

**Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Mooers held  
December 11, 2017 at the Mooers Office Complex commencing at 7:00 PM**

**Present:**                               **Jeff Menard, Supervisor**  
   **Donald Perras, Councilperson**  
   **Gerald LaValley, Councilperson**

**Mary Myatt, Councilperson**

**Recording Secretary:**           **Jessica K. Bulriss, Town Clerk**

**Others Present:**                   **Kris Gilmore, Highway Superintendent**  
   **Kaleigh Mill, Dog Control Officer**  
   **Myrtle Hawksby, Beautification**  
   **Jess Dixon, Code Enforcement Officer**  
   **Larry Wolff, Assessor**  
   **Danny Dumas, Fire Chief**  
   **Art Menard, Library**

**Absent:**                               **Dickie "Eugene" Boulerice, Councilperson**

**Meeting:**                             Supervisor Jeff Menard called the Meeting to Order at 7:00 PM, he then asked Mrs. Jessica Bulriss 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 November 13, 2017 Minutes. Councilperson Perras made a motion to accept the November 13, 2017 minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Menard. The result of the Roll Call was 4 AYES (Councilperson Perras, Councilperson LaValley, Supervisor Menard, and Councilperson Myatt) and 0 NOES. Therefore Supervisor Menard declared the motion carried and the Minutes accepted as written.

**Highway:**                           Highway Superintendent Kris Gilmore asked Supervisor Menard if he had spoken with the person in Watertown regarding the Snow and Ice agreement. Supervisor Menard replied that he had. He went on to explain that the current contract is a commitment for the 2019-2020 season. New York State requires us to sign the contract ahead of time because they need time to prepare if we are not going to do it. If the town decides that we aren't making any money, and cannot fulfill the contract they will plow, but we need to let them know. They will pay \$312,210.00 for the 2019-2020 season. They will send a letter out in September confirming the contract. The town can then submit documentation showing that the cost to plow the roads has gone up and they will adjust the amount. Superintendent Gilmore said that he would like to get together in the spring when he has more accurate numbers to see if it's worth doing the contract. Supervisor Menard said the town is making money with this contract. Superintendent Gilmore asked who calculated the cost of labor, salt, and equipment, etc. in the contract. Supervisor Menard replied the state calculates the numbers and pay by the mile. Superintendent Gilmore said the roughly have spent \$140,000.00 on salt and need to order more, but he has been holding off because of budget issues. Supervisor Menard asked if he has it stock piled. He replied no, that he has 100 ton, which could potentially be used in three days. Supervisor Menard said he has spent almost double what he spent last year. Superintendent Gilmore said there was a lot of ice and he has put way less than he should be putting on. He said there are times he should be out there, and they aren't. Supervisor Menard said that shouldn't be an option, he is putting the town at a big liability. When the state calls to plow you have to check the roads. Councilperson Perras asked if we were sent a letter confirming that we have an out with the contract. Supervisor Menard replied no. Councilperson Perras suggested that the town get something in writing stating that we can withdraw from the contract if the town isn't making enough money. There was more discussion regarding the snow and ice contract.

**RESOLUTION TO EXTEND THE MUNICIPAL SNOW & ICE AGREEMENT  
EXTENSION FOR THE 2019 - 2020 SEASON**

**Whereas;**           The Town of Mooers received necessary paperwork to extend their Municipal Snow & Ice Agreement for the 2019 - 2020 season, and

**Whereas;**           Total NYS Municipal Snow & Ice agreement will be \$308,485.47, including \$6,169.71 per lane mile for 50.0 miles, and

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN OF MOOERS ACCEPT THE NYS MUNICIPAL SNOW & ICE AGREEMENT EXTENSION FOR THE 2019 - 2020 SEASON**

**Motion: Supervisor Menard**

**Seconded by: Councilperson Myatt**

**Discussion: yes**

The result of a Roll Call was 3 AYES (Councilperson LaValley, Councilperson Myatt, and Supervisor Menard) and 1 NOE (Councilperson Perras)

**Therefore;** Supervisor Menard declared **Resolution #25-2017** adopted.

Superintendent Gilmore said we need to make a decision on whether we are going to lease a plow truck. He said the only difference is this truck has a steel box and some of the plow equipment will be changed to fit our needs. He said the total price of the truck is \$206,000.00. Supervisor Menard asked when it would be available. Superintendent Gilmore replied the end of January. There was more discussion regarding the lease. Supervisor Menard asked for a written quote to review at the end of the year meeting.

Superintendent Gilmore asked if he could hire his wife, Mrs. Christine Gilmore, to help him catch up on paperwork. He asked that she be able to work no more than ten hours per week. He said there are several reports that need to be done daily. He would like to also purchase a scanner. Supervisor Menard said he did not have a problem with it. Superintendent Gilmore said no more than ten hours per week. Councilperson Myatt made a motion to hire Christine Gilmore to help with the Highway Department paperwork for ten hours a week until the end of April, 2018. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Perras. The result of the Roll Call was 4 AYES (Councilperson Perras, Supervisor Menard, Councilperson Myatt, and Councilperson Boulerice) and 0 NOES and 1 ABSTAIN (Councilperson LaValley). Therefore Supervisor Menard declared the motion carried.

Superintendent Gilmore said he will try and fix the decorations that aren't working. He suggested that Mr. Chris Bulriss could help him fix the Christmas tree in front of Dragon's.

Supervisor Menard stated the town received a bill from Champlain Telephone Company for a fiber optic cable that was cut on the Barcomb Road. The bill was submitted to our insurance company, but the claim was denied because an E-50 form was not personally delivered to the town clerk within a certain time frame. Superintendent Gilmore said there were two lines, but only one was marked. He said he learned a valuable lesson with dig safe. He said that you have to call dig safe every two weeks so that the town is covered. Councilperson Perras made a motion to pay the bill for Champlain Telephone Company. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Myatt. The result of the Roll Call was 5 AYES (Councilperson Perras, Councilperson LaValley, Supervisor Menard, Councilperson Myatt, and Councilperson Boulerice) and 0 NOES. Therefore Supervisor Menard declared the motion carried.

**Library:** Mr. Art Menard, present, stated that they have moved into the new library and the community room has also been completed. He thanked S & B Construction for everything they have done. He also thanked the Highway Department for paving the parking lot. He also thanked Councilperson LaValley for all of his help. They have ordered the new computers. They will know by June if the grant has been awarded. They are still taking donation for their brick fundraiser. The bricks will be designed by Tim Gonyo. Mr. Menard said their regular operating budget will have a \$3,000.00 to \$5,000.00 fund balance. They will be having their budget meeting tomorrow at the new library. They are hoping to build the fund balance up just in case. Supervisor Menard spoke with Mr. Backus regarding the old library. He would like to walk through a final time before completing the deal. Mr. Jess Dixon requested that Mr. Backus meet with him regarding the old library. Supervisor Menard asked if we are planning an open house. Mr. Menard replied that they will have an open house in late summer. He said the heat and fuel oil in the old building is ok. There is half a tank of fuel. They will be taking over the electric bill from the town. Mr. Menard asked if the person who does the sidewalks could also do their parking lot. He also asked about having the water tested. Mr. Dixon instructed him to contact the Department of Health.

**Dog Control:** Mrs. Kaleigh Mills, present, said the shelter will be inspected soon and the shelter still needs a heater. Supervisor Menard asked if she has any dogs currently in the shelter. She replied that she has two hound dogs. She said they are warm enough for now with dog houses and hay. Ms. Mills stated that her divorce is final as of today and written into the paperwork is an agreement that the Town of Mooers has access to the shelter building until January 1, 2019. She

stated that it is a good idea to move the building to public property. She picked up a dog that was extremely emaciated, but now has been adopted.

**Tax Assessor:** Mr. Larry Wolff, present, had nothing to present to the board at this time.

**Beautification:** Mrs. Scarlet Sample, present, asked that their fund balance be transferred at the end of the year.

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

**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 at this time.

**Fire Department:** Fire Chief Dan Dumas said they have had 105 calls year to date. They had nice tree lighting ceremony last week attended by roughly 60 to 70 people.

**EMS:** Supervisor Menard read the report for the month of November. They had a total of 84 calls in November and 998 year to date. There were 52 calls in Champlain, 17 in Mooers, and 15 in Rouses Point.

**Court:** Supervisor Menard asked if anyone from the Office of the Town Court would like to address the Board. No person was present wishing to address the Board. Supervisor Menard read the report for the month of November. For the month of October the Court brought in a total of \$14,241.41; \$9,371.00.00 went to the New York State, \$112.00 went to Clinton County, and \$4,758.41.41 went to the Town of Mooers.

**Code Enforcement:** Code Enforcement Officer, Jess Dixon read his report for the month of November. There were 5 building permits issued, 29 calls, 4 certificates of occupancy, and 2 certificates of compliance. Mr. Dixon said he will address the burned out house on Route 11 tomorrow. He also said that he has emailed the attorneys in Malone and is waiting for a contract. He would like to utilize their help for the property on the Garrard Road. He will also be issuing vehicle violations as a separate violation. Mr. Dixon stated that the library has received a verbal certificate of occupancy, but he will do an official one this coming week. Supervisor Menard stated that he spoke with the land owner involved with the solar panels. Supervisor Menard was told that Delaware River Solar is taking the project back.

#### **Old Business:**

**Old Business 1:** Supervisor Menard stated that he was informed that the town is not allow to close the cemeteries in the winter. He spoke with someone at the Division of Cemeteries, who suggested that the town raise the cost of a burial to \$1,500.00 or more for burials after November 15<sup>th</sup>. He suggested that we come up with a plan by next meeting.

#### **New Business:**

**New Business 1:** Supervisor Menard stated that he was informed by the court clerk, Mrs. Crystal Bulriss, that there is a new procedure to review the court books. He stated that the board will be auditing the court books at the end of the year meeting, which will be held on Friday, December 30, 2017 at 1pm.

**New Business 2:** Mr. Art Menard asked if the town board could come up with a policy regarding the use of the community room at the new library.

#### **Public Comment:**

**Public Comment 1:** Mr. Jess Dixon suggested adding verbiage including the cost increases to the resolution accepting the snow and ice agreement. He also asked if Superintendent Gilmore has a Williamson Law program for his paperwork.

**Public Comment 2:** Mr. Kenny Hawksby asked about Dollar General. Supervisor Menard said they will be up and running by April 2018. Mr. Dixon said that he has submitted the required paperwork to the zoning board.

**Executive Session:** At 8:03 pm Supervisor Menard made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel issues. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Perras. The result of the Roll Call was 5 AYES (Councilperson Perras, Councilperson LaValley, Supervisor Menard, Councilperson Myatt, and Councilperson Boulerice) and 0 NOES. Therefore Supervisor Menard declared the motion carried. Executive Session ended at 8:45 pm.

**Vouchers:**

The Audited Vouchers to be paid off the Abstracted Vouchers on November 13, 2017 as follows:

<b>General – Town Wide</b>	<b>Vouchers 265-287</b>	<b>\$17,189.65</b>
<b>Highway – Town Wide</b>	<b>Vouchers 205-224</b>	<b>\$43,008.53</b>
<b>Trust and Agency</b>	<b>Vouchers 81-84</b>	<b>\$13,068.26</b>
<b>Union Cemetery</b>	<b>Voucher 30</b>	<b>\$350.00</b>
<b>Mooers Lights</b>	<b>Voucher 283</b>	<b>\$728.71</b>
<b>Mooers Forks Lights</b>	<b>Voucher 283</b>	<b>\$420.67</b>
<b>Total of Abstracted Vouchers Paid</b>		<b>\$74,765.82</b>

**Adjourn:** Supervisor Menard made a motion for the meeting to be adjourned. All in favor. Thus, Supervisor Jeff Menard declared the motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:46 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

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JESSICA K. BULRISS, TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR