

## Town Of Fowler

### Minutes for December 2, 2014 Board Meeting and Public Hearing

Attendees: Supervisor Michael Cappellino, Councilpersons Rick Newvine, Karen Simmons, Natalie Spilman, Lynn Bishop, Town Clerk Kelly Harmer, Code Enforcement Officer Rick Whitford, Bookkeeper Gary Higgins, Highway Superintendent Michael Sweeney, Doug Turner, Vicky Cappellino, Lillith Griffith, Peter Devine, Wanda Fayette, Debbie Tupper, Herbert Fuller, Mike Macaulay, Joel LaPierre, Bonnie Seaman, Tom Rusaw and James Hadfield.

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

After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Natalie Spilman to approve the November 6, 2014 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, Emergency Meeting Minutes on November 7, 2014, Emergency Meeting Minutes on November 11, 2014 and Emergency Meeting on November 25, 2014 and was seconded by Councilperson Lynn Bishop. All in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor Cappellino opened the Public Hearing at 7:03pm for one hour to discuss / adopt the Land Use Plan. Councilperson Natalie Spilman gave an overview of procedures, rules and regulations. Land Use Packets are available at the Fowler town clerks office.

Motion to Accept Resignation/ Retirement for Town Clerk, Sherrie Williams and Highway Superintendent Gary Williams was made by Councilperson Rick Newvine with gratitude for all their years of service and was seconded by Councilperson Karen Simmons. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

The new Town Clerk, Kelly Harmer, and the new Highway Superintendent, Michael Sweeney were introduced and officially sworn in by Supervisor Cappellino. Retroactive December 1, 2014.

Peter Devine, from the St. Lawrence County Housing Council, was in attendance to discuss the CDBG Grant. The 14<sup>th</sup> and final renovation has been completed. Everything went well and he is hoping to get another grant for the Town of Fowler. Peter also strongly suggests talking to people about upcoming grants and to start taking applications. He reassures the confidentiality of the applicants. He

also would like to see more contractors involved in the process. The board thanked Mr. Devine for all of his help and for keeping us all up to date.

After some discussion, Councilperson Rick Newvine made a motion to appoint Karen Simmons as the Town of Fowler Historian. Councilperson Lynn Bishop seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; yes, Rick Newvine; yes, Natalie Spilman; yes, Lynn Bishop; yes, Karen Simmons; abstain.

Joel LaPierre was introduced and congratulated. Mr. LaPierre, come January 2, will be the new St. Lawrence County Legislator, replacing Alex MacKinnon. He has been busy attending different meetings and is ready for the challenge ahead.

Councilperson Karen Simmons reported for Dog Warden Neil Hooley. There were 3 complaints for November.

Code Enforcement Officer Rick Whitford reported that 4 permits had been issued for the month of November

New Town Clerk Kelly Harmer stated that she will be doing tax training on December 4, 2014 with the Town of Potsdam clerk. She also discussed updating the computer system.

Councilperson Karen Simmons reported that there wasn't much going on at the Historian's Office at the present time.

Beaver Patrol Officer, Paul Cappellino reported that he killed 2 beavers this month. Someone is kicking the grates over on the Shantyville Road.

New Highway Superintendent Michael Sweeney wanted to thank his crew for their support and cooperation. He stated his door is always open if anyone has any concerns.

At 8:03 Supervisor Cappellino closed the public hearing for the Land Use Plan. Councilman Rick Newvine made a motion to adopt the plan. It was seconded by Karen Simmons. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Councilman Lynn Bishop inquired about the damage done on the Emeryville Road by a contractor who is building a house on that road. Superintendent Sweeney stated that the road had been patched up for now. Councilman Rick Newvine stated that the contractor has agreed to fix the road when the project is complete.

Councilman Natalie Spilman stated the storm was tough on everyone. She thanked Supervisor Mike Cappellino and highway men for doing a good job.

Councilman Rick Newvine thanked Bonnie Seaman for offering to help in town clerks office during our transition.

Supervisor Michael Cappellino thanked Councilperson Karen Simmons and Deputy Town Clerk Lillith Griffith for helping organize and keep everything going in the town clerk's office.

The board approved a three year contract with St. Lawrence County. The agreement calls for a 7% increase the first year, 3% the second and third year.

James Hadfield, Gouverneur Fire Department, was in attendance. He reported that there were 7 calls in Fowler, 48 total year to date, a total of 253 calls in all of the fire district. He stated they were very busy during the storm- plowing roads and helping get people off the roads.

Kathy Moses wanted to again thank everyone in Fowler for supporting the Kiwanis Club. Donations are still being accepted and can be dropped off at the Town Hall.

The transfer meeting will be held on December 29, 2014 at 4 pm and at that time we will interview a candidate for the assessor position.

A motion was made by Councilperson Rick Newvine to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 pm and was seconded by Karen Simmons. All in Favor. Motion carried.

Michael Cappellino; Supervisor     Kelly Harmer; Town Clerk

Rick Newvine; Councilperson     Karen Simmons; Councilperson

Natalie Spilman; Councilperson     Lynn Bishop; Councilperson