

Town of Rutland

Town Board Minutes

November 14, 2024

Call to Order-

Proceedings of a Town Board Meeting held at the Rutland Municipal Office on November 14th 2024. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Supervisor Logan Eddy who led the room in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Town Board members present:

Supervisor- Logan Eddy
Councilman- Kenneth E. Gleason III
Councilwoman- Jennifer Boussof
Councilman- Gary Eddy
Councilman- Les Berghorn

Public Comments: None

Communications: from South Jefferson Central School District concerning the 2025 funding request information for Summer Recreation program for the 2025 Town Budget.

Supervisor Eddy asked if there was any discussion or additions to the printed reports. Claude Phelps will be going to the Keen Family residence to speak to them about their water bill while they were gone and explain our position and procedures to follow. No Credits will be issued. Claude will be bringing forth information on the Lock Box procedures at the next meeting.

Monthly Reports

Highway: Superintendent Shawn Russell said that the Percy Road has been paved. The mowing system is forthcoming and Financial Officer Donna Martel said that it has already been approved. Discussion on the new plow truck was held concerning the extra cost for the type of controls that were left off the bid in error. Donna Martel said the balance in the Harpa Fund is \$3,232.43 and that we could use this balance toward the extra cost for the new plow truck. Supervisor Logan Eddy made a motion to accept the \$3,232.43 left in this fund and distribute it to the Snowplow purchase: seconded by Councilman Gary Eddy. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0. Carried. Shawn also said that he had two new hires, Randy Swank and Daniel Pisani.

Zoning: James Harter mentioned he had three new zoning permit applications of which two were approved, Breyana Lloyd and Aaron Netto.

Town Clerk: Supervisor would like the October minutes to reflect that we didn't need to list the absent members of the Board after each motion as long as it already had been stated in the minutes. This will be changed in the October Minutes.

A motion by Supervisor Logan Eddy and seconded by Councilman Les Berghorn to accept the October minutes per Supervisor's request for wording changes. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0. Carried.

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Motion by Supervisor Logan Eddy to accept Abstract 10P, voucher numbers from 24-00562 to 24-00570 in the amount of \$9,034.91, seconded by Gary Eddy. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Carried.

Motion by Councilman Gary Eddy to accept Abstract 11, voucher numbers from 24-00571 to 24-00623 in the amount of \$225,082.13. Council member Gary Eddy asked why this Abstract billing was a little higher than normal. Donna replied that the NYS Retirement costs had increased. A motion by Councilman Gary Eddy to accept Abstract 11, seconded by Councilman Les Berghorn Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Carried.

Old Business:

Attorneys Kendall, Harrienger & Burrows sent an Amendment to Section 126.19 of the Water Use Law for our review. We requested a procedure for unpaid water bills and turning off their water after a period. They proposed a Resolution and Notice for a public Hearing with the Local Law change. Deputy Supervisor Claude said he didn't ask for all of this just what the ruling was to shut customers' water off if their bill was unpaid.

Supervisor Logan Eddy asked the Boards permission to go forward with the South Jefferson Central Schools 2025 Summer Recreation Program.

The Town Clerk's Office was asked by Supervisor Logan Eddy to call DANC and ask for a fee chart so we can compare what we charge for our Water/Sewer Customers. We need to update our fees in the water system.

It was discussed to have the Town's Water Inflow and Infiltration Study. Donna Martel asked what the procedure would be for reimbursements. Supervisor Logan said as soon as the vote is taken by the Board we will have a procedure.

There was a motion by Councilman Les Berghorn and seconded by Jennifer Bousot to state that the annual sewer EDU report that Samantha Sawyer(Town Clerk) submitted to Jefferson County contain 60 mistakes that took several Jefferson County employees 2 days to correct according County office. Ayes: 5 Nays:0. Carried.

New Business:

The Public Hearings were discussed at this point in the meeting. There was no one from the public present for any of the Public Hearings listed. The four Public Hearings were:

Adoption of Tax Capital Relevy, Motion to accept by Supervisor Logan Eddy, seconded by Councilman Gary Eddy. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0. Carried.

Adoption of 2025 Budget; Motion to accept by Supervisor Logan Eddy, second by Councilman Gary Eddy. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Carried.

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Adoption of 2025 Water Rates, motion by Supervisor Logan Eddy, seconded by Les Berghorn. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Carried.

Adoption of 2025 Sewer Rates, motion by Supervisor Logan Eddy, seconded by Councilman Gary Eddy. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Carried

The Snow and Ice contract from Lewis County was discussed. The first year's amount is \$7,560.00. There will be a 4 percent increase annually. Supervisor Logan Eddy made a motion to accept Resolution 13, seconded by Councilman Gary Eddy. The Town Clerk was asked to formulate the Resolution to be signed. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Carried.

A motion to have the Companion Animal Capital Fund Grant Support letter signed by Supervisor Logan Eddy. Supervisor Logan then made the motion to sign the letter and seconded by Les Berghorn. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Carried

Supervisor Logan Eddy said if there were no objections by the Board, he would let the Marketing Agreement go by the wayside. All Agreed.

A motion was made by Supervisor Logan Eddy and seconded by Kenneth E Gleason III to prepay for the purchase of the New Town Mower. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Carried.

Donna Martel asked if the Town Clerk and Deputy Clerk will be ready for the new billing when the Notices are supposed to go out?

The Town Board and DANC are working together to update our EDU list and will update our system once approved. It was suggested that a meeting between Clerks, DANC and Supervisor Logan Eddy to discuss the new rates and procedures should be held.

Executive session began at 8:17 PM . The Board resume their Board Meeting with the following motions made and passed.

A motion to remove the Town Clerk Samantha Sawyer as the Town of Rutland Water Clerk. Discussion was held and stated by Jennifer Bossuot that too many errors made to continue, and job is not getting done with Town Clerk as Water Clerk. Motion to Accept was made by Supervisor Logan Eddy, seconded by Jennifer Bossuot. All in favor, motion passed.

A motion to remove the Town Clerk Samantha Sawyer as the Town of Rutland Sewer Clerk. Discussion was held and stated by Jennifer Bossuot too many errors to continue and job is not getting done as Sewer Clerk. Motion to accept by Supervisor Logan Eddy, seconded by Les Berghorn. All in favor, motion carried.

A motion to appoint Marianne McLane as Water Clerk with a yearly salary of \$5500.00. Make this appointment retroactive to October 1, 2024, since she has been doing the work. The Town Clerk has

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been doing the work the Town Clerk has refused to do. Motion to accept by Supervisor Logan Eddy, seconded by Gary Eddy. All in favor, motion carried.

A motion to appoint Marianne McLane as Sewer Clerk with a yearly salary of \$2000.00; DANC revenues received for the year. Make this appointment retroactive to October 1, 2024, since she has been doing the work the Town Clerk has refused to do. Motion to accept by Supervisor Logan Eddy, seconded by Kenneth E. Gleason III. All in favor, motion carried.

Town Supervisor as Chief Finance Officer appoints Marianne McLane the duties of receiving all town mail and distributing it to the proper department heads. Marianne McLane will also voucher all Town Supervisors invoices/bills received. Discussion by Jennifer Bossuot that the Town Clerk does not want to accept responsibilities for the mail or vouchering bills. There are too many errors to continue with the current process. Motion by Supervisor Logan Eddy, seconded by Kenneth E. Gleason III. All in favor, motion carried.

A motion to adjourn the Board meeting was made by Councilman Gary Eddy, seconded by Les Berghorn at 9:37PM. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully given,
Samantha E. Sawyer
Town Clerk