

Town of Rodman
12509 School Street
Rodman, NY 13682
Town Board Meeting
December 11, 2019 – 7:00 PM Scheduled

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rodman, County Jefferson and, the State of New York was at the Community Hall Offices, 12509 School Street, Rodman, NY on the 11th day of December, 2019.

PRESENT:	Gary Stinson	-----	Supervisor
	Arthur Baderman	-----	Councilman
	Vance Carpenter	-----	Councilman
	Lisa Worden	-----	Councilwoman
	Stuart Tamblin	-----	Councilman
	Dale Tamblin	-----	Highway Superintendent
	Jamie Ackley	-----	Town Clerk
	Amy Simpson	-----	Town Justice
	Jacob Bull	-----	Town Zoning Officer
	John Stinson	-----	Planning Board Chairman
	Margaret McKay	-----	Library Manager

Supervisor Stinson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

PRIVIEGE of the FLOOR: No one spoke.

Councilman Vance Carpenter made a motion to approve the November minutes; Councilman Stuart Tamblin seconded the motion. All were in favor.

DANC REPORT — Stuart Tamblin, Assistant Landfill Superintendent, Solid Waste Division of the Development Authority of the North Country (DANC), submitted a report on behalf of Patricia M. Pastella, General Manager.

DANC completed procurement documents for the closure IV, pre bid meeting is scheduled for December 8, 2019.

Continuing efforts to minimize the leachate that is being generated.

DANC began the budget planning for the year 2020.

Continuing the procuring equipment to include a primary loader, skid steer, truck/plow and compaction equipment for the Recycling Transfer Station (RTS), in Harrisville.

DANC diverted 376 mattresses in total from St. Lawrence County. No pick-ups were required for Lewis County.

DANC recycled 430 books in the month of November.

The tire recycling halted in November due to a union grievance filed in St. Lawrence County.

DANC received a total of 1,398 scale transactions, totaling 16,285.88 tons of material; which is 3,286 tons under projections for the month of November.

There were 159 payments processed for various vendors, totaling \$254,850.

There were three community improvement requests, eight asbestos request and four special waste request for the month of November.

DANC has recorded 1.94 inches of rain for the month of November.

There were 1,376,000 gallons of leachate hauled to the Watertown Treatment Plant in the month of November. The City of Watertown is accepting 10 loads per day. NO leachate was hauled to Rome.

The Southern Expansion work is completed for the year with final road and side slope construction to be completed in the spring of 2020.

CTHC REPORT– Kay Chapman, Representative of the Cooperative Tug Hill Council (CTHC), submitted a report for the month of December.

The New York State Archives will be having a webinar on How to write a Superior LGRMIF grant Narrative on December 11, from 10:00am to 11:00am. For information www.archive.nysed.gov/workshop/schedule.

The Northeast Heritage Economy Program (NHEP) will provide grants to community-driven preservation projects. They will address the negative economic shift produce by the decline in forest products industry. The grant program is funded by a \$1,000,000 grant from the Northern Border Regional Commission and will be split evenly across the four northern border states (MR, NH, NY and VT) Applicants must be a none-for-profit organization, municipality, stated entity or federally recognized tribe. The grant requires a 50% match and must be completed by July 31, 2020. For more information about the grant requirement and application information visit <http://www.preservenys.org/nhep>.

The New York State's Division of Local Government Services has announced their webinar series to local officials. The classes will include Special Use Permits that will be held on December 11, 2019 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm, Adaptive Re-Use of White Elephants on December 18, 2019 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm, Planning Board Overview on January 15, from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. The classes will constitute training hours towards the annual required training for the Planning Board and Zoning Officials. For more information and to register visit <http://www.dos.ny.gov/lg/lut/index.html>.

The Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is holding their annual tree and shrub seedling sale. Order forms are available on their website www.jeffersoncountySWCD.org.

The Association of Towns is hosting two newly elected training schools in January. One is located in Rochester on January 8th, through 10th, and the other will be held January 15th through the 17th in Albany, New York. For more information and to register see their website at <https://www.nytowns.org/>.

The Office of State Comptroller is hosting "Just Elected-What Do You Do NOW?" webinar on December 12, 2019 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. To register, see <http://www.osc.state.ny.us/localgov/academy/webinarstraining.htm>.

REPORTS:

Supervisor's Financial Report – Supervisor Gary Stinson submitted a report for the month of December.

Town Zoning Officer's Report- Jacob Bull does not have anything to report for the month of December.

Town Justice Report-Judge Amy Simpson submitted a report for the month of December. Judge Simpson also presented the board with a check for \$3,178.00 for the month of December.

Town Clerk's Report- Jamie Ackley, Town Clerk, submitted a report for the month of December.

Jamie Ackley, Town Clerk, resubmitted November Clerk's report due to a \$.84 Clerk error on Department of DEC. Ms. Ackley added \$.84 to December's check.

Highway Superintendent Report- Superintendent Dale Tamblin- submitted a report for the month of November. Superintendent Dale Tamblin stated that the night crew started on December 12, 2019. Night crew hours are 7:00pm to 3:30am.

The Superintendent Dale Tamblin stated the Fire District will be putting their tanker on Auction International. Superintendent Tamblin stated that he feels the Town of Rodman would benefit by purchasing the tanker. The town crew borrows the tanker every year to wash bridges and to help with paving projects. After some discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Vance Carpenter to give Superintendent Tamblin permission to purchase the tanker for no more the \$12,500; Councilman Stuart Tamblin seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Library Manager Margaret McKay submitted a Library report for the month of December (see attachment). Library Manager Margaret McKay asked if the Library could be added onto the agenda starting January. All agreed.

Library Manager McKay asked the board if the Rodman Library could have the Library board President Patricia Folino added to the Watertown Saving Bank account so that the Library can better manage their account. Ms. McKay also asked if the Library could see the saving account statements from Watertown Saving Bank every month. All agreed.

Funding in the amount of \$300,000- Many town residents come to share their thoughts and concerns about a letter that was sent to all town residents from Supervisor Gary Stinson. The letter shared Supervisor Gary Stinson opinion about where the \$300,000 balance should be applied in the upcoming future. Supervisor Gary Stinson stated that everyone would have a timed three minute period to talk about their thoughts on the \$300,000 reserve fund.

Town Residents

Address

Star Carter	10540 County Route 97, Rodman
Jacob Bull	10540 County Route 97, Rodman
Kathy Cole Sleeman	12444 School Street, Rodman
Scott Worden	22391 Williams Road, Rodman
Sabrina Sleeman	21411 County Route 69, Rodman
Nancy Sayyeau	21380 County Route 69, Rodman
Roy Simpson	22066 County Route 69, Rodman
Kim Sleeman	12441 School Street, Rodman
Adrian & Kerrie Hosley	21777 Route 177, Rodman
Levi Worden	10855 Lowe Road, Rodman
Travis Sleeman	12477 School Street, Rodman
Andrea Lomber	12196 County Route 97, Rodman
Brianne Dinzler	10570 County Route 97, Rodman
Pat & Lori Gervera	217 Paddock Street, Watertown

The above town residents all shared their concerns. Many of their concerns were as stated;

- *What was the intent with sending the letter?
- *Disappointed that this small town has come to this.
- *The \$300,000 should be left in the accounts that it came from.
- *Why is the court and clerk's safety not been addressed?
- * Why hasn't modifications been done here is the Community Hall?
- *Why did the town residents not vote on the "New" building?

Councilwoman Lisa Worden stated that the New York State Controller will be coming the first week of January. Councilwoman Worden stated then all the accounts with Mr. Stinson's name on them will be closed and new accounts will be established.

Supervisor Gary Stinson stated that his intension was not to make the new board's job difficult. Mr. Stinson stated he simply wanted give the money back to the town residents for years to come. Supervisor Gary Stinson also stated the there was no fund "ear-marked" as stated in the letter, for the new building. The funds were put in a general reserve account. However he feels the board did vote on a new building.

Judge Simpson stated that the court can apply for a grant up to \$30,000 a year. That money can be used for varies items for the court. Judge Simpson stated that she applied for the grant this last year and was approved for \$8,147. Once the money is received the town Judge has 180 days to use it. Judge Simpson stated that Supervisor Gary Stinson contacted a friend to build a bunch for \$16,557. Judge Simpson stated that the Community room is a multi-use room and we don't have the need for a bench to that extent here in Rodman. Judge Simpson also stated that she went to the board and told the board members that Supervisor Gary Stinson's bench plans were to extensive. Judge Simpson then stated she received an email from Supervisor Gary Stinson stating his friend wants nothing to do with your bench. Judge Simpson then stated that the JCAP grant was issued in January and she was never told about the funds until June. Judge Simpson stated that Supervisor Gary Stinson stated to the court clerk that he spoke to someone about the grant and the Town of Rodman Court received an extension. Judge Simpson then emailed JCAP and was told the Supervisor Gary Stinson in fact did not receive or speak to anyone about the grant and the Town of Rodman didn't received an extension. Judge Simpson then was told if she didn't utilize the funds within the 30 days or returned by August 1, 2019 the Town of Rodman would not ever be eligible for to receive a JCAP grant again. Supervisor Gary Stinson stated that is not true, he did speak to the grant people and the Town of Rodman did receive an extension. Supervisor Gary Stinson then stated he wanted proof of that email about

the bench because he never said that. Judge Simpson left the room then returned with the email and gave it to Mr. Stinson.

Old/New

Councilwoman Lisa Worden stated that she made the decision in January of this year after a very stressful board meeting that she was running against Mr. Stinson. Ms. Worden feels that Mr. Stinson is a bully and is very disrespectful. Councilwoman Lisa Worden feels that the last two years the board members vote and Mr. Stinson changes that vote on his own. Ms. Worden stated that the law states that a Supervisor's vote has no more weight than anyone else on the town board. Supervisor Gary Stinson asked Councilwoman Lisa Worden for examples of what she is claiming. Councilwoman Lisa Worden stated that it has happened on numerous occasions like the records storage room and the Mack truck. Councilwoman Lisa Worden goes to discuss an email that she would like to be submitted into the minutes that was written by Supervisor Gary Stinson to only her. It states;

I am planning to do a mass mailing to all the Rodman addresses explaining how we (the Board) accumulated reserve funds which totaled over \$1.1 million dollars \$300,000 of which was dedicated to the reserve for a new town hall.

Although the method we (Terry and I) used to record this funding was flawed the fact remains that the Board approved the placement of \$300,000 for the purpose of building a New Town Hall. This funding must be returned to the taxpayers in the form of future tax relief.

If handled properly these funds can **offset any future tax increases for years to come.**

Before I do a mailing and raise all kinds of hell with residents demanding the funds be returned I would be willing to sit with you (alone) to explain how this would work.

You have an opportunity to go into office and explain to your constituents that a reserve for stabilization of future tax increases has been created and that future Town taxes will remain flat until the reserve is depleted.

It's your call Gary

Councilwoman Lisa Worden then reads her response to Mr. Stinson's email that she included all the elected officials along with others that attended the last board meeting. It states;

Mr. Stinson, I received the above email and here is my response. I believe in transparency in local government and as such I have added on all of the elected and appointed town government officials who were present at last night's Rodman Town Board meeting as they were all part of the discussion. I believe we discussed at last night's meeting, in length this issue, and the decision on the \$300,000 was to be tabled until the December 2019 meeting as there are unanswered questions that need to be addressed prior to ALL of us making a decision. You state in the above email that it is

my call, you are mistaken on that it is not my call it is the ENTIRE town boards call. For you to put in your email that you are going to "Raise all kinds of Hell" if I do not sit with you **alone** is beyond reprehensible, as was your statement at the last night's meeting, that you have all kinds of ammunition to write a letter to the Editor of the Times about the town board. How sad for you that your last acts as the out-going Town of Rodman Supervisor are vindictive in nature. I will not meet with you alone as with anything it is always better to have another set of eyes and ears to hear and see what is being said and done. In the meantime I will be getting the answers to the questions I have from an attorney and from an auditor and will let the ENTIRE board know these answers at the December board meeting, as agreed last night. Lisa

A motion was made by Supervisor Gary Stinson approving John Stinson as a Board of Assessment review member for another term; Councilman Stuart Tamblin seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Jamie Ackley, Town Clerk stated that she emailed all board members asking them to review the Records Management Policy and Procedures. The Records Management Policy and Procedures book contains important information about the policies and procedures of the town records. Jamie Ackley, Town Clerk asked if all board members agreed to the Records Management Policy and Procedures book. If so then sign the employee signature page that was attached to the email. All agreed.

Jamie Ackley, Town Clerk asked the Town of Rodman board to pass Local Law 3 of 2019. This Local Law provides the creation of a records Management Program that would be adopted by the Town of Rodman. A motion was made by Councilman Stuart Tamblin approving Local Law 3 of 2019; Councilman Vance Carpenter seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Councilman Arthur Baderman stated that they are elected officials. After listening to everyone he would like to keep everyone's ideas in mind moving forward. Councilman Arthur Baderman stated that in his opinion there needs to be accounts set up under equipment and building & grounds. Mr. Baderman stated that a public hearing needs to be set up and a referendum needs to be done before the board puts the funds in these different account.

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General bills numbered 317-356 in the total amount of \$129,633.93 and highway bills numbered 187-202 in the total amount of \$92,081.92 were audited and ordered paid.

Supervisor Gary Stinson motioned to adjourn at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Ackley, Town Clerk

End of year Bill Meeting December 30, 2019 @ 6:00pm

Next board meeting January 8, 2020 @7:00 pm

Organizational Meeting