

Minutes - February 4, 2014 - 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, Legislator Alex MacKinnon, Bonnie Seaman, Robert Fuller, Nancy Fuller, Randy Durham, Lisa Durham, Bookkeeper Gary Higgins, Peter Devine, Kathy Moses, Dustin Fayette, Wanda Fayette, Debbie Tupper, Tammy Hooley, Barry Gale, James Hadfield, Vicky Cappellino, Mike Macaulay, & Herb Fuller,.

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 January 7, 2014 Meeting Minutes & seconded by Councilperson Karen Simmons. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Lynn Bishop; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Supervisor Cappellino reported that Tami Gale needs to be appointed by the board as Deputy Custodian. After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Rick Newvine to appoint Tami Gale as Deputy Custodian & seconded by Councilperson Lynn Bishop. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes, Lynn Bishop; Yes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Supervisor Cappellino reported that the contract is being handled by the Fire Department's lawyer & has not reached the Town's lawyer yet. The board would like a budget breakdown report from the Fire Department. James Hadfield of the Gouverneur Fire

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Department reported that 8 calls in Fowler have been handled by the Fire Department so far this year & a budget breakdown will be provided for the Town.

Legislator Alex MacKinnon reported that not much is going on at the County at this time.

Supervisor Cappellino reported that he would like to see the Town of Fowler have only 1 election district to save the taxpayers money from County charge backs.

Wanda Fayette asked if the bridge near her house is being replaced & about any safety issues involved concerning the bridge. It was discussed that the County is in charge of bridges.

Supervisor Cappellino reported that he has Resolution No. 2 of 2014 Procurement Policy for the board to consider. After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Natalie Spilman to approve Resolution No. 2 of 2014 Procurement Policy & seconded by Councilperson Rick Newvine. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes, Lynn Bishop; Yes. All in Favor.
MOTION CARRIED.

Peter Devine reported on the CDBG grant. He reported that 10 inspections are done, 9 work write ups are done, & 9 out to bid. Three projects were disqualified & 5 more candidates will be considered for the grant through interviews.

Code Enforcement Officer Rick Whitford reported things are pretty quiet. He has issued 2 permits for projects through the grant.

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Town Clerk & Tax Collector Sherrie Williams reported that taxes are 62.68% collected.

Councilperson Karen Simmons reported that the Historian Department is quiet.

Deputy Dog Warden Tammy Hooley reported that 7 complaints have been issued, 3 warnings given, & 2 tickets issued. Three dogs that were in the Kennel have gone home. She would like the indicator light for the dog kennel moved for better visibility.

Supervisor Cappellino reported that there is 1 Beaver Patrol Bid. The bid was from Paul Cappellino for \$7,500. He just took the NYS Licensed Wildlife Control Operator test & does not know the results. After discussion, Councilperson Natalie Spilman made a motion to table the issue until more information is obtained & seconded by Councilperson Rick Newvine. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; abstained, Rick Newvine; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes, Lynn Bishop; Yes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Supervisor Cappellino reported that 3 letters of interest have been received for being on the Fowler Board of Appeals from Jeffrey Andrews, Randy Durham, & Dustin Fayette for the 3 vacancies. After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Rick Newvine to appoint Jeffrey Andrews, Randy Durham, & Dustin Fayette to the Fowler Board of Appeals & seconded by Councilperson Lynn Bishop. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes, Lynn Bishop, Yes All in Favor MOTION CARRIED

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Supervisor Cappellino reported that 1 letter of interest has been received by Donna Brown for the Assessment Review Board vacancy. After discussion, Councilperson Karen Simmons made a motion to appoint Donna Brown to the position of Assessment Review Board Member & seconded by Councilperson Natalie Spilman. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes, Lynn Bishop; Yes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Highway Superintendent Williams reported the Highway Department has been dealing with the weather challenges.

It was discussed about the different avenues of chipping brush for the Fowler residents in the spring & the issue will be discussed further.

Randy Durham asked how the progress is coming with looking into a veteran's exemption for the Town. It was discussed that the Town lawyer is looking into the issue.

Bookkeeper Gary Higgins has reported that NYCLASS, which is where the Town invests its money, has changed & return of funds has increased. For this reason, the Town needs to approve Resolution No. 3 of 2014 Municipal Cooperation Resolution. After discussion, Councilperson Rick Newvine made a motion to approve Resolution No. 3 of 2014 Municipal Cooperation Resolution & seconded by Councilperson Karen Simmons. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes, Lynn Bishop; Yes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

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Councilperson Lynn Bishop stated he wanted more salt in the sand on the roads & wanted the highway guys to be paired up differently for work. Superintendent Williams state that he regulates the salt & sand ratio depending on the temperature & road conditions. Also, he stated that the highway men are paired up to get the most work done during the work day at his discretion.

Councilperson Natalie Spilman reported that the bid for the Data Collector position needs to be put out to bid. She is going to construct the bid. After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Rick Newvine to put the bid out for the Data Collector position to come in at the March 4, 2014 meeting & seconded by Councilperson Lynn Bishop. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes, Lynn Bishop; Yes. All in Favor.
MOTION CARRIED.

Councilperson Natalie Spilman would like the May board meeting changed to May 8, 2014. Consensus of the board was to change the May meeting to May 8, 2014.

Councilperson Rick Newvine reported that emails of the board members are not in violation of the open meeting rules.

Councilperson Rick Newvine reported he received 2 compliments on Highway driver John Walsh's plowing of the roads.

Supervisor Cappellino reported that a letter was received from the Mayor of Ogdensburg thanking the Town for their support in keeping the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center open.

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Supervisor Cappellino reported that the board would now audit Justice Paul Lamson 2013 books, Bookkeeper Gary Higgins 2013 Books, & Town Clerk/Tax Collector 2013 Books.

Dustin Fayette stated that the Town Board & the Highway Superintendent are both positions that are elected by the Fowler residents. In his opinion none of the positions are boss of each other; but should work together in a common cause for the taxpayers.

The next regular meeting will be on March 4, 2014 at 7 PM at the Fowler Town Hall.

The bills audited for the General Fund were #9 - #39 - \$15,356.60 & the Highway Fund #5 - #21 - \$49,776.90.

A motion was made by Councilperson Rick Newvine to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM & seconded by Councilperson Karen Simmons. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Lynn Bishop; Yes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Michael Cappellino; Supervisor Sherrie Williams; Town Clerk

Rick Newvine; Councilperson Karen Simmons, Councilperson

Natalie Spilman, Councilperson Lynn Bishop, Councilperson