TOWN OF STANFORD TOWN BOARD   
MINUTES of FEBRUARY 8TH, 2024

The Town of Stanford Town Board met for their monthly meeting on Thursday, February 8th, 2024, at the Town Hall. Supervisor Burton called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Town Justice Dennis Smith.   
 Supervisor Burton dedicated this meeting to the three US soldiers killed in the drone attack on a US military outpost in Jordan last month: Sgt. William Rivers, 46, of Carrollton, Georgia; Specialist Kennedy Sanders, 24, of Waycross, Georgia; and Specialist Breonna Moffett, 23, of Savannah, Georgia, and asked for a moment of silence.

Roll call: Wendy Burton – present

Julia Descoteaux – present

Eric Haims - present

Nathan Lavertue – present

Theodore Secor - absent

Also in attendance was Town Attorney Robert Butts.

MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA: A motion was made by Wendy Burton, seconded by Nathan Lavertue, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

LIAISON REPORTS: Councilman Haims stated that the Zoning Board of Appeals would be meeting next week. Both Councilpersons Lavertue and Descoteaux also said that their liaison reports for the Recreation and the CAC respectively would be next week as well.

Supervisor Burton reported from the recent Planning Board meeting: that a Special Use Permit was granted for Karen Bellone for a 2-bed comfort care center at 1640-1642 Bulls Head Road. This program was being run by “The 7th Sense,” a non-profit volunteer group that helped people have a safe and compassionate place to be when dying. Ms. Bellone was living there but only facilitating the location. The Rocky Reef subdivision would be on the Planning Board’s March agenda for their public hearing. The Fire District meeting would be in two weeks so no report now. The Zoning Commission met for the first time two weeks ago and discussed finding a consultant and the scope of their work. Members were to bring their prioritized concerns for the next meeting. She also added notes from Co. Leg. Chris Drago who was appointed to the Public Safety and Mental Health Committees. He had added that they would be discussing the mental health needs of northern Dutchess County as well as the issues with EMS in this part of the County. She added that she had no financial reports as the year was still new.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. ANNUAL APPROVAL OF THE BOOKS OF THE TOWN JUSTICES, THE BUILDING INSPECTOR AND THE TOWN CLERK: Supervisor Burton suggested that the Court Clerks present their books now so as not to keep them at this meeting for too long. Privilege of the Floor would be opened afterwards.

Patty Koch, Clerk for Justice Dennis Buchal, and Carolyn Harklerode, Clerk for Justice Dennis Smith, both presented their books to the Board members and gave brief descriptions of their work. A motion was then made by Wendy Burton, seconded by Nathan Lavertue, to approve the books to the best of their knowledge. Motion carried with all present voting in favor. The Building Inspector and Town Clerk’s books would be reviewed later on in the meeting.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Carl Merritt, 168 Creamery Road – gave his report about the Sheriffs’ and Troopers out in force in the Town and their increased presence has been noticed as a speed deterrent. The speed trailers have been put away for the winter but from December the Sheriffs had clocked over 2,000 cars and most were going under the speed limit, the average MPH was 27. The Troopers had given out 719 tickets (including the TSP) in the last two months but had responded to 778 calls that covered accidents, alarms, fires, animal problems, hunting, domestic situations, noise issues, etc. They have been patrolling all over the Town as well as the Rec. and the Fire House. Mr. Merritt also thanked Divo Martini for his help as well as thanking the Troopers and the Sheriffs.

Jim Griffith, 71 Charwill Drive – spoke as a member of the Pine Plains School Board, stating that a group had met with Michelle Hinchey and Didi Barrett as the district could be losing their “foundation funding” that would amount to $2.5 million in the Governor’s budget. He urged everyone to write to their elected representatives as rural schools need the State’s support. Supervisor Burton added that she would put this information in her next newsletter as well. Mr. Griffith urged everyone to write to the Governor and that letters with peoples’ names and addresses were far more effective than petitions.

NEW BUSINESS:

2. RESOLUTION #2A - RESOLUTION #2A OF 2024 To establish an account in ny class for Stanford ambulance district:

Councilman Eric Haims read the following resolution and made the motion for its adoption, seconded by Nathan Lavertue, as follows:

**RESOLUTION #2A OF 2024 To establish an account in ny class for Stanford ambulance district**

**Whereas the Town Board of the Town of Stanford** established an Ambulance District by Resolution in 2023 to service the entirety of the Town of Stanford, and

**Whereas the Town Board of the Town of Stanford** approved a contract with Northern Dutchess Paramedic EMS to provide this service, and

**Whereas the contract** calls for monthly payments of $62,500

**Now therefore be in resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Stanford authorizes the Town Supervisor to open an account through New York Class to hold the tax monies collected for the year 2024, and

**Be it further resolved** that the Town Supervisor of the Town of Stanford is authorized to transfer these tax funds from the General Fund ending in 018 to a newly established NY CLASS account ending in 13

Intrafund Transfer

From General Fund 3900018 -$62,500

To Ambulance District NYC 0010-00013 +$62,500

**And be it further resolved** that, upon receipt of full payment from the Town of Stanford Tax Collector of the $850,000 levy, the Town Supervisor is authorized to transfer the remaining funds from the General Fund ending in 0018 to the NY CLASS account ending in 13

Roll call vote as follows: Wendy Burton - yes, Julia Descoteaux – yes; Nathan Lavertue – yes, Eric Haims – yes; Theodore Secor – absent.

Resolution #2A of 2024 adopted by the affirmative votes of the Town of Stanford Town Board members present and certified this 8th day of February 2024. *Ritamary Bell, Town Clerk*

Supervisor Burton added that the County Mayors and Supervisors were hoping to get the County Legislature involved with this issue with helping with ambulances services.

3. RESOLUTION #2B – TO ESTABLISH A CAPITAL PROJECT H38 FOR THE SPARC PARK REPLACEMENT PROJECT: The following resolution was offered and read by Julia Descoteaux, seconded by Wendy Burton:

**RESOLUTION #2B OF 2024**

**To establish CAPITAL PROJECT H38 SPARC PARK PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, The Town Board passed Resolution No. 12B of 2023 authorizing the purchase of playground equipment for SPARC Park, and

**WHEREAS**, The Town needs to establish Capital Project H38 SPARC Park Playground Replacement, and

**WHEREAS**, The Town Board needs to establish the budget for Capital Project H38,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, The Town Board authorizes the creation of Capital Project H38 SPARC Park Playground Replacement, AND

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, The Town Board approves the following budget for

Capital Project H38

Estimated Revenues 38-510 $ 466,267.70

Gifts & Donations 38-2705 $ 191,847.70

NYS OPRHP Grant 38-3089 $ 274,420.00

Appropriations 38-960 $ 466,267.70

SPARC Park Playground Replacement 38-06-7140-20 $466,267.70

Roll call vote as follows: Wendy Burton - yes, Julia Descoteaux – yes; Nathan Lavertue – yes, Eric Haims – yes; Theodore Secor – absent.

Resolution #2B of 2024 adopted by the affirmative votes of the Town of Stanford Town Board members present and certified this 8th day of February 2024. *Ritamary Bell, Town Clerk*

Councilwoman Descoteaux added that $28,900 has been raised in the sale of the fence pickets.

4. RESOLUTION #2C OF 2024 - TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM AMERICAN RESCUE FUNDS ACCOUNT NY CLASS NY 01-0010-0009 AND MOVE THE FUNDS TO THE GENERAL FUND #3900018: The following resolution was offered by Wendy Burton, seconded by Erim Haims, as follows:

**RESOLUTION #2c OF 2024**

**TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM AMERICAN RESCUE FUNDS ACCOUNT NY CLASS NY 01-0010-0009 AND MOVE THE FUNDS TO THE GENERAL FUND #3900018**

**Whereas the Town of Stanford** will be investing American Rescue Plan funds to purchase new LED lighting for our structures which will be much more energy efficient and,

**Whereas** the NY Class Account 01-0010-0009 American Rescue Fund Account contains funds for this purpose, and

**Whereas** the Town of Stanford will transfer funds from NY Class Account 00-0010-009 American Rescue Account to the Millbrook General Fund Account 3900018..

**Now therefore be it resolved**, the Supervisor is authorized to complete the following budget modifications and transfer the funds from the American Rescue Funds Account to the General Fund.

00-510 Estimated Revenue +77,403.00

00-4089 Federal Aid ARPA

00-960 Appropriations +77,403.00

00-01-1620-41 Town Hall Capital Expense

00-200 Cash +77,403.00

00-209 Cash- ARPA

Roll call vote as follows: Wendy Burton - yes, Julia Descoteaux – yes; Nathan Lavertue – yes, Eric Haims – yes; Theodore Secor – absent.

Resolution #2C of 2024 adopted by the affirmative votes of the Town of Stanford Town Board members present and certified this 8th day of February 2024. *Ritamary Bell, Town Clerk*

RESOLUTION #2D OF 2024 – TO CHANGE THE DIRECTION OF THE TOWN OF STANFORD ROAD NAMED NOLLER WAY:

The following resolution was offered by Nathan Lavertue, seconded by Julia Descoteaux, as follows: **RESOLUTION #2D OF 2024**

**TO CHANGE THE DIRECTION OF THE TOWN OF STANFORD ROAD**

**NAMED NOLLER WAY**

**to more easily address the Town Recreation Park on Creamery Road**

WHEREAS, Dutchess County has implemented the E-911 Emergency Response and Call monitoring for the entire County, and

WHEREAS, THE County of Dutchess has reviewed the road names and addresses in the Town of Stanford to ensure correct recognition and identification of parcels on roads located in the Town of Stanford, and

WHEREAS, the County of Dutchess has requested the Town of Stanford name any and all private and public roads in the Town of Stanford for compliance with E-911, to enable E-911 response system to identify parcels, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Stanford road, Noller Way, off NYS Route 82, was the original address of the Town’s Recreation Park but to more easily identify this property which is actually off Creamery Road, the Town Board has recommended the following change of direction of Noller Way: that Noller Way be a one way road off NYS Route 82 between The Stanford Grange property and the Stanford Free Library property, then go left at the Recreation gate through the current upper parking lot near the Town’s ballfields, then left again onto a dirt driveway back onto NYS Route 82. (Please see attached map.)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town of Stanford that Noller Way be approved to have this direction change so that Recreation Park will have a more easily identifiable number on Creamery Road.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk forward a copy of this resolution to the E-911 Coordinator.

Roll call vote as follows: Wendy Burton - yes, Julia Descoteaux – yes; Nathan Lavertue – yes, Eric Haims – yes; Theodore Secor – absent.

Resolution #2D of 2024 adopted by the affirmative votes of the Town of Stanford Town Board members present and certified this 8th day of February 2024. *Ritamary Bell, Town Clerk*

6. ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF THEODORE SECOR FROM THE C.A.C. SECRETARY POSITION AND THE RECREATION MEMBER: A motion was made by Wendy Burton, seconded by Nathan Lavertue, to accept newly appointed Town Board member Teddy Secor’s position as CAC secretary and Recreation Commission member. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

7. AND 8. ADVERTISE FOR A C.A.C. SECRETARY AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBER: The Town Clerk was instructed to place ads for the two open positions for a CAC secretary and a Rec. Commission member on a motion made by Wendy Burton, seconded by Nathan Lavertue. Motion carried.

9. APPROVE POND PUMP ELECTRICAL WORK PROPOSAL: After soliciting proposals from three different companies, only one submitted a quote, Lane Electric from Poughkeepsie. As this was a time-sensitive project and needs to be completed before the Recreation Park opens for the season, a motion was made by Wendy Burton, seconded by Julia Descoteaux, to award this electrical project to Lane Electric in the amount of $31,465.39. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

10. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Minutes of the January 18th, 2024 meeting were approved as written on a motion made by Wendy Burton, seconded by Julia Descoteaux. Motion carried.

11. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY ABSTRACTS:

#2A OF 2024: General Fund: check #s 7583-7623 in the amount of $ 155,672.30

Highway Fund: check #s 4488-4501 in the amount of $ 44,823.25

Escrow Fund: check #1044 in the amount of $ 840.00

Total of February 2024 Abstract #2A: $ 201,335.55

Motion was made by Wendy Burton, seconded by Nathan Lavertue. Motion carried.

#2B OF 2023: General Fund: check #s 7582-7596 in the amount of $ 41,988.56

Highway Fund: check #s 4487-4491 in the amount of $ 39,513.98

Bangall Lights: check #3070 in the amount of $ 880.87

Total of February 2023 Abstract #2B: $ 82,383.41

Motion was made by Wendy Burton, seconded by Nathan Lavertue. Motion carried.

#2C OF 2024: SPARC Park Capital Project Fund: check #3018 in the amount of

$ 150,619.50

Motion was made by Wendy Burton, seconded by Nathan Lavertue. Motion carried.

1. APPROVE BOOKS OF THE BUILDING INSPECTOR AND THE TOWN CLERK: Town Clerk Bell was given a book by the Building Inspector for his annual books’ approval to the Board and they reviewed it.

Town Clerk Bell then presented her books and year-end report to the Board members.

After review Wendy Burton made a motion to approve the books of the Building Inspector and the Town Clerk to the best of their knowledge, seconded by Nathan Lavertue. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

No one addressed the Board.

A motion was then made by Julia Descoteaux to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 PM, seconded by Wendy Burton. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Ritamary Bell

Town Clerk