

**Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Mooers held
August 10, 2021 at the Mooers Office Complex commencing at 7:00 PM**

Present: Jeff Menard, Supervisor
Donald Perras, Councilperson
Randy LaCount, Councilperson
Irving Breyette, Councilperson
Christopher Bulriss, Councilperson
Kris Gilmore, Highway Superintendent

Recording Secretary: Kelly L. McDonald, Town Clerk

Others Present: Scarlett Sample, Beautification
Myrtle Hawksby, Beautification
Crystal Bulriss, Beautification
Art Menard, Library
Todd Gumlaw, Fire Chief
Calvin Castine, Area One Legislator

Absent: None

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 June 8, 2021 and July 13, 2021 meeting minutes.

Councilperson Perras made a motion to approve the minutes as written.

Councilperson LaCount seconded the motion.

All in favor, Supervisor Menard declared the motion carried.

Highway: Superintendent Gilmore said they had patched and paved Hulbert Road, Tappin and Nephew Road. They are supposed to pave North Star Road but waiting until the heat breaks. Superintendent Gilmore asked if there was any word on the sandpit that is part of the cemetery. Supervisor Menard said no that he was working with Dean Lashway on it. Supervisor Menard asked if Superintendent Gilmore had a chance to look at the truck in Beekmantown. He said yes it didn't look too bad. It's not available until they get their new one, but they will have first chance on it. It's a 1999, they were going to auction it for \$15,000. It's got new tires and is a plow/sander. Supervisor Menard asked if they were going to pick up the stuff that was left after cleaning out the ditch on Park Lane. Superintendent Gilmore said they had tried using shared services with Plattsburgh for an excavator, but it hadn't worked out yet. Should they advertise or rent one? Superintendent Gilmore said they need an addition at the shop, asked if the Covid relief money could be used for that. Supervisor Menard said they needed new equipment first. Supervisor Menard asked what the chance of getting the parking lot paved was. Superintendent Gilmore said it should be dug up and that there were water issues. It was also stated there were apron issues in front of the fire station. Supervisor Menard said the covid relief money could be used. Councilperson LaCount asked if that money could be used to pave the parking lot, Supervisor Menard said it could. Superintendent Gilmore asked if they could hire Mr. Todd Gumlaw part time until the applications and interviews were completed. Supervisor Menard said yes. Supervisor Menard asked again to check on what it would take to get the driveway completed this year, as there is still time. There was discussion on the County Contract for the next three years. Supervisor Menard reviewed the Budget for the next three years. The 2021 rate is \$53.99 per lane mile, and \$54.53 per lane mile for 2022. It goes up 1% each year for next 2 years. They will also readjust fuel price if needed. It's going to be presented to the Legislator in September. They need to figure out if we are at least breaking money on it, the Board needs the figures to determine this. Superintendent said he was working on the figures, that it would take a while. Superintendent Gilmore said that his previous figures had burned in the pickup truck. Supervisor Menard said they'll discuss it next month and that they need figures then.

Library: Mr. Art Menard stated that the library is still open full time, if you are not vaccinated you are required to wear a mask. They are still on track to submit their grant proposal at the end of August. It is submitted to Plattsburgh first and will be sent back if it still needs work. This is for the storage shed, gazebo and some shelving for storage room inside the library. At the Library Board Meeting last month,

they asked Mr. Menard to thank whoever is moving the lawn that it looks great. Supervisor Menard said it was Mr. Bruce Bulriss and he was thanked. The summer reading is still going on, there are also various craft activities. Mr. Menard reviewed the events that have been happening. The library gnome was at the library, and they were able to get the Board members had their pictures taken. On August 2nd there was a small memorial for Merle Garrand who used to work at the school and library. A brick was also purchased in her name. Bricks are still on sale for donations.

Dog Control: There was no report submitted for July 2021. Supervisor Menard discussed the Kennel Permit issue. He discussed that in discussions it was easiest to change purebred kennel license to a group dog license. Mrs. Kelly McDonald, Town Clerk, discussed the fees for purebred dogs currently. Janet Collier from the Department of Agriculture and Markets recommended just taking the verbiage Purebred out and putting in Kennel or Group in its place and keep the fees the same. The other option is doing away with any kind of group or purebred license, and charge by each dog, as that's what most of the Towns in the State are currently doing.

Councilperson LaCount made a motion to change the Purebred license to Kennel and keep the fees as is. Councilperson Perras seconded the motion.

All in Favor, no opposed.

Supervisor Menard called the motion carried.

Beautification: Mrs. Scarlett Sample said not much was going on. Superintendent Gilmore was waiting to hear from NYSEG about getting the boxes fixed.

Fire Department: Supervisor read the July 2021 report submitted by Fire Chief Todd Gumlaw. Chief Gumlaw discussed the Fire Department's Labor Day Celebration Plans for September 5th. They have been refinishing the floors in the bay.

Court: Supervisor Menard read the June 2021 court report submitted.

Old Business:

1) Mrs. Vicki Brassard was present to discuss the Old Riverside Cemetery. She met with Mr. Thorin Reinhart about the tree that needed to be taken down. Mrs. Brassard had researched prices and thought it would be higher, but he offered to do it for \$2000. Mr. Reinhart received permission for the landowners to utilize their lawns if needed. Mrs. Brassard and others have also moved a lot of brush. Supervisor Menard thanked her and the other volunteers who have helped. Councilperson Lacount asked when the fence would be in and who was going to put it up. Supervisor Menard said they were still waiting on the fence and the company would be putting it up. The Town needs to take the old one down. Mrs. Brassard asked if anything would be put along Mill Street. Supervisor Menard said no because it would be damaged by the snowplow and weight of snow.

Councilperson LaCount made a motion to approve Thorin Reinhart taking tree down for \$2,000.

Councilperson Perras seconded the motion.

All in favor, none opposed.

Supervisor Menard declared the motion carried.

Councilperson LaCount asked if there was a Cemetery Committee and asked if Mrs. Brassard could be added to the Cemetery Committee.

Councilperson LaCount made a motion to add Mrs. Vicki Brassard to the Cemetery Committee in January.

Councilperson Bulriss seconded the motion.

All in favor, none opposed.

Supervisor Menard declared the motion carried.

2) **CBDG:** Supervisor Menard explained that the Town had not been approved for the Funding Grant with Friends of the North Country at this time. They would like to meet and review the application to see how it could be improved. The application will automatically be resubmitted.

New Business:

1) Supervisor Menard received an email a month ago about the possibility of a new Asphalt Plant across the border in Havelock. They wanted to know if the Town would support them in trying to shut it down. Supervisor read the email. It's on the Covey Hill Road at Ducharme Quarry. Supervisor Menard asked Area One Legislator Mr. Calvin Castine, if he has heard anything on it. Mr. Castine asked Mr. Mike Cashman if there was any negative impact in Plattsburgh from the quarries. He had not responded, possibly meaning there is no negative impact. Supervisor Menard is going to get more information and table until a late date. It is 2400 feet from the Border, loud in Cannons Corners. Councilperson said in

the letter it discussed a 1993 Agreement that anything within 3 miles if the Border needs Joint Approval.

Calvin Castine: Mr. Calvin Castine, Area One Legislator was in attendance. He discussed the Canadian Side of the Border opening for travelers. A COVID text needs to be done within 72 hours and Health Insurance may not cover this unless you are showing symptoms. The Clinton County Health Department is now putting up 2 updates a week. There were recently 19 new cases within a week, these cases seem to be milder because of vaccinations. Sales Tax is doing well. If the Town is under 100% in assessments, it will impact sales tax. Mr. Castine noticed awhile coming off the Herrick Road onto the LaValley Road, it was very difficult to see with trees on the corner. Mr. Castine said he talked to the property owner and said he would move hedge if county removed trees. Mr. Castine asked for a letter from the Town to bring to the county highway department to ask to take the trees down. Mr. Castine also thought the speed should be lowered to 45 in that area. Mr. Castine asked for a letter from the Town for the speed limit to be lowered from Herrick Road to Route 11. He said he would address it at their meeting. They also discussed the other speed areas in the past the Town has worked on.

Public Comment:

1) Mrs. Scarlett Sample discussed cars passing each other on the right, as cars turn into Mountain Mart. She said she has lost 10 mailboxes due to this. Mrs. Sample said a lower speed limit would help. Possibly a new passing on right sign?

2) Mr. Steve Garrand asked what was going on with the places on Bashaw Road, Route 11, Garrand Road? He stated they were getting worse. The Garrand Road is in the hands of the Court at this point. There is also a place on Higgins Road Behind the KofC hall that has a ton of cars building up. Supervisor Menard stated that Code Enforcement would have to go back again to visit there.

3) Mr. Phillip Perry asked about the truck that had burned. Is the Town putting out bids or looking at State Contracts? Superintendent Gilmore said they won't allow bids because the inventory is just not there. Superintendent Gilmore said if they went with State Contracts it would come from Buffalo or way out that way. Mr. Perry asked if the insurance was paying for the plow? Supervisor Menard said yes, they were paid for.

4) Ms. Jerika Manning asked how the application for the grant for the playground was going. The application was very strong, with many Letters of Support from the Community. We will hear if it has been approved in December.

5) Ms. Jerika Manning discussed the COVID relief money coming in and the second round. She asked if the Board would be interested in having an informational meeting or public hearing on how the money will be used or for next year's money? Nothing has been planned at this time.

6) The Blair road house was brought up, Supervisor Menard said he received an email from the Health Department, that it could be in violation of Sanitary Code There are sending a letter to the address. Ms. Rose Matott was present and read an email from Marc Cross, the owner. He stated it is not a halfway house, it is private owner use. He stated in the email there is power, water and sewer.

Councilperson LaCount made a motion to enter Executive Session at 8:12PM to discuss an employee. Councilperson Perras seconded the motion. All in favor, the Board entered Executive Session.

At 8:52PM the Board returned. Councilperson Perras made a motion to exit Executive Session. Councilperson Bulriss seconded the motion. All in favor.

Adjourn: Councilperson Perras made a motion for the meeting be adjourned; Councilperson Bulriss seconded the motion. All in favor. Thus, Supervisor Menard declared the meeting closed. Meeting adjourned at 8:53 PM.

Vouchers:

Highway	Voucher	127-143	\$43,723.15
General Fund	Voucher	148-167	\$12,603.69
Union	Voucher	76	\$257.14
Mooers & Mooers Forks Lights	Voucher	165	\$1,106.56
Trust and Agency	Voucher	30-34	\$18,769.53

Total of Abstracted Vouchers Paid

\$76,460.07

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly L. McDonald, TOWN CLERK