**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD**

TOWN OF SANDY CREEK  
1992 HARWOOD DRIVE, PO BOX 52

SANDY CREEK, NEW YORK 13145-0052

**Date:** January 11, 2023

**Kind of Meeting:** Organizational & Regular Meeting

**Place:** Town Hall

**Board Members Present:** Timothy D. Ridgeway  **Others Present:**

Ruth E. Scheppard Michael C. Kastler

Nola J. Gove Tammy L. Miller

John W. Wood, Jr. Brett McVoy

Dave Warner Michael G. Yerdon, Legislator

Jessica Godfrey

John Howland @ 7:09 pm

Peggy Rice

Norma Newman

Bill Joyce

Eric Pappa

Meg Sprague

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Supervisor Timothy D Ridgeway called the organizational meeting to order at 7:02 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilman Scheppard began by reading the list of appointments to be made.

**RESOLUTION 01-23**

On motion by Ruth E. Scheppard, seconded by Dave Warner, the following resolution was

ADOPTED – 5 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Warner, Gove, Wood

0 No

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek makes the following appointments with terms to expire on December 31, 2023, unless otherwise stated:

Code Enforcement Officer: John H. Howland

Dog Control Officer: Anne E. Derr

Historian: Peggy A Rice

Records Management Clerk: Peggy A. Rice

APAM Library Trustee:  Tiarra Mintonye, expires 12/31/27

Board of Appeals: Norma D. Newman, expires 12/31/27

Constables: Michael S Morrison, Constable-in-Charge

Michael D. Wood

Official Newspaper**:** *Watertown Daily Times*

**RESOLUTION 02-23**

On motion by Nola J. Gove, seconded by John W. Wood, Jr., the following resolution was

ADOPTED – 4 Ayes Ridgeway, Warner, Gove, Wood

0 No

1 Abstain Scheppard

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek appoints PathFinder Bank as the Official Bank for 2023.

**RESOLUTION 03-23**

On motion by Dave Warner, seconded by Timothy D. Ridgeway, the following resolution was

ADOPTED – 5 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove, Wood, Warner

0 No

**Resolved** that the Town of Sandy Creek accepts the state or county bid for gas, oil, and fuel; accepts the state or county bid for road building materials; establishes the salaries of the elected and appointed officials of the Town of Sandy Creek as put forth in the adopted budget for the year 2023; sets the mileage rate for 2023 at 65¢ per mile; approves town officials attending the Association of Towns meeting in February and other respective schools; and that regular town board meetings will be held at 7:00 PM on the second Wednesday of each month at the Town Hall, 1992 Harwood Drive.

The organizational meeting was closed and the regular monthly meeting was opened.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**RESOLUTION 04-23**

On motion by Ruth E. Scheppard, seconded by Nola J. Gove, the following resolution was

ADOPTED - 5 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove, Wood, Warner

0 No

**Resolved** that the minutes of the December 14h meeting are approved as written.

**RESOLUTION 05-23**

**On motion** made by Ruth E. Scheppard, seconded by Timothy D. Ridgeway, the following resolution was

**ADOPTED** – 5 Ayes Ridgeway, Wood, Gove, Warner, Scheppard

0 No

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek approves the fire protection agreement with the Village of Sandy Creek for 2023 for a total cost of $157,000.00.

**REPORTS:**

Highway/Water Superintendent – Michael C. Kastler read his highway and water department reports. Final water notices have been mailed. Richland’s water rate increase was discussed. Superintendent Kastler personally spoke to all water users that made a comment on their water bill or sent an email regarding the increase. Richland’s Deputy Supervisor and Supervisor Ridgeway spoke about having a discussion with a small group of people to open communication back up between the two towns.

**RESOLUTION 06-23**

**On motion** made by Ruth E. Scheppard, seconded by John W. Wood, jr., the following resolution was

**ADOPTED** – 5 Ayes Ridgeway, Wood, Gove, Warner, Scheppard

0 No

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek directs the water department to charge the property owner the actual cost for a new water service (curb stop installation fee).

Sole Assessor- Rebecca Trudell’s monthly report has been filed in the Town Clerk’s office.

Dog Control Officer – Anne Derr prepared a report for the Town Board and it is filed in the Town Clerk’s office.

Historian – Peggy Rice filed a written report for December 2022.

Town Justice- The monthly reports of the Town Justices have been received by the Town Supervisor.

Legislator – County Legislator Michael G. Yerdon reported that the county tax rate on 100% assessed value will be decreasing approximately 10 cents per thousand. The contracts for the ARPA money to be used for dredging have been executed. There is a meeting regarding the YMCA bridge project on January 12th in Syracuse. The county will be doing $350,000 worth of upgrades to Camp Zerbe including a new accessible bath house closer to the wedding venue, and trail system improvements. They will also be adding wilderness campsites. The county has also awarded ARPA funds for the Oswego County Fair.

Library – Library Director Jessica Godfrey gave copies of the library’s newsletter and calendar to the Town Board. There is now a monthly Cookbook Club that meets and eats on Saturdays at 11:30 am. On January 14th casseroles is the theme. The Annual Royal Tea Party will be held on January 21st at 11 am. Half of the seats are filled for this children’s event. There will be a needle felting class on January 27th at 1 pm. The cost is $15 per person. Ms. Godfrey received three quotes for painting at the library as follows:

E&H Services Erin Storie $1,028.00

Race Pro Painting Services Abbegail Race Mexico, NY $2,450.00

T.J. Painting and Contracting, LLC Castorland, NY $4,875.00

Historian Peggy Rice will look to see if the library is listed on the historical register. She wants to look at the brick before it is painted.

**RESOLUTION 07-23**

**On motion** made by John W. Wood, Jr., seconded by Dave Warner, the following resolution was

**ADOPTED** – 5 Ayes Ridgeway, Wood, Gove, Warner, Scheppard

0 No

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek accepts the quote from E&H Services for $1,028.00 after Historian Peggy Rice does a walkthrough of the areas to be painted and agrees that hiring a painter is the best option.

Planning Board – Minutes from the January 4th meeting of the Sandy Creek Regional Planning Board have been filed. They completed NIMIR Harassment and Discrimination training for 2023. They recommend denying the recent variance request on White Pines Drive. A Board of Appeals meeting is scheduled on January 19th at 4 pm regarding this variance request.

**RESOLUTION 08-23**

**On motion** made by Ruth E. Scheppard, seconded by John W. Wood, Jr., the following resolution was

**ADOPTED** – 5 Ayes Ridgeway, Wood, Gove, Warner, Scheppard

0 No

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek directs the Town Clerk to run an advertisement looking for interested people to serve on the Board of Appeals and other boards in the town that they may be interested in.

Code Enforcement Officer – John Howland’s report for 2022 is on file in the Town Clerk’s office. There were 102 building permits issued in 2022. He is interested in helping the town find a new attorney as we have a local law that needs to be done soon. Junk on properties was discussed.

Town Clerk – Tammy Miller reported that receipts and total disbursements for the month of December totaled $1,820.00 of which $1,359.12 was town income. The 2022 Annual Report shows $33,051.70 was collected. Fifty-four parking hang tags were issued, and many documents were notarized. These reports are on file in her office and available for public inspection. Information on the 2023 Training School and Annual Meeting of the Association of Towns is available in the Town Clerk’s office. It will be held February 19th – 22nd in NYC. The Town Clerk’s and the Water Clerk’s books need to be audited for 2022. The office is very busy with tax collection. The NYS Tug Hill Commission 32nd Annual Local Government Conference will be held April 6th at Turning Stone Event Center. Town officials need to give their class choices to the Town Clerk’s office before February 8th to have the town pay the registration fee directly.

Engineers – Brett McVoy, P.E. of Barton & Loguidice was present to update the Town Board on current projects. The hearing on the CEHA area was cancelled on the advice of Attorney Fogel. B&L has met with Attorney Fogel. He recommends starting over as he believes that there was information missing from the first variance application. He has new information to make the case. B&L estimates it will cost approximately $18,000 to resubmit the application. The Town Board needs to know if the CEHA residents will continue funding this process as the cost rises. Supervisor Ridgeway will talk to Pete Backus about this.

**RESOLUTION 09-23**

**On motion** made by Ruth E. Scheppard, seconded by Timothy D. Ridgeway, the following resolution was

**ADOPTED** – 5 Ayes Ridgeway, Wood, Gove, Warner, Scheppard

0 No

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek approves the following:

**FINANCIAL ADVISORY SERVICES AGREEMENT AMENDMENT**

The Financial Advisory Services Agreement dated June 12, 2019 (“Effective Date”), between the Town of Sandy Creek, Oswego County, New York (“Client”) and Fiscal Advisors & Marketing, Inc. (“Fiscal Advisors”) (collectively referred to herein as the “Parties”), as was amended on January 12, 2022, is hereby further amended to modify the not-to-exceed budget fee under “APPENDIX B – FEE SCHEDULE” due to the additional BAN renewal needed because of the delay with closing on the USDA-RD bonds related to the Client’s Route 20 Joint Water District Improvements Project (the “Project”), as outlined below.

**APPENDIX B – FEE SCHEDULE**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| The Appendix B is hereby amended to state the following not-to-exceed budget fee: **SERVICE** | **FEE** |
| **NYSEFC DWSRF, WIIA and USDA-RD: NOT-TO-EXCEED BUDGET:** | $ 27,000 |
| *Amount includes fees for additional administrative services related to NYSEFC DWSRF, WIIA, USDA-RD and financial advisory services fees related to the renewal issuance of Bond Anticipation Note Borrowing.*  *Note: The previous not-to-exceed budget was $22,000.* | |

**RESOLUTION 10-23**

The following resolution was offered by Ruth E. Scheppard, who moved its adoption, seconded by Timothy D. Ridgeway, to‑wit:

**RESOLUTION** OF THE TOWN BOARD, TOWN OF SANDY CREEK, OSWEGO COUNTY, NEW YORK, accepting Revisions to the “Town of Sandy Creek and Richland Joint Water Project”, Capital Project as administered through USDA Rural Development. The Town Board hereby modifies the following administrative budget items to the upcoming Form E #22:

**A.5** Fiscal Coordination – Fiscal Advisors & Marketing Inc. – move $5,000 from contingency to budget line.

The reason for this modification is to increase FA’s not-to-exceed budget amount due to the BAN renewal needed for the delay with closing long term with USDA RD.

tHis BUDGETARY modification RESULTED IN a TOTAL DECREASE of CONTINGENCy BY $5,000, making total CONTINGENCY, $130,845.74 on the upcoming form E #22.

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Sandy Creek, Town Board has reviewed the Form E Capital Outlay Budget category and,

**NOW, THEREFORE**, THE TOWN OF SANDY CREEK, TOWN BOARD HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

The following vote was taken and recorded in the public or open session of said meeting:

Timothy D. Ridgeway, Supervisor VOTING Aye

Ruth E. Scheppard, Council VOTING Aye

Nola J. Gove, Council VOTING Aye

John W. Wood, Jr., Council VOTING Aye

Dave Warner, Council VOTING Aye

**The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was none at this time.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Dredging of the channel is not going well right now. The water is too high.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Cathleen Goodnough wants to step down as the President of the Sandy Pond Channel Maintenance Association. The organization is considering disbanding. They would like a government agency to take over the dredging of the channel. Cathy may attend next month’s meeting to further discuss this matter.

**RESOLUTION 11-23**

**On motion** made by John W. Wood, Jr., seconded by Ruth E. Scheppard, the following resolution was

**ADOPTED** – 5 Ayes Ridgeway, Wood, Gove, Warner, Scheppard

0 No

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek directs the Sole Assessor to disregard the new law signed 12/23/2022 requiring a mailing to all residential property owners regarding the low-income senior citizen exemption.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

**RESOLUTION 12-23**

On motion by Ruth E. Scheppard, seconded by Nola J. Gove, the following resolution was

ADOPTED - 5 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Gove, Wood, Warner

0 No

**Resolved** that the bills be paid on Abstract #1 in the following amounts:

General Fund $ 13,102.28

Highway Fund $ 50,134.21

Water District #3- H3 $11,379,662.50

Water District #1-SW $ 3,090.95

Water District #2-SW $ 526.25

Water District #3-SW $ 3,574.50

Trust & Agency $ 3,936.63

The Town Board discussed the current health insurance package premiums. They want to review options and the composite pricing for current employees.

**RESOLUTION 13-23**

On motion by Timothy D. Ridgeway, seconded by John W. Wood, Jr., the following resolution was

ADOPTED - 5 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Wood, Gove, Warner

0 No

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek will enter executive session at 8:55 pm for the purposes of collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law. Everyone left the meeting, except Town Clerk Miller and Deputy Washburn waited in her office for the open meeting to resume.

**RESOLUTION 14-23**

On motion by Ruth E. Scheppard, seconded by Dave Warner, the following resolution was

ADOPTED - 5 Ayes Ridgeway, Scheppard, Wood, Gove, Warner

0 No

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek will exit executive session at 9:33 pm.

The next regular monthly meeting will be held February 8th at 7 pm

**On motion** by John W. Wood, Jr., and seconded by Ruth E. Scheppard, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy L. Miller, RMC

Town Clerk