 14, 2015. Councilperson Simmons thanked Tami Gale and Town Clerk Kelly Harmer for their help with the rabies clinic. There will be a Spay/Neuter Now clinic on Saturday, June 27, 2015 in the Town Barn.

Code Enforcement Officer Rick Whitford reported that he had issued 15 building permits in the month of May.

Town Clerk Kelly Harmer reported that she had collected 92.89% of the tax warrant. She issued 49 dog licenses in May. She took in \$1,165 in hunting and fishing licenses.

Beaver Control Officer Paul Cappellino reported it had been a slow month. The water is very low and the beavers have been very inactive.

Historian Karen Simmons has been working on genealogies for a couple of different people.

Highway Superintendent Mike Sweeney reported that they had patched the California Road, started working on the Chub Lake road and worked on the grader. The rental lease on the excavator ends June 18<sup>th</sup>, so Highway Superintendent Sweeney said he would like to rent it for another month because it has been very useful on the Chub Lake Road project. He hopes to start paving in Mid July. He had a quote from Barrett Paving for the job. A motion was made by

Councilperson Newvine and seconded by Councilperson Spilman to have Barrett's do the paving of the Chub Lake road. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Highway Superintendent Sweeney also stated he would like to hire temporary help for the summer. It was discussed amongst the board but no decision was made at this time.

Highway Superintendent Sweeney presented the board with two quotes for a door on the cold storage building. After discussion a motion was made by Councilperson Spilman and seconded by Councilperson Newvine to accept the bid from Kelly Sales for \$2,870 for the new door. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Robert Andrews Jr. was there to represent Kilkarney Courts. He asked the board about the Town of Fowler assisting in the purchase of sluice pipes for the new parking lot that is going in at Kilkarney Courts. Councilperson Newvine stated that since we own Kilkarney Courts that it should be our responsibility to purchase the pipes. A motion was made by Councilperson Newvine and seconded by Councilperson Bishop to purchase the sluice pipes for the new parking lot. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Kathy Moses, with the Kiwanis Backpack Program stated that they are feeding 237 kids a week. There will not be a program this summer.

There is a court date set for the beach on June 5, 2015 at 9:30 AM at the court house in Canton.

Bookkeeper Higgins stated that we had money in our budget to improve the Town Hall and Town Barn. He stated that we should look into doing some energy efficient improvements. Code Enforcement Officer Rick Whitford will draw up some plans and put the work out for bid.

Councilperson Karen Simmons stated that she had spoken to the Derek from Pinto, Mucenski, Hooper, VanHouse, & Co. The board has to decide if they want a full audit or an agreed upon procedure done. After much discussion, it was tabled until the next meeting. Councilperson Simmons stated that the Hailesboro

Cemetery Association would be having a meeting on June 23, 2015 from 6-8 PM at the Town Hall.

Councilperson Rick Newvine questioned the Code Enforcement Officer about unmowed lawns in the town and if there was anything in the land use policy concerning them. He wondered if we could get the lawns mowed and add it to their tax bill. CEO Whitford stated that there was nothing in the policy stating that the town could do this.

Councilperson Spilman stated she was getting ready to open the beach. She has been hiring lifeguards and getting the permit ready. She stated that Brad Harte, with the New York State Deferred Compensation Plan, will be here Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM to meet with any employee interested in the plan.

Councilperson Bishop stated that the cemeteries looked good. He asked Highway Superintendent Sweeney if Safety Joe had showed up. Highway Superintendent Sweeney stated that Safety Joe did show up once this year. When he was hired it was decided on that he would come 4 times a year.

Supervisor Cappellino stated that he received a resignation letter from Assessor Douglas Turner. A motion was made by Councilperson Simmons and seconded by Councilperson Bishop to accept the resignation of Douglas Turner effective May 31, 2015. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Supervisor Cappellino asked the board who was interested in being on the committee for the union negotiations for the highway department. Councilperson Simmons and Councilperson Spilman said they were interested in being on the committee. The union contract is up on 12/31/15. He stated that the North Bridge on the Emeryville Road will be closing in mid-July for about 6 weeks for repairs. A resident of Sylvia Lake asked the town to grade the Beach road. The board consensus was that we can't do it for them and not for other residents of Fowler.

A motion was made by Councilperson Newvine and seconded by Councilperson Spilman to accept the three year agreement with Time Warner Cable for a new fax line. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

The bills audited for the general and highway fund were #168-#206 with a total of \$24,487.72.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 7, 2015 at 7 PM.

A motion was made by Councilperson Newvine and seconded by Councilperson Simmons at 10:15 PM to adjourn the meeting.

Michael Cappellino; Supervisor

Natalie Spilman; Councilperson

Lynn Bishop; Councilperson

Rick Newvine; Councilperson

Karen Simmons; Councilperson

Kelly Harmer; Town Clerk