

Minutes - June 12, 2012 - 7 PM

The Regular Meeting for the Town of Fowler was held on the above date with all members present. Also present was Town Clerk Sherrie Williams, Code Enforcement Officer Rick Whitford, Historian Connie Bishop, Assessor Robert Fuller, Dog Warden Brad Cox, Justice Paul Lamson, Tim Prashaw, Bea Schermerhorn & Kevin Mace of Spay/Neuter Program, Lisa Durham, Rachel Hunter of the Tribune Press, Nancy Fuller, Jeff Hill, Lynie Patton & Cathy Pretty of Friends 4 Pound Paws Organization, Jonathan Kelley, Joanne Orford, Stephen Gale, Bonnie Seaman, Robbie Tuttle & Mike Macaulay.

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

After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Rick Newvine to approve the May 8, 2012 Meeting minutes & seconded by Councilperson Randy Durham. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes, Randy Durham; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Bea Schermerhorn of Spay/Neuter Organization supplied packets to the board concerning their mobile spay/neuter unit, voucher program, & education program. The mobile clinic is for cats & the voucher program is for dogs. The goal of the organization is to control the overpopulation of cats & dogs in St. Lawrence County. She reported that there is a program for municipalities who dedicate a certain amount of money for a coupon that would be given to Fowler residents to use toward the spay/neuter of their animals which is based on income. The local vets do participate in this program. The board stated that it sounded like a good program

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& the board will discuss it after they have read the complete information in the packet. The board presented a thank you note to Bea Schermerhorn for the Spay/Neuter Program which had a clinic in Fowler in the spring.

The board presented a thank you note to Lynie Patton of Friends 4 Pound Paws for helping at the free rabies clinic in Fowler in the spring.

Councilperson Rick Newvine reported that he attended the AMP meeting & that the cost of power is down. AMP will continue to exist with the goal of obtaining municipal power which looks promising.

Code Enforcement Officer Rick Whitford reported that he has issued 9 permits in May & been doing several inspections.

It was discussed by the board that Rick Whitford's 6 months probation as Code Enforcement Officer had ended. After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Randy Durham to appoint Rick Whitford permanently the Code Enforcement Officer & seconded by Councilperson Rick Newvine. Roll Call Vote Showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Randy Durham; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Historian Connie Bishop asked the Board if she was going to get the fireproof file cabinet that she requested. After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Rick Newvine to purchase a 2 draw fireproof file cabinet from St. Lawrence Supply for the

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Historian's Office & seconded by Councilperson Randy Durham. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes, Randy Durham; Yes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED. She also would like to have a small food bank for Fowler residents in need. The issue will be discussed further.

Councilperson Karen Simmons reported that she had the Beaver Patrol Report from Tim Prashaw. Three beavers were disposed of in the last month & no more grates have been stolen.

Dog Warden Brad Cox reported that he has handled 6 complaints & 2 dogs have been adopted out.

Councilperson Randy Durham reported that the AT&T cell phones for Highway Superintendent, Dog Warden, & Code Enforcement Officer have bad reception in Fowler. He would like the Town to get Verizon cell phones which has better reception in Fowler for these departments & possibly for the Beach also. The issue will be looked into.

Councilperson Natalie Spilman reported that the railroad crossing on Rt. 58 has been repaired & is rougher than before it was fixed. She reported that the neighbor next to the Beach took down a portion of fence surrounding the beach & she has talked to the neighbor to have the fence put back up. She reported that a policy for restricting animals from the beach should be implemented for health reasons. She would really like to get the Town website completed & set up a system so that current information is on the site in a timely manner. The issue will be looked into. She

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Spoke to Congressman Owens concerning the goal of keeping the Hailesboro Post Office open & he felt confident that the Hailesboro Post Office will keep the same hours until fall.

Councilperson Natalie Spilman reported that there is a group called Operations Veterans that is trying to get a Veteran's medical hospital in the North Country to serve the many veterans in this area. She would like to see the board support this endeavor. The issue will be looked into further.

Councilperson Randy Durham reported that he talked to Allan Hipps concerning doing a grant for the Town. Mr. Hipps will do a grant for the Town for \$500 & is willing to meet with the board to discuss details.

It was discussed that the board will have a work session on June 25, 2012 at 6:30 PM concerning the grant application focus & at 7:30 the committee for repairing the Emeryville Bridge will meet.

Councilperson Rick Newvine reported that he read an article about municipal fuel storage plans & he will check with Highway Superintendent Gary Williams about the issue. He reported that the Hailesboro ball diamond grass looks good. He spoke with the Board of Elections about combining the 2 election districts in Fowler into 1 as a cost saving measure.

Town Clerk & Tax Collector Sherrie Williams reported that 95.64% of taxes in the Town have been collected & May 31<sup>st</sup> was the last day for her to collect taxes.

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Jeff Hill has a concern with all the pigeons in the highway metal building creating a health issue. The issue will be looked into.

Supervisor Michael Cappellino reported that the Board Meeting will be on July 10, 2012 at 7 PM in the Fowler Town Hall.

The bills audited for the General Fund were #108 - #134 - \$8,373.90 & Highway Fund #76 - #96 - \$64,531.68.

A motion was made by Councilperson Rick Newvine to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 PM & seconded by Councilperson Natalie Spilman. 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