

**Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Mooers held
November 14, 2018 at the Mooers Office Complex commencing at 7:00 PM**

Present: Jeff Menard, Supervisor
Donald Perras, Councilperson
Eugene "Dickie" Boulerice, Councilperson
Irving Breyette, Councilperson

Recording Secretary: Kelly L. McDonald, Town Clerk

Others Present: Jess Dixon, Code Enforcement Officer
Myrtle Hawksby, Beautification
Kaleigh Labombard, Dog Control Officer

Absent: Christopher Bulriss, Councilperson
Kris Gilmore, Highway Superintendent

Meeting: Supervisor Jeff Menard called the Meeting to Order at 7:00PM. Supervisor Menard asked Mrs. Kelly McDonald to lead them in the "Pledge of Allegiance," which she did.

Minutes: All the Board Members were asked if they had read their copies of the October 10, 2018 minutes and the October 24, 2018 minutes. There were 2 corrections that needed to be made (2 wrong last names), Councilperson Perras made a motion to accept the minutes with the corrections made. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Menard. The result of the Roll Call was 4 AYES (Councilperson Perras, Councilperson Boulerice, Supervisor Menard, and Councilperson Breyette) and 0 NOES. Therefore, Supervisor Menard declared the motion carried and the Minutes accepted with corrections.

Highway: Supervisor Menard asked if anyone from the Highway Department would like to address the board. No person was present wishing to address the board.

Library: Supervisor Menard asked if anyone from the Library would like to address the board. Mr. Art Menard, was not available. Supervisor Menard asked Councilperson Breyette if he had any information on the Library. Councilperson Breyette stated the Library Budget for 2019 was passed last night at the meeting. Councilperson Breyette also stated a new Director has been hired, as Olivia Gillette will be done December 1, 2018.

Dog Control: Ms. Kaleigh Labombard, Dog Control Officer, asked Supervisor Menard if everyone had been aware of recent happenings with the animal shelter. Supervisor Menard explained that when the North Country Animal Shelter came to disassemble to dog shelter, they realized that the heater and 2 propane tanks were missing. A police report was filed, and they are trying to track down the missing property. Supervisor Menard also stated that the Town Attorney had approved selling the Town of Malone the Shelter. Ms. Labombard stated it was going well with using the Shelter in Malone. So far, they have had one dog and the owner was found after a week and were reunited. Ms. Labombard apologized for the drama with the building over the past year. Ms. Labombard stated that she would like to continue being the DCO for Mooers and Champlain in 2019 and has kept her employment with the Sheriff's Department part time to allow her to do so. Councilperson Breyette asked if the Town gave the Animal Shelter, Supervisor Menard stated that they sold it to them. Ms. Labombard mentioned there were concerns with the property owner as the building being taken down. Supervisor Menard said he spoke with the property owner about these concerns. Ms. Labombard stated she had no tickets for the month, no dogs picked up. Ms. Labombard stated she had talked to the owners of Mooers Lawn and Garden about their neighbors' dogs being loose and what had been done. They were advised to follow up on that progress through the court system.

Beautification: Supervisor Menard asked if anyone from Beautification would like to address the board. Supervisor Menard let everyone know that there would be a Tree Lighting. Mrs. Myrtle Hawksby explained the Tree Lighting is scheduled for the first Sunday in December. There

will be hot chocolate and cookies. Mrs. Hawksby also stated that Santa would be there with a gift for the children. Mrs. Hawksby said this was put on by the Fire Department.

Youth Program: Supervisor Menard asked if anyone from the Youth Commission would like to address the board. No person was present wishing to address the board.

Town Historian: Supervisor Menard asked if anyone from the office of The Town Historian would like to address the board. No person was present wishing to address the Board.

Fire Department: Supervisor Menard asked if anyone from the Fire Department would like to address the Board. No person was present wishing to address the Board. Supervisor Menard read the report submitted by Mr. Dan Dumas, Fire Chief. There were 12 calls for the month of September (149 for the year so far): 2 house fires, 1 downed power line, 1 garage fire, 1 vehicle fire, 2 grass brush fires, 2 carbon monoxide detectors go off, and 2 medical assists.

Tax Assessor: Supervisor Menard asked if anyone from the office of the Assessor would like to address the board. No person was present wishing to address the board.

EMS: Supervisor Menard explained that the Town was still moving forward with the purchase of the Morelock building to use as the new EMS Building. Supervisor Menard stated he spoke with the Town Lawyer on Friday, there were a couple of issues with the building that had to be cleared up. When the owner of the building paid off the building he did not get a release from the bank. This is needed before it can be sold. Supervisor Menard said we were waiting on that and hopefully it will happen soon.

Court: Supervisor Menard asked if anyone from the office of Court would like to address the board. No person was present wishing to address the board. Supervisor Menard read the Court Report that was submitted for the month of September; \$7,357 was brought in for the month. \$5,076 of that went to the State, \$22 to the County and \$2,259 to the Town of Mooers.

Code Enforcement: Supervisor Menard read the Code Enforcement Report for the month. Mr. Jess Dixon issued 9 permits, had 22 calls, 2 inspections and 1 Certification of Occupancy. Mr. Jess Dixon, Code Enforcement Officer, explain this week was the deadline for the Shear Residence to have cleared the property. Mr. Dixon is waiting for a new estimate on what it will cost, as it may be a bit cheaper due to the fact that some staff has been moved. Mr. Dixon reached out to the lawyer is the vehicles, whether they should be impounded or scrap yard. Mr. Dixon is waiting on that answer. Mr. Dixon stated that he is at a standstill on the Rt 11 house, as they have not put in a permit yet to fix the house. Mr. Dixon spoke with a couple individuals on the feral cat problem. Mr. Dixon explained there is a Feral Cat Program that will spay and neuter cats and relocate them in the area they were taken from. It is \$50 to spay and \$35 to neuter, this also includes rabies shots and vet checks. This would help the population and is cheaper than euthanize. Mr. Dixon asked if the Town would be interested in helping pay for this. Mr. Dixon is going to check and see if they would be willing to give the municipality the same price. Ms. Labombard said they also try to release them at various farms. Mr. Dixon said yes, they try to find reputable farms that would need the cats. Mr. Dixon also stated in the future perhaps an ordinance could be written stating that cats found outside are subject to this. Councilperson Boulerville asked what would happen on the Garrand Road if the individual started to do the same thing again. Mr. Dixon said this wasn't provided for in the code, but that if it started again it would be billed for again. Mr. Dixon stated that if she did not pay the bill with in the allotted time, it will go on her taxes. If it continues to happen, it could be condemned, but this is not something he would want to do.

Old Business:

Old Business 1) Supervisor Menard had a meeting with Renee McFarland from the Industrial Development Committee that is in charge of the Solar Farm Development. They would like a Fourth Farm with a discount. They would like to pay half of what they paid for the other three farms, \$9,550 a year for this farm compared to the others at \$19,100. They said they might not put it up if not able to get a discount, but Supervisor Menard believes they have already started it. Also, it looks like they are in plans to do two more and would they also expect a discount on those? Supervisor Menard explained that he would bring it back to the Board to see what their thoughts were. Supervisor Menard said his recommendation was to keep it the same. Councilperson Perras agreed and that it would set a precedent. Councilperson Breyette asked if they talked any long-term plans, Supervisor Menard said no, they just asked for the discount. He also stated it was a 20-year program that they agreed upon. Mr. Jess Dixon, Code Enforcement Officer, explained that the Fourth Farm was already going up. Mr. Dixon also stated that the price they were paying now is a Pilot Program price and a good deal. Mr. Dixon said in his

opinion they are getting a good deal now, but maybe Supervisor Menard should get more information. Supervisor Menard said he would let them know that they wanted to keep the price as is for now. Supervisor Menard made a motion and Councilperson Boulerice seconded the motion. The result of a Roll Call was 4 AYES (Councilperson Perras, Councilperson Boulerice, Supervisor Menard, and Councilperson Breyette) and 0 NOES. Supervisor Menard Called the motion carried.

Old Business 2) Supervisor Menard asked Mrs. Kelly McDonald, Town Clerk, to read the Resolution adopting 2019 Budget, which she did.

RESOLUTION #33-2018 ADOPTING ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2019

WHEREAS; this Board having on October 24, 2018 at 6 p.m., duly held a public hearing on the preliminary budget approved by this Board and filed with the Town Clerk for the fiscal year commencing January 1, 2019, including the fire protection district budgets and light district budgets for 2019 and having heard all persons desiring to be heard in the matter and the matter of the budget for this Town for such fiscal year having been fully discussed and considered,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that said Preliminary Budget be approved and filed as aforesaid including the fire protection district budgets and the light district budgets for 2019 is hereby approved and established as the annual budget for this Town for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2019, and that such annual budget be so adopted in detail in the minutes of the proceedings of this Town Board, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk of the Town shall prepare and certify as provided by law, duplicate copies of the said annual budget hereby adopted, shall attach thereto an exemption report in compliance with requirements of Chapter 258 of the Laws of 2008, and deliver one of such copies to the Supervisor of the Town, and the Supervisor shall present such copy to the Board of Legislators of the County as required by law.

Motion: Councilperson Perras

Seconded by: Supervisor Menard

Discussion: No

Roll Call: The result of a Roll Call was 4 AYES (Councilperson Perras, Councilperson Boulerice, Supervisor Menard, and Councilperson Breyette) and 0 NOES.

Therefore; Supervisor Menard declared **Resolution #33-2018** is adopted.

DATED: November 14, 2018

New Business:

New Business 1) Supervisor Menard stated that a town employee has been trapping beavers on the Orr Road, where it was flooded. This was being done as overtime. Supervisor Menard told Mr. Kris Gilmore, Highway Superintendent, that it needed to stop, as the town should not pay for trapping beavers on private property. Councilperson Boulerice stated it would be different if it was on the public road or right of way. Supervisor Menard asked the Board what they thought. Councilperson Perras said it would be different if doing it on his own. Both Supervisor Menard and Councilperson Boulerice said the landowner should pay part of it as well. Supervisor Menard did not think the town should be paying, especially overtime. Supervisor Menard said this is why he asked Mr. Gilmore to stop at this point until they can come up with a plan. At this time, they were also doing two other places, Scriver Road and Barcomb Road possibly. Councilperson Breyette asked if trapping beaver was in a Town Employees job description. Supervisor Menard stated no, Councilperson Breyette stated that person should be terminated. Supervisor Menard explained he was doing what his boss had instructed him to do. Once Supervisor Menard saw that it was being paid for as overtime, he put a stop

to it. Councilperson Boulerville said the town could put a bounty on it. Supervisor Menard explained beaver is not worth very much, did not know if there would be interest.

New Business 2) Supervisor Menard asked Councilperson Boulerville if the Boulerville Road (the road Solar Farm is using) off the Boas Road had been abandoned. Councilperson Boulerville said no, it was still on the inventory. Councilperson Boulerville explained a public hearing would have to be held to take a road off the inventory. It would then go back to a right of way. Also, he stated it would cut down on the chips funding. Supervisor Menard wondered if it stayed on would we need to plow it, would be difficult with the crushed stone. Councilperson Boulerville stated he did not think it would be much of a monetary difference to take it off. Supervisor Menard explained Mr. Kelly Donahue had asked it to be changed as Altona has the same road but we don't have people on the Mooers one. Supervisor Menard thought the name could be Solar Road. Councilperson Boulerville said the road would need to meet specs in order for the town to plow, the Solar Farm Company would be responsible for doing this before we could plow. Mr. Dixon said he would check with Solar Farm to see what their thoughts were.

New Business 3) Councilperson Boulerville asked if the driveways have been fixed and topsoil put down. Supervisor Menard said no they hadn't. Supervisor Menard said he would talk to Mr. Gilmore again and hopefully have it fixed.

New Business 4) Supervisor Menard asked if anyone would like to sit on the Grievance Board, they need 2 more members. Mr. Dave Kokes is on the board now. Councilperson Breyette offered to sit if he could.

Public Comment:
There were no public comments.

Vouchers:

General Town Wide	Voucher 246-269	\$32,630.57
Highway	Voucher 188-206	\$114,374.24
Trust & Agency	Voucher 42-45	\$13,480.98
Mooers & Mooers Forks Lights	Voucher 265	\$1,263.92

Total of Abstracted Vouchers Paid **\$161,749.71**

Adjourn: Councilperson Menard entertained a motion for the meeting be adjourned, Councilperson Breyette motioned and Councilperson Perras seconded the motion. All in favor. Thus, Supervisor Jeff Menard declared the motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly L. McDonald, TOWN CLERK