

Town of Fowler Meeting Minutes for December 4, 2018 at 7PM

The Regular Meeting for the Town of Fowler was held on the above date with all Board Members present. Also present were Town Clerk Tami Gale, Highway Superintendent Randy Durham, Bookkeeper Barbara Finnie, Assessor Chair Sherry Geer, Assessor Andrew Miller, Vicky Cappellino, Lisa Durham, Debbie Tupper, Richard Clement, Patrick Rice, Kermit Rice, Lillith Griffith, and Rachel Hunter from the Tribune Press.

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

A motion was made by Councilperson Newvine, seconded by Councilperson Simmons to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2018 Regular Board meeting, with corrections. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Councilperson Newvine, seconded by Councilperson Simmons to approve the minutes of the November 24, 2018 Special Meeting. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Supervisor Cappellino read the following budget amendment.

RESOLUTION #10 OF 2018

GENERAL FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT

WHEREAS, the Town of Fowler wishes to amend the 2018 General Fund budget to reflect an increase in the Estimated Revenues and Appropriations due to Playground Donations. Estimated Revenues A510 and Appropriations A960 would be increased by \$2,481.90. The subsidiary revenue accounts A2770 Miscellaneous Revenues would increase by \$2,481.90. Appropriation accounts A7140.4 Playgrounds-Contractual would increase by \$2,481.90.

WHEREAS, a motion is required to approve the budget amendment as submitted by the Town Supervisor. A motion was made by Councilperson Newvine , seconded by Councilperson Andrews and carried.

Ayes 5 Cappellino, Newvine, Simmons, Bishop, Andrews

Nays 0

Supervisor Cappellino read the following budget amendment.

RESOLUTION #11 OF 2018

HIGHWAY FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT

WHEREAS, the Town of Fowler wishes to amend the 2018 Highway Fund budget to reflect an increase in the Estimated Revenues and Appropriations due to the additional revenue received from CHIPS, St. Lawrence County Winter Aid, St. Lawrence County Sales Tax DASNY grant and Interest and Earnings. Estimated Revenues DA510 and Appropriations DA960 would be increased by \$361,000.00. The subsidiary revenue accounts DA3501 CHIPS-Consolidated Highway Aid would increase by \$26,301.68, A1120 NonProperty Tax Distribution by County increase by \$25,000, A2770 Misc. Revenue increase by \$303,529.53, DA2300 Transportation Service increase by \$3,553.22 Appropriation accounts DA5112.4 Permanent Improvements – Contractual would increase by \$361,000.00. ___

WHEREAS, a motion is required to approve the budget amendment as submitted by the Town Supervisor. A motion was made by Councilperson Newvine , seconded by Councilperson Bishop and carried.

Ayes 5 Cappellino, Newvine, Simmons, Bishop, Andrews

Nays 0

Supervisor Cappellino read the following budget amendment.

RESOLUTION #12 OF 2018

FOWLER FIRE DISTRICT FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT

WHEREAS, the Town of Fowler wishes to amend the 2018 Fowler Fire District Fund budget to reflect an increase in Revenue and Appropriations due to the additional State Aid 2% Fire Tax received. SF1-3089.0 State Aid would increase by \$21,183.56 and Expenditures SF1-3410.410 Fire Protection-Contractual would increase by \$21,183.56.

WHEREAS, a motion is required to approve the budget amendment as submitted by the Town Supervisor. A motion was made by Councilperson Bishop, seconded by Councilperson Andrews and carried.

Ayes 5 Cappellino, Newvine, Simmons, Bishop, Andrews

Nays 0

Supervisor Cappellino read the following budget amendment.

RESOLUTION #13 OF 2018

2018 BUDGET TRANSFERS

RESOLUTION # 13 of 2018

TOWN OF FOWLER
2018 BUDGET TRANSFERS
DECEMBER 4, 2018

GENERAL FUND

FROM	A1620.2-BUILDINGS-EQUIPMENT	5,000.00
	A3030.4 - PUBLIC SAFETY	1,000.00
	A1420.400 - ATTORNEY-CONTRACTUAL	6,000.00
	A1620.4-BUILDINGS-CONTRACTUAL	2,146.09
	TOTAL	14,146.09
TO	A1430.400-BOOKKEEPER- CONTRACTUAL	483.33
	A1110.110-COURT CLERK-PER SERV	6,000.00
	A1620.1-BUILDING-PERS SERV	824.40
	A1650.420-TELEPHONE -TOWN HALL	600.00
	A1650.430-TELEPHONE-BEACH	100.00
	A3310.4 - TRAFFIC CONTROL	2,857.74
	A3620.4-CODE OFFICER	124.12
	A7140.100-PLAYGROUNDS/PERS SERV	3,156.50
	TOTAL	14,146.09

HIGHWAY FUND

FROM	DA9050.8-UNEMPLOYMENT INS	13,000.00
	DA5148.4-SERV OTHER GOVTS-CONT	5,483.69
	TOTAL	18,483.69
TO	DA5112.110-PERM IMPR PER SERV-OT	539.66
	DA5140.110-MISC BRUSH/WEEDS-OT	726.80
	DA5148.110-SERV OTHER GOVT-OT	4,082.04
	DA5110.1-GENERAL REPAIRS	55.20
	DA5130.110-MACHINERY - OT	190.90
	DA5130.4-MACHINERY-CONTRACTUAL	8,261.61
	DA5140.4 - MISC BRUSH/WEEDS-CONTRACTUAL	4,627.48
	TOTAL	18,483.69

A motion is required to approve the budget transfers as submitted by the Town Supervisor.
Motion made by Councilman Newvine, seconded by Councilman Simmons
and carried.

Town Department Reports

Bookkeeper

Bookkeeper Barbara Finnie reported that the Town had overspent for the month requiring the use of monies from the Fund Balance. Bookkeeper Finnie reminded the Board that they had voted to do the roadwork, and there was no extra money to spend right now. Bookkeeper Finnie stated that the Town needed to schedule the end of the year Transfer Meeting for later in the month to transfer funds, pay bills, and close out the books for the year 2018. After discussion, it was decided that the Transfer Meeting would be held on December 27, 2018 at 3PM at the Fowler Town Hall. Bookkeeper Finnie stated that the meeting needed to be advertised. Supervisor Cappellino thanked Bookkeeper Finnie for her work on the budget.

Assessors

Assessor Chair Sherry Geer reported that she, Assessor Phyllis Shaw, and Assessor Andrew Miller, had attended Assessor training in Watertown on December 3rd. The training was on Exemptions. Assessor Chair Geer stated that they had been busy getting renewals mailed out, and expressed that anyone with any questions please contact the Assessor's Office. Assessor Andrew Miller reported that he has been going through Building Permits for the year.

Dog Control

Councilperson Simmons reported for Dog Control Officer Dan Moyer. She reported that Dan was in Fullerville, on a call concerning a dog at the time of the meeting. She stated that the day before Dan had been called to Balmat to speak to the owner of a dog running at large.

Beaver Control

Councilperson Simmons reported that there was nothing to report on beaver activity and no bill turned in for the month from Moyer's Wildlife Control. She stated she would ask Dan to be sure to turn any mileage in for the year end. Highway Superintendent Durham stated that he would notify Moyer's Wildlife Control about beaver activity on the Stone Road.

Code Enforcement

Supervisor Cappellino reported for Code Enforcement Officer Glen Besaw, that Glen could not make the Board meeting, but would be in the office on Wednesday 12/5/2018 if anyone had any questions for him.

Town Clerk

Town Clerk Tami Gale reported that she had handled 2 certified marriage transcripts, 2 genealogical services requests, 1 certified death certificate, issued 17 dog licenses, taken in \$1301.00 in DEC revenues, and \$1.00 in copies. Town Clerk Gale thanked Supervisor Cappellino and Councilperson Bishop for their assistance with mice at the Town Hall. Supervisor Cappellino asked Town Clerk Gale if she had appointed a Deputy Town Clerk. After discussion, Town Clerk Gale stated that she would be appointing 2 Deputy Town Clerks.

Historian

Town Historian Karen Simmons reported that it had been pretty quiet in the Historian Office.

Highway Superintendent

Highway Superintendent Durham stated that the Town of Fowler would be having the annual Christmas breakfast at Tripps Diner on December 19, 2018 at 7AM. If it snows on that day, it will be moved to the next day. Highway Superintendent Durham asked anyone planning on attending the breakfast to let him know.

Highway Superintendent Durham reported that he had received correspondence from Town Attorney Henry J. Leader concerning the request to remove Stone Road from the Town of Fowler's seasonal limited use roads list. After discussion, the Town of Fowler board decided to deny the request and keep Stone Road as a seasonal limited use Town Road.

Ayes 4 Bishop, Andrews, Simmons, Cappellino

Abstained 1 Newvine

Highway Superintendent Durham reported that the highway department is concentrating on truck maintenance and keeping the trucks running. He announced that the highway department has an extra worker for 12 hours a week from the One Stop Career Center-Employment Unit, and he started work on December 3, 2018.

Councilmembers

Councilperson Simmons stated that she had taken the 2019 edition of the Town of Fowler Newsletter to Ferguson Printing to be processed and ready for distribution by January 2, 2019. She stated that she would like to have the extra seating taken to the cellar for storage. Councilperson Simmons thanked Town Clerk Tami Gale and Court Clerk Irma Ashley for the Christmas Decorations adorning the Town Hall.

Councilperson Newvine asked Supervisor Cappellino if he had heard anything from Barkleys on a price of installing door alarms for the Town Hall. He stated that he had spoken to Kris Bice about the repairs at the Hailesboro Ball Field, and the weather has not been cooperating. Councilperson Newvine reported to Bookkeeper Finnie that the Recreation Grant concerning the beach was in the amount of \$2624.50. Councilperson Newvine asked Highway Superintendent Durham about the timing of the receipt of the 2017 River Road bridge inspection report. The bridge inspection was done on 11/15/2017, and the Town received the report from the New York State Department of Transportation on 11/27/2018. Councilperson Newvine volunteered to contact Spectrum after reviewing the Town's monthly Spectrum bill. Councilperson Newvine stated that he had read that there was a company that wants to put solar panels in land-fills. He questioned how many acres that the Town of Fowler owned on the Sullivan Road that was once the old dump. He stated that there might be some revenue there.

Councilperson Andrews reported that he had heard from a resident on the Island Branch Road who would like a speed reduction on that road. Councilperson Andrews asked Highway Superintendent Durham how to go about requesting a speed reduction. Highway Superintendent Durham stated that the Town sends a request to the County. He stated that the rest of the Island Branch Road is already 30 MPH, so the reduction would be from the Bay Road to the end of the Island Branch Road. After some discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to have Highway Superintendent Durham send a speed reduction request to the County. Councilperson Andrews asked if the Town still needed members to fill empty positions on the Board of Appeals. Councilperson Simmons stated that the Town still was in need of 1 member for the Planning Board and 3 Members for the Board of Appeals. Councilperson Bishop stated that maybe Town of Fowler resident Kermit Rice would be interested.

Councilperson Bishop asked Highway Superintendent Durham to keep an eye on the Stone Rd where the logging trucks enter onto the Stone Rd from the woods. Councilperson Bishop asked if the Sylvia Lake Beach Project had been completed. Councilperson Newvine stated that the weather had shut the project down.

Councilperson Bishop asked Supervisor Cappellino if he had heard anything on the Davis property across the road from the town hall. Councilperson Bishop asked if the hooded sweatshirts that will be purchased for the highway department would be coming out of the general fund or the highway superintendent fund. Highway Superintendent Durham answered that the sweatshirts would be taken out of the Highway Superintendents contractual line on the budget. Councilperson Bishop asked Highway Superintendent Durham how the new employee for the highway department is doing. Highway Superintendent Durham's response was that the new employee had only been on the job for one week so it was too early to tell.

Supervisor Cappellino reported that he had received a letter of resignation from Tami Gale resigning from Deputy Town Clerk and Custodian/Cleaner. A motion was made by Councilperson Newvine, seconded by Councilperson Bishop to accept the resignations. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED. Supervisor Cappellino stated that he had a call in to Town Attorney Henry Leader concerning the Land Use and First Responder Policy. Supervisor Cappellino reminded all in attendance that there would be a Public Hearing held at the Fowler Town Hall on 12/6/2018 at 11AM by the St. Lawrence County IDA concerning the Empire State Mine. Supervisor Cappellino reported that the Town needs to get together with the Teamsters to negotiate the union contract for the highway department. Supervisor Cappellino stated that the Town had hired a new Custodian/Cleaner for the Town Hall. Rosalee Thornton was hired for the position.

Public Comment

Andrew Miller asked about the Town of Fowler Sylvia Lake beach lawsuit. Supervisor Cappellino reported that the Town had won the lawsuit. Mr. Miller asked about the Sylvia Lake beach project. Supervisor Cappellino stated that the project involves re-facing the dock at Sylvia Lake Beach and Northland Associates Inc. are contracted to do the work.

Randy Durham stated that the Elk lodge was going to have a graduation party this year for seniors.

The bills audited for the General and Highway Fund were #438 - #470, with a total of \$78,546.76.

The next meeting will be held on December 27, 2018 at 3PM at the Fowler Town Hall to Transfer funds and close out the books for 2018.

The next regular scheduled board meeting will be on January 8, 2019 at 7PM at the Fowler Town Hall.

With no further business, on a motion of Councilperson Newvine, seconded by Councilperson Andrews, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05PM. Carried Unanimously.

Tami Gale; Town Clerk