

**Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Mooers held Wednesday,
December 6, 2017 at the Mooers Office Complex commencing at 6:00 PM**

Present: Jeff Menard, Supervisor
Gerald LaValley, Councilperson
Donald Perras, Councilperson
Eugene ("Dickie") Boulerice, Councilperson
Mary Myatt, Councilperson

Recording Secretary: Jessica K. Bulriss, Town Clerk

Others Present: Kris Gilmore, Highway Superintendent

Absent: none

Meeting: Supervisor Jeff Menard called the Meeting to Order at 6:00 PM, then he asked Mrs. Jessica Bulriss to lead them in the "Pledge of Allegiance," which she did.

Supervisor Menard explained that the reason for the special meeting was to discuss the 2019-2020 snow and ice agreement with New York State. He said that in 2017 the state contract was for \$304,761.22 and the county contract was for \$209,101.00 for a total of \$513,862.21. He further stated that the breakdown is as follows; state payroll \$20,546.22, county payroll \$51,795.32, state fuel expenditure \$9,349.37, county fuel expenditure, \$7,012.11, state salt expenditure \$82,720.72, county salt expenditure \$63,534.83, state road employee benefits \$32,194.87, and county road employee benefits \$80,487.19. The expenditures for the state roads totals \$144,811.18, and the expenditures for the county roads totals \$202,829.45. He also stated that this does not include maintenance or wear and tear on any of the trucks. The total expenditures for both contracts totaled \$347,640.63, which left \$166,221.58 to be used in the budget in other areas. Supervisor Menard stated that we make more from the state contract than we do for the county contract.

Supervisor Menard asked Superintendent Gilmore if he had any input on the numbers provided. Superintendent Gilmore stated that he has asked numerous times how she bills the salt. He said that he put 1200 tons of salt in the sand pile and she still divides it between the town, county, and state. He said that the state roads don't use any salt until they start plowing. He said they start the sand pile in September or October and all of the salt purchased during that time period should be billed to the county and town. He said that nothing should be billed to the state until the sand pile is done and they start plowing snow. Supervisor Menard asked if he already had salt for the state roads at that time. Superintendent Gilmore replied that there is usually some left over from the year before. Supervisor Menard asked if the \$82,000.00 was a high figure for the salt expenditures. Superintendent Gilmore stated that just in the sand pile alone there is \$91,000.00 plus in salt for the town and county. Supervisor Menard stated that this year he has already spent \$209,000.00 on salt. Superintendent Gilmore said that is from January 1, 2017 until now. Supervisor Menard said that is how the contract reads also. Superintendent Gilmore replied yes, but the way the bills are divided makes it hard to determine what goes where. He said you can take the salt bill for the whole year and subtract the cost of the 1200 tons and that should be billed to the state. He said last year they only used two truckloads out of the state pile on the county roads. He said that the state roads get pure salt, and the town roads get 10% to 15% salt. He said he had the numbers figured out, but he lost his paperwork when his office was cleaned.

Councilperson Boulerice said they tried negotiating with the county for more money previously, but did not have proof of what was spent where for the roads. A former Supervisor, Mr. Rudy Miller, changed the way they did the budgets so that there would be proof of what was spent on the roads. Supervisor Menard asked why they have spent so much money on salt this year. He stated that the last three years have averaged about \$168,000.00 and this year we have spent over \$209,000.00. Councilperson Boulerice asked if there was a computer in the truck used to plow the state roads. Superintendent Gilmore replied there was. Councilperson Boulerice said that it looks like they are putting down way too much salt. Superintendent Gilmore said the state truck has been broke and they just got it going again. He said it now has the Peabody sander which puts the sand down differently.

Councilperson Boulerice said they used to use 9 yards of salt per trip. Superintendent Gilmore said they have been using a lot more than 9 yards. Councilperson Boulerice suggested that the calibration might be off. He said that when he drove to Plattsburgh there seemed to be way too much salt on the road. Councilperson Perras asked what the protocol was if an employee only went out to plow for one hour. Superintendent Gilmore replied that he would be paid for four hours. Councilperson Boulerice said that if the state calls and says we need to go out you have to check the roads first because conditions vary. There was more discussion regarding the snow and ice contract. A decision was not made. Supervisor Menard stated that he would get more clarification for Monday's meeting.

New Business:

New Business 1:

Supervisor Menard said he spoke with Andre Labarge regarding the fiber optic cable that was cut. He said Champlain Telephone was supposed to file and personally deliver an E-50 form to the town clerk because we are a municipality. He said that the insurance company will not cover the damage because they did not follow the correct procedure. Supervisor Menard said the town will have to decide if we are going to pay for it. There was more discussion regarding Champlain Telephone Company. Supervisor Menard said we will table it and make a decision on Monday December 11th.

New Business 2:

Supervisor Menard stated that Gary Cardin is willing to plow the sidewalks again this year in Mooers Forks. He would like permission to tap the maple trees behind his house which are on town property. Councilperson Boulerice made a motion to hire Gary Cardin to plow the sidewalks in Mooers Forks and to give him permission to tap the maple trees behind his house on town property. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Menard. The result of the Roll Call was 5 AYES and 0 NOES. Therefore Supervisor Menard declared the motion carried.

New Business 3:

Supervisor Menard said that he would like to schedule the year end meeting for Friday December 29, 2017 at 1:00 pm.

Adjourn: Supervisor Menard made a motion for the meeting be adjourned. All in favor. Thus, Supervisor Jeff Menard declared the motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:00PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

JESSICA K. BULRISS, TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR