

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

DATE: December 29,2022

KIND OF MEETING: Final Town Board Meeting of 2022

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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Kern Yerdon
Councilwoman Donna Gilson
Councilman Allen Goodsell
Councilwoman Sue Haynes
Councilman Robert North

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Town Residents, Tina Lane, Dean Campbell, and Teresa Stowell Hollis, Water Supervisor Ron Novak, Highway Superintendent, John Fox and Town Clerk Millie Newcomb

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. with Supervisor Yerdon leading in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Tina Lane of South Rainbow Shores Road would like to address the Board. She has a question about maintenance of Town Roads. She was questioning the Board about the 575' that the Town maintains on S.Rainbow Shores Road. She asked why it's not being maintained. She had spoken to Highway Superintendent John Fox and he advised her that he had been told not to maintain the Towns portion of the Road. Supervisor Yerdon told Ms. Lane that he had never told Mr Fox that he couldn't plow Town Roads. The question is , is it a town road, the piece that Ms Lane is talking about. Supervisor Yerdon is researching whether or not the part Ms Lane is talking about is part of the Road system that the Town has to maintain. Ms Lane's concern is if there is an emergency that a fire truck or ambulance is needed. Superintendent Fox said that the Town would clear the road for an Emergency. Mr Yerdon assured Ms Lane that he would look into her concerns and have an answer for her. She also asked about the chain of command in regards to the Highway Superintendent. Supervisor Yerdon told Ms.Lane that first, the Highway Superintendent is an Elected position and has to

follow all NYS DOT laws and Election Laws. The Town Board governs the pay and hours of work. It's not just black and white. Councilwoman Haynes asked if the Town has ever maintained the 575' of the road. She said not to her knowledge. Superintendent Fox said that in his almost 40 year career with the Town, he has never maintained S.Rainbow Shores Road. Mr Yerdon also commented that when the water line was going down the road, all the residents had to sign off to let the Town put that line in. You wouldn't have to get signatures if it was a Town road.

WARRANT OF BILLS: A motion to accept and pay Abstract #13 was made by Councilwoman Haynes and seconded by Councilman North. With no discussion and in a roll call vote, all members were in favor with a vote of "AYE".

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: At the moment, the Water Supervisor falls under an hourly rate of pay. The board has been working on turning it into a Management position. With that, Supervisor Yerdon would like to go into Executive Session to discuss this, and job description. **A motion was made by Councilman Goodsell and seconded by Councilwoman Gilson. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE". 10:09am.**

A motion to exit Executive Session was made by Councilwoman Haynes and seconded by Councilman Goodsell. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE". 11:12am.

A motion was made to accept the new job description for "Water Supervisor" was made by Councilwoman Gilson and seconded by Councilman Goodsell. In a roll call vote, Haynes, Yes, Gilson, Yes, Goodsell, Yes, North, No, Yerdon, Yes. The motion was passed by majority vote.

The job description for Water Supervisor will be attached to these minutes. Supervisor Yerdon then asked Water Supervisor Ron Novak if he accepted the position as read in the minutes. Mr. Novak responded that he accepted the position as outlined in the job description as of January 1, 2023. Ms. Lane would like to add for the record that Mr Fryer's grandfather advised that the road was once maintained but because of a dispute, the Town ceased maintenance. Ms. Lane wasn't sure how long ago it was, but did admit that the gentle man that lives at 30 South Rainbow Shores Road is in his 60's and it was his Grandfather that told him this. Supervisor Yerdon said that it can be part of the record but he is still going to look at the law. Mr Fox has been Highway Superintendent for a little over 20 yrs and with the Town Highway for more than 36 yrs.

NEXT TOWN BOARD MEETING: January 10, 2023

MEETING ADJOURNED: With nothing more to bring before the Board, **a motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Gilson and seconded by Councilwoman Haynes. In a roll call vote, all members were in agreement with a vote of "AYE". 11:22am.**

Respectfully submitted by

Millie Newcomb

Town Clerk