

**Town of Starkey  
Regular Meeting  
October 8, 2020**

Members Present: George Lawson, Supervisor  
Alan Giles, Councilperson  
Caryl Sutterby, Councilperson  
Jeremy Hall, Councilperson  
Bill Holgate, Councilperson

Also, Present: Brian Quackenbush, Code Enforcement Officer  
Anthony DeStephen, Assessor  
Mary Rose, Resident

Recording Secretary: Candace Iszard, Town Clerk

The regular Town of Starkey Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by George Lawson, Supervisor.

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of the September 10, 2020, regular meeting of the Town Board, were approved as amended. A motion was made by Alan Giles, councilperson, seconded by George Lawson, Supervisor.

\*All in favor; none opposed- Motion carried.

**Health Insurance**

**Abstract and Voucher Software**

- Helene Ribble, Bookkeeper, and Candace Iszard, Town Clerk participated in a demonstration with BAS regarding their abstract and vouchers software system. Following the demonstration, Helene and Candace agreed that for the cost of \$2,630.00 for the 1<sup>st</sup> year and \$360.00 annually following the first year, it would be in the towns interest to pursue alternatives within the existing software.

**Marijuana Dispensaries**

- George initiated the discussion regarding the proposed legalization of recreational marijuana and the impact of marijuana sales. He questioned if there was a need to ban the sales within the Town of Starkey. He went on to question concerns with the acceptance and embracing of wineries, breweries, and distilleries. He also stated that he has mentioned it at the recent planning board meeting and the planning board does not feel that there is a need for a ban currently. Bill Holgate added that this has also been a discussion at the Yates County Legislature, who has sent it to the Yates Count Planning board for their recommendation.

**Wastewater Law**

- George Lawson, Supervisor has reviewed the paperwork that was received from the attorney and confirmed that we will need to complete the full Environmental Assessment Form. He states that he will review the form and complete the EAF, then review it with the Board, prior to submitting it to the Planning Board and Attorney for their review.
- Brian Quackenbush, Code Enforcement Officer stated that he did contact the Town of South Bristol for pros and cons of the plan, and if there is anything they would change in hindsight. Brian stated that the Code Enforcement Officer has not had complaints regarding the Law. But also states that he is not active with the inspection process as that is handled by an outside firm.
- George also reminded the board that the initial discussion was to adopt the Local Law, then allow for a voluntary compliance for the first 2-years prior to the 5-year inspection schedule. He states that last month we over looked this detail, which would have create concerns for the 2021 budget, should the Town need to contract with an watershed inspection agency.

**Code Office--Planning for replacement**

- The board discussed the Code Enforcement and the search for a replacement for Brian. Brian states that with the current part-time schedule that he has always kept, he often has a hard time keeping up with the daily demands because of new requests, phone calls, walk ins and inspections. He finds himself slipping behind if he does not take-home tasks over the weekends. George asked how many hours he feels is needed for this position as it currently stands? Brian states that he feels that to do this position and do it well, that 30 to 35 hours should be expected.
- Following a short discussing the Board agreed that an ad needs to be placed in the paper next week for the Code Enforcement position, stating approximately 30 hour a week with flexible schedule. George and Candace will work together with Brian to create ad and job duties for the position.

**Cell Phone Service**

- Candace Iszard, Town Clerk reviewed the cost associated with the recent upgrade for highway department phones as a cost comparison for adding an additional line for the Code Enforcement Official. Cost was \$45.00 for the phone and \$58.99 monthly phone line service.

**Pine Road Drive**

- Brian Quackenbush reports that the Cornell's engineer has submitted drawings. George and Brian met with Jerry Kernahan, town hired engineer, to review the submitted plans as recommended by the town attorney.

Following the meeting, a letter was sent to the Cornell's requesting a meeting to review the findings/concerns. Brian states that he intends to issue a ticket to the Cornell's next week. He asks if he should also ticket the contractor for completing work that was not permitted. The board agrees that both the contractor and the property owner should be ticketed.

**Homestead Law**

- Bill Holgate stated that he would like to investigate the "Homestead Law." He goes on to state that adopting the Homestead Law would place a tax cap on existing homeowners, in an effort to "not tax the locals out of their homes" as a result of inflated sale prices.

**Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

- Brian Quackenbush, Code Official, reviewed the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals remain steady. He reviewed the happenings of the recent meetings. Brian also confirmed that the Red Cedar Falls project has been approved by the Planning Board, as well as the variances by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

**Assessor's Report**

- Anthony DeStephen states that he remains busy with the revaluation process, he also stated that the email of how the process works is a great resource for understanding how the process works. George Lawson asked how to change the evaluation years to spread the work load out between the Town of Starkey and the Town of Barrington. Tony stated that the only way is to do the revaluation sooner than the current 3-years.

**Supervisor's Report** — George Lawson

- George asked for the board approval to act on behalf of the Town of Starkey in search of grocery Cooperative. He adds that a Grocery Cooperation could be a way to bring back a grocery store to the Town of Starkey. He goes on to state that he feels not being able to get groceries without going out of the Town is unacceptable. George has personally reached out to local agencies (Cornell Cooperative Extension/ FLEDC) in hopes of drawing attention to a local need. He states that with the Town of Starkey's support, he may have better results.

A motion was made by Alan Giles, councilperson, seconded by Caryl Sutterby, councilperson.

\*All in favor; none opposed- Motion carried

**Town Clerk** — Candace Iszard

- The monthly town clerk report was given to the Board.
- Yates County Traffic Diversion Program for individuals with of the vehicle and traffic law violations seeking reductions can participate in this educational program, which following successful completion will dismiss or withdraw the charges. The program fee is split between Yates County and the Town of Starkey will increase revenue for the town.

**Resolutions**

RESOLUTION 38-2020

**Code Enforcement Office Cell Phone**

On a motion by Alan Giles, councilperson the seconded by Caryl Sutterby, councilperson the following resolution was

|         |      |   |  |
|---------|------|---|--|
| ADOPTED | Ayes | 5 | Bill Holgate, Jeremy Hall, Caryl Sutterby, George Lawson, Alan Giles |
|         | Nays | 0 |  |

RESOLVED that the Town Board, Town of Starkey does hereby authorize the purchase of a cell phone for the Code Enforcement Officer.

**Budget Transfers** --- There were no budget transfers this month.

**Audit of Claims**

On a motion by Caryl Sutterby, councilperson, seconded by, Alan Giles, councilperson the bills contained in the October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Abstract have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:

|                     |   |  |
|---------------------|---|--|
| <b>General Fund</b> | <b>Vouchers Number:</b> 165-G through 184-G | \$4,878.26   |
| <b>Highway Fund</b> | <b>Vouchers Number:</b> 113-H through 127-H | \$37,006.57  |
| Ayes                | 5   | George Lawson, Alan Giles, Jeremy Hall, Bill Holgate, Caryl Sutterby |
| Nays                | 0   |  |

With no further business, on a motion by George Lawson the meeting was adjourned at 8:43 PM.



Candace J. Iszard, Town Clerk