**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:** October 21, 2020

**Kind of Meeting:** Special Meeting

**Place:** Sandy Creek Town Hall

**Town Board Members Present:** Nancy Ridgeway **Others Present:**

 Ruth E. Scheppard Michael C. Kastler

 Dave Warner Jill Mattison

 John W. Wood, J Dustin Clark

 Nola J. Gove Anthony Young

 Tammy L. Miller

 Kevin Allard

 Jim Horth

 Pete Backus

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Town Supervisor Nancy Ridgeway called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. This special meeting was scheduled to continue discussion of the 2021 budget.

President Jim Horth and Treasurer Kevin Allard of the Annie Porter Ainsworth Memorial Library Board of Trustees attended to present the library’s budget for 2021. They are not asking for an increase from the town toward their operating expenses. Covid has presented a challenge since March of this year. However, our library has functioned better than any other library in the county. Director Jessica Godfrey and her staff continued programs that included 30 care packages to those served by Meals on Wheels, 100 care packages distributed through the Food Pantry, and 587 students from Pre-K through 12th grade received a new book. All of the giveaways cost an average of $1.95 per person. Our library was the first to open in the county. On June 15th it opened with “Grab and Go” contactless service and on July 13th it opened with limited hours. There are currently only five libraries open in the county. They have been doing online programming and have hired extra substitutes due to the increased cleaning and disinfection demands. The books are currently quarantined for 48 hours before they can be checked out again. All of the staff has done a lot of work and has done a good job. Mr. Allard updated the Town Board on the parking lot project. The drainage work will be completed soon as the permit to connect to the drain on US Rt 11 has been issued. The total revenue and expenses in the 2021 budget are the same as 2020. Some of the line items have been adjusted. The employee salaries line has increased due to the increase in minimum wage. The library will be asking for an increase on the school’s budget ballot again in May 2021. They hope to being fully funded by the school’s tax base and not have to request funding from the town in 2022. With the conversion to a 501c3 organization, the library will be adding a grant writer to the budget in the future. Councilman Wood asked about the large decrease on the equipment line of the budget. This is because the technology at the library has been updated. Councilman Warner thanked the library representatives for all of the good work of the library staff. Jim Horth and Kevin Allard left the meeting at 7:09 pm.

Dustin Clark and Anthony Young of Barton & Loguidice attended the special meeting to discuss current projects with the board. Mr. Young stated that he has asked co-worker Johanna Duffy to look into the variance application requirements for Water District #3 as she worked on the original application. B&L needs to discuss this with Attorney Tom West. The application fee will be waived. The cost to prepare the two to six pages will be between $750 and $1,000. This will be a project cost.

**RESOLUTION 116-20**

On motion by Nancy Ridgeway, seconded by Dave Warner, the following resolution was

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

 0 No

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek sets a limit of up to $1,000 of expenses connected to the variance application for the CEHA portion of Water District #3 contingent that the application does not impact the current project; authorizes Town Supervisor Nancy Ridgeway to sign the appropriate paperwork; and authorizes an amendment to the engineering portion of the project budget for this purpose.

Mr. Young spoke about the potential public sewer system project. Of 1,108 surveys mailed, only 493 or 44.5% of property owners responded. Of the responses, 48% were in favor and 52% were not in favor and at the cost of $100 per month, 41% were in favor and 59% were not in favor of this project. The town has been awarded a $200,000 REDI grant for this project. It does require a $10,000 match. The grant was split into two phases. Phase I included the interest survey and decision for $39,000 and Phase II covers the rest of the project and is worth $161,000. The Town Board needs to decide whether the project moves forward to Phase II or stops here. This was discussed and no decision was made at this meeting. Mr. Clark and Mr. Young left the meeting at 7:48 pm.

The three water districts’ operating budgets were discussed. With the Town of Richland’s proposed rate increase for water, users in Water Districts #1 and #3 will be paying $100 for 40,000 gallons of water per EDU per year.

Issues with trash removal were discussed. Supervisor Ridgway asked for a quote from Todd Butler of Butler Disposal Systems. They would charge us $71.11 for three months which is less than we are currently paying and no contract would be necessary.

**RESOLUTION 117-20**

On motion by John Wood, seconded by Dave Wood, the following resolution was

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

 0 No

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek agrees to use Butler Disposal Systems for trash removal at the Town Hall and Town Barn for $71.11 every three months at each building beginning January 1, 2021.

Superintendent Kastler asked why we only have $7,770.00 in the unexpended fund balance line of the budget for the DA town-wide highway fund. He does not feel that this is a very accurate number to use for the 2021 budget.

**On motion** by Nola J. Gove, seconded by Ruth E. Scheppard, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy L. Miller, RMC

Town Clerk