

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD**  
**TOWN OF RICHLAND**  
**1 BRIDGE STREET, PULASKI, NY**

**DATE:** January 14, 2020

**KIND OF MEETING:** Regular Town Board Meeting

**PLACE:** Grand Jury Room, H. Douglas Barclay Courthouse Pulaski, NY

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Supervisor Dan Krupke  
Councilman Kern Yerdon  
Councilman Allen Goodsell  
Councilwoman Sue Haynes  
Councilwoman Donna Gilson

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** CEO/ZEO John Howland  
Highway Superintendent John Fox  
Town Attorney Graham Seiter  
Town Clerk, Millie Newcomb  
Town Residents Dale Bigelow, William McVicker, Roselyn McVicker,  
Forest Hall, County Legislature Herbert Yerdon

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with Supervisor Krupke leading in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** At 6:01 pm the Public Hearing was open for a Resolution to Increase in the Maximum Amount to be Expended for the Town of Richland Water Area Service Area No. 5. *With no comments, a motion to close the Public Hearing was made by Councilwoman Haynes and seconded by Councilwoman Gilson. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE" 6:03pm*

*A motion to accept the resolution as presented was made by Councilman Goodsell and seconded by Councilwoman Gilson. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE".*

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No comments at this time.

**ZONING AND CODE REPORTS:** Year end Zoning and Codes Reports were presented to the Board. Tug Hill Commission Meeting is scheduled for March 26th 2020. All registration forms must be returned to the Town Clerk no later than March 5th. Mr. Howland advised the Board that William Hollis has moved out of the area and not to reappoint to ZBA Board alternate. Reappoint Ron Novak to the Planning Board, Marshall Minot to the Zoning Board of Appeals and reappoint Gloria Higby as secretary. Zoning updates: Mr. Howland advised that Phil Church has retired from the county so he spoke to Dave Turner and faxed over the Town of Richlands Zoning Ordinance to him. He will look over the Town of Richlands Zoning Laws and meet with him at the beginning of February. . Supervisor Krupke feels with the lack of Snow this year, it may be a good time to ride around and look at properties for possible junk violations. Councilman Goodsell agreed and asked whether it would be a good idea to start putting junk letters out now and get a jump on it before spring.

**LEGISLATIVE REPORT:** Newly elected Legislature Herbert Yerdon is here to introduce himself and give his first report to the Town Board. Big things are happening in Oswego County. One of the bigger projects the Legislatures are to tackle is the new Bail Reform Law implemented by New York State. The State Majority Leaders want to give it a few months to see how it goes. Oswego County wants to get it amended. The County is going to get hit hard financially by having to hire more ADA's and having to have quick turnarounds. The jail has already let go of a lot of prisoners. CEO/ZEO Howland asked Mr. Yerdon about in the past Towns could take down unsafe Buildings and put on the owners taxes. Now the Towns do not have that option. Mr. Howland points out that when the Landbank tears down a home, the Landfill waves all tipping fees. The land bank gets everything tax free, no taxes and they do not have to pay tipping fees for the landfills. His point is if a Town tears down a home, why can't the landfill do the same for the Town? Supervisor Krupke says that maybe the Town should write a letter to see if the same can be done. Supervisor Krupke asked Mr. Yerdon that they can bring up putting the clean up costs on residents tax bills again but maybe the county can put a limit on how many times per year they can do it. In the past the County says it got out of control. Supervisor Krupke and Mr Howland will get together and send a letter to the County.

**HAGER DRIVE UPDATES:** With the Holidays, and the Norfleets being out of Town, everything has been quiet. The Beech Law Firm has put a letter together and has put it out there to get a settlement together and hopefully bring this issue to close. Councilman Yerdon says that it was his understanding that the Norfleets had agreed to end the law suit so long as there was some kind of barrier at the end of the right a way so vehicles could not enter the beach area. Both sides have agreed to a settlement if they both withdrew the complaints, and a barrier of some sort was in place. The concern is whether the town would be named as the owner of the road. Mr. Seiter doesn't think that the Norfleets would concede to that but they would say that they would withdraw the petition, and never come to the Town for the same issue.

Mr. Yerdon understands but, his argument is that the Law says that if a municipality has used and maintained a road for 10 years or more and that it becomes an official road. It's been 75 yrs and he does not understand why it can not be called a Town Road. Mr Seiter explains that all the properties along the road would have to be brought into the action as parties. We can't do it through this lawsuit. Later it can be re-opened up later. The Supreme Court Judge ruled on this early on. Everyone ( all property owners) would have to be included in the action for the Road to be called a Town Road. Mr. Seiter explained it would be too costly to do this. It would be thousands of dollars. Everyone on the road assumes that it is a Town Road with the exception of the Norfleets. Mr Yerdon feels that it's never been certified as a Town Road. It's not deeded to anyone is the problem. According to GIS mapping the road goes directly to the water's edge. Many years ago, the road used to go directly to the water. Back in the 1780's the beach used to be used as the road to get to many camps. After the Locks were put in and the water rose, a road was put in on the east side of the camps. Mr. McVicker says it's in his deed as well as others on the road for use of that road. Dale Bigelow states that he thought that everything was dead in the water because none of the timeframes were met. Mr Seiter says he believes everything is still active and as far as he knows all the time frames were met. Mr Bigelow says that Mr.Caracoli told the group and the board that the Norfleets missed the time frames and the issue was dead in the water.

**WATER REPORT:** Minutes for January 7, 2020. Councilwoman Gilson has a question about the minutes. On the second page, Mrs Gilson read from the minutes that she was at the meeting not as a Town Councilwoman but as a resident. She states that she never said that she was there as a Board member or a resident, but to deliver a message from Ron Crandall that reached out to her as a Board Member. Mrs. Gilson had a conversation with fellow Board Members Kern Yerdon, Sue Haynes and Allen Goodsell and was told by Supervisor Krupke that it was her privilege to go to the Water Board meeting which she did. The issue is that it's in the minutes that she "stated" she was there as a resident. Mrs. Gilson did not say anything like that and wants it out of the minutes. She was there to support Mr. Crandall's effort and get an opinion of the Water Board to take back to the Town Board, there suggestion as to how they handled the matter. She was not there to suggest anything rather, just concerned to the schedule of things that were in place when she and Councilman Goodsell were on the Water Board, and she does not recall having a community center in that schedule or a particular 501C3 other than a church that is very different than a community center and a historical value property. That was her biggest concern and having Mr. Crandall express his opinions to the Water Board and letting the Water Board make that decision so that we had some information to bring back to the Town Board. There was no conversation to her deliberately being there either or. She was just there. She never used the words as a resident or Town Board Member. Mr. Seiter suggested to Councilwoman Gilson that she put something in writing to the Water Clerk Mary Yerdon to redact that quote and send the redacted minutes to the Board. Mr Crandall wanted the Water Board to meter his water, for water used. Councilman Goodsell did not realise that the Community Center is exempt from taxes also. Mrs. Gilson thinks that Mr

Crandall feels the \$88 is a lot of money for a Community Center. Water is a utility and Councilman Goodsell feels that National Grid doesn't give a break on electrical use. Mr. Crandall has threatened to take it to a higher level, what that is Councilwoman Gilson doesn't know. Councilman Yerdon recalls the Members talking about letting committees or boards listen to complaints and have the Boards bring it to the Town Board. The Town Board respects the opinion of the other Boards

Suggestions were made to Mr. Crandall but, the only thing he wants is to be charged for the water the building uses. The Board agrees that they will listen to other Committees comments and make recommendations to either accept or make other suggestions. The Water Board tabled it for review.

A letter for residents of Water Area #5 about an update of what was going on with the District. Supervisor Krupke received a phone call from Matt Marko from DEC Region 7. He is trying to give an explanation about what's going on with Water District #5 in Sandy Creek. The letter will explain it better. Mainly the problem is the location of the lines and it's something that they could not approve of. There would have to be 2 dead ends, one on each side of the dunes barrier. A meeting sometime next week is to be scheduled with both the Towns of Sandy Creek and Richland to answer any questions anyone would have. They do not want to hold up the project any further, they would like to see the project proceed and get water to anyone that needs it. As soon as the meeting is scheduled, Mr Krupke will let the Board know.

**DOG REPORT:** Dog Report was up next. DCO Dunns report was handed out to the Board.

**HIGHWAY REPORT** Busy catching up. Mother Nature has been pretty nice to us this year. The Highway crews have been working on road signs, truck repairs, cutting trees and working on seasonal roads. One( 1) overhead door on the Highway garage is in bad shape. The wood all around the door is rotted. The back roof has been repaired. Councilman Yerdon feels with all the money that the Town has put into the old highway garage recently, maybe now would be a good time to relook at a new garage. The building was built in 1928. The Town has spent so much money to make the building safe. Superintendent Fox feels that it's just basic maintenance things that need to be done. Even if the Town decides to go ahead with a new Building, repairing this building should be done if the Town wants to keep it for storage. The Highway Department has simply outgrown the old building, but until a decision is made as to what step to take, the old building has to be safe to work in. Supervisor Krupke has spoken to Eric from USDA Rural Development. The rate has dropped slightly. He thinks that the grant for \$100,000 is still available. Still get 30yrs financing. Moving forward, what are we going to do about the plan for the Building. A working committee should be formed with John Fox, someone from his crew, Craig Sternberg has shown some interest and maybe someone from the outside with some experience in the field that is well known in the community. Councilwoman Gilson asked if the Building has to be as big as it was. Superintendent Fox explained, "Yes". The Building was nothing fancy. Some things could be eliminated if the Town puts a little money into the old building and keeps it for storage. If the board is looking for things to trim, the

Haldane Building is a type of Building to build. The Offices could be off to the side or on an extension. Town Resident Jim Hall asked if the same location would be used. At this time, yes that land would be used. The fill that would need to be put in could be expensive. Lights and a sign could be erected to minimize the risk to slow vehicles down coming in and out of the curve. Some of the ideas for the expensense is the Solar project that is going on in the gravel bed in Albion should generate over \$700,000 so that money could be earmarked to be used toward the Highway garage. This could offset some of the soft costs. The cost is still a mystery. Everyone is unsure about how much more it would be. The Village was for the joint barn then pulled out, Supervisor Krupke doesn't think the Village would be interested. A working committee consisting of Board members Councilman Yerdon, Councilman Goodsell and Councilwoman Haynes. Maybe someone that is familiar with blueprint reading. Maybe a community member? The Board thinks this is very important, maybe a Village and a Town resident. Supervisor Krupke will get in touch with B&L and dust off the old prints. Board members will put out some feelers and talk at the next monthly meeting.

**SUPERVISOR REPORT:** No report

**NOCA YEAR END STATEMENT:** NOCA Ambulance year end statements were presented to the Board for review.

**RICHLAND TOWN PARKS:** The Hamlet of Richland Committee reached out Kristy LaManche to see if she could do the application for the CFA Funding. Ms. LaManche said yes but could not get Supervisor Krupke a price because she did not know the scope of work. The funding is for expanding on to finish up the rest of the park. This is the first that Supervisor Krupke and Councilwoman Haynes has heard of this. Supervisor Krupke just wanted the Board to be informed. Councilwoman Haynes will get in touch with Alycia Smith and Marjorie Yerdon of the Park Association. With these grants, you can add in the cost of the Grant Writer.

**HALDANE GRANT:** As the Board knows, more money is available to finish the Haldane Center through New York State. The Board approved Kristy LaManche to work on getting the additional money and put it to use. Supervisor Krupke has spoken to Charlotte Yerdon who oversees the Softball program, Councilwoman Haynes and Kristy LaManche on the phone to get ideas as to where to spend the additional \$20,000 from the grant. What Kristy is suggesting is \$9,000 for the Softball field improvements and the remaining \$11,000 on portable bleachers that could moved from venue to venue. So Mr. Krupke reached out to Ms. Yerdon and she advised that she didn't really know about the field work so she is going to reach out to some contractors in the area to see if they could help with the fields. They could take 1 field this year to see if they could install drainage and redo the infield.

**HALDANE LEASE:** Discussion about the proposed lease agreement with the Village of Pulaski. *A motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the Haldane Agreement was made by*

***Councilman Yerdon and seconded by Councilwoman Haynes. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE". 7:27pm.***

***A motion was made by Councilman Goodsell to come out of the Executive Session. That motion was seconded by Councilwoman Haynes. The motion was carried by a vote of "AYE" by all members. The result of the Executive Session, no decision was reached. 8:00pm.***

**COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING BOARD MINUTES/UPDATES:** A letter from Chairperson Dawn Holynski. Supervisor Krupke would like to schedule a meeting with Mrs. Holynski and the Town Board. The meeting is set for January 28th at 6:00 pm.

**JUSTICE REPORTS:** No reports.

**WARRANT OF BILLS:** ***A motion to accept abstracts # 14 of 2019 and # 1 of 2020 was made by Councilwoman Gilson and seconded by Councilman Goodsell. With no discussion and in a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE".***

**TOWN BOARD MINUTES:** Next Town Board Minutes for December 10,2019 were presented. ***A motion to accept the Minutes for December 10,2019 was made by Councilman Yerdon and seconded by Councilwoman Gilson. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE"***

**TOWN CLERKS REPORT:** Town Clerks Report was presented to the Board. With no discussion a motion to accept the report as presented was made by Councilwoman Gilson and seconded by Councilwoman Haynes. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE"

**CEMETERY UPDATES:** No updates at this time

**TOWN HISTORIAN REPORT:** No report

**LEGISLATIVE REPORT:** CAP court is in full swing. The work associated with this is mind blowing. January 2nd was the first County Meeting. There will be a meeting with the owners of the Lighthouse on Wednesday to talk about the right of way and the grant. The meeting of the Legislature in Pulaski will be on August 13,2020. Demolition of the burned out house on State Route 11 before the old Trust Nursery will happen on January 17th.

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:** Next is the Procurement Policy, The Town of Richland Official Undertaking of Municipal Officers , The Investment Policies and Guidelines of the Town of Richland after a brief discussion, ***A motion by Councilman Yerdon which was seconded by Councilwoman Haynes to accept the above Policies and Guidelines of the Town of Richland. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE"***

**Next**, Appointment and Resolutions is next with a few changes. The Town of Richlands Official Publication is now the Palladium Times in Oswego, Zoning Board Alternative seat is vacant and an addition in number 66 is Comprehensive Planning Board Chairperson Dawn Holyinski and Board Member Donna Gilson. ***With no other changes, a motion to accept the Appointment and Resolutions for 2020 was made by Councilwoman Haynes and seconded by Councilman Goodsell. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE"***  
***A motion to accept the IRS mileage rate for 2020 of \$57.5 per mile was made by Councilman Yerdon and seconded by Councilwoman Hayes. All board members were in agreement with a vote of "AYE".*** The vehicle Use and Fuel Policy was tabled for the next Town Board Meeting in February. With nothing else to bring before the Board, ***a motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Haynes and seconded by Councilman Goodsell. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE" 9:08 pm***

**NEXT TOWN BOARD MEETING:** February 11, 2020

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** Respectfully submitted by

Millie Newcomb  
Town Clerk