

## Minutes - December 3, 2013 - 7:00 PM

The Regular meeting for the Town of Fowler was held on the above date with all members present. Also present were Town Clerk Sherrie Williams, Highway Superintendent Gary Williams, Justice Paul Lamson, Code Enforcement Officer Rick Whitford, Bookkeeper Gary Higgins, Kathy Moses, Dustin Fayette, Wanda Fayette, Joanne Orford, Tammy Hooley, Vicky Cappellino, Mike Macaulay, Lillith Griffith, Tim Prashaw, Legislator Alex MacKinnon, Herb Fuller, & Jeff Hill.

Supervisor Cappellino called the meeting to order then proceeded with the opening prayer & the pledge of allegiance.

After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Rick Newvine to approve the November 7, 2013 Meeting Minutes with 2 corrections & seconded by Councilperson Randy Durham. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Randy Durham; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Legislator Alex MacKinnon reported that the County budget has been passed with a 15% decrease in the County tax rate. The County is looking for a new highway superintendent. He believes the Gouverneur transfer station should be preserved to serve the residents of the county.

Supervisor Cappellino reported that 4 bids were received on the 2004 pickup. 1) Eugene Prashaw - \$2,250.00 2) Sid Harmer - \$2,002.00 3) Mike Gebo - \$1,900.00 4) Frank Moskal - \$1,001.00. After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Rick Newvine to accept the high bid of \$2,250.00 from Eugene Prashaw & seconded by Natalie Spilman. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes,

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Karen Simmons; Yes, Randy Durham; abstain, Natalie Spilman; Yes. MOTION CARRIED.

Code Enforcement Officer Rick Whitford reported that he has issued 6 permits for the month & things are pretty slow at this time.

Councilperson Karen Simmons reported that the World War II plaques have been received. Things are quiet in the Historian's Office at this time. Historian Connie Bishop will be back soon when she is well.

Beaver Patrol Officer Tim Prashaw reported that 1 beaver was taken for the month on the Stone Road.

Deputy Dog Control Officer Tammy Hooley reported that 5 complaints were handled, 1 warning issued, 2 dogs were in the kennel of which 1 has returned home. The 1 dog has been in the kennel for 30 days. Janet Collier from the Ag & Markets came for a meeting. Ms. Collier said that a dog does not have to be picked up unless it is ordered by the police, signed by the police, & then the police are responsible for any charges incurred. A policy needs to be put in place for future long term dog care in the kennel. An outside light needs to be installed at the kennel & the window needs to be fixed also.

Highway Report - Highway Superintendent Gary Williams reported that the Smith Road is completed, Truck 98 is back with the new sander box installed, & oil changes are done on the trucks. A complaint was received about a person hunting on the Town lot on the Sullivan Road which is not posted. The pros & cons were discussed concerning posting the property. Superintendent asked the board about the Highway Christmas dinner for the guys.

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Consensus of the board was for up to \$200.00 be provided for the Highway Christmas dinner.

Bookkeeper Gary Higgins presented the board with a list of recommended budget transfers. After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Rick Newvine to approve the budget transfers recommended by Bookkeeper Gary Higgins & seconded by Councilperson Karen Simmons. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Randy Durham; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Bookkeeper Gary Higgins reported that since the Gouverneur Fire Department was paid \$500 more than what was in the 2013 Budget, that a Fowler Fire District Fund Budget Amendment needs to be approved by the board. After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Randy Durham to approve the Fowler Fire District Fund Budget Amendment & seconded by Councilperson Natalie Spilman. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Randy Durham; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED

Supervisor Cappellino reported Clare Cole is resigning from the Deputy Town Clerk position as of December 31, 2013. A motion

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Was made by Councilperson Rick Newvine accepting Clare Cole's resignation with regret & seconded by Councilperson Karen Simmons. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Randy Durham; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Councilperson Karen Simmons reported that the grants first draw has been submitted & the check has been sent to St. Lawrence County Housing Council.

Councilperson Karen Simmons congratulated Supervisor Michael Cappellino on retirement from National Grid.

Councilperson Rick Newvine reported that the Town opted out of the veterans exemption around 1984. The information will be investigated.

After discussion, consensus of the board was for Option No. 3 for the health insurance to be implemented on January 1, 2014.

Councilperson Natalie Spilman thanked Councilperson Randy Durham for his years of service on the board.

Supervisor Cappellino reported that the 2014 meetings will be the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month.

Supervisor Cappellino reported that the year end meeting will be on December 30, 2013 at 5:00 PM in the Fowler Town Hall & the organization meeting will be January 7, 2014 at 7:00 PM

The bills audited for the General Fund were #256 - #272 -

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\$68,963.15 & the Highway Fund #180 - #197 - \$186,028.16.

Supervisor Cappellino reported that this was Councilperson Randy Durham's last regular meeting as a board member. He was presented with a plaque by the board & thanked for his service.

A motion was made by Councilperson Rick Newvine to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 PM & seconded by Councilperson Randy Durham. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Randy Durham; Yes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Michael Cappellino; Supervisor      Sherrie Williams; Town Clerk

Rick Newvine; Councilperson      Randy Durham; Councilperson

Karen Simmons, Councilperson      Natalie Spilman, Councilperson