

RUSH TOWN BOARD  
Minutes of September 25, 2013

A regular meeting of the Rush Town Board, County of Monroe, was called to order by Supervisor Richard Anderson at 7:00 PM on September 25, 2013, at the Rush Town Hall, 5977 East Henrietta Road, Rush, New York. Everyone present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT:	Richard Anderson	-----	Supervisor
	William Riepe	-----	Councilperson, Deputy Town Supervisor
	Kathryn Steiner	-----	Councilperson
	Cathleen Frank	-----	Councilperson
	Daniel Woolaver	-----	Councilperson
	Pamela Bucci	-----	Town Clerk
	John Mancuso, Esq.	-----	Attorney for the Town

OTHERS

PRESENT:	Mark David	-----	Highway Superintendent, Resident
	Gerald Kusse	-----	Building Inspector, Resident
	Carol Barnett	-----	Resident
	Donald Reynolds	-----	Budget Officer

I. OPEN FORUM

Supervisor Anderson welcomed all to the meeting and opened the floor to anyone wishing to address the Town Board. He stated that all comments should be brief and any questions asked would be answered at that time or after research, responded to at a later date.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**RESOLUTION #136-2013**

Councilperson Riepe moved to approve the September 25, 2013, Minutes as amended and presented by the Town Clerk. Councilperson Frank seconded the motion.

Roll:

Councilperson Riepe	aye	
Councilperson Steiner	aye	
Councilperson Frank	aye	
Councilperson Woolaver	aye	
Supervisor Anderson	aye	carried.

III. TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Supervisor Anderson stated that transfers were not presented or necessary at this time.

IV. APPROVAL OF ABSTRACT

**RESOLUTION #137-2013**

Councilperson Steiner moved Be It Resolved, that having audited all the claims against the funds listed on Abstract 9-2 (#1), for vouchers #971 through #1027 with the exception of vouchers 1015 and 1017 which were voided, be allowed for payment in the amount of \$42,059.49. Councilperson Riepe seconded the motion.

Roll:

Councilperson Riepe	aye	
Councilperson Steiner	aye	
Councilperson Frank	aye	
Councilperson Woolaver	aye	
Supervisor Anderson	aye	carried.

V. CORRESPONDENCE

Monroe Community College Rush Range – Supervisor Anderson has received the October schedule which will be posted on the town website.

Office of Aging Surveys – Supervisor Anderson received 2 surveys, both state and social agencies which were both referred to Patricia Stephens, recreation Supervisor, who oversees the Rush Seniors Group. She will complete and send in the surveys.

VI. REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Councilperson Riepe, liaison for the Planning Board, attended the September meeting wherein a zoning matter of property along West Henrietta was forwarded to the Town Board. The Fire District was informed and provided a copy of the recently received solar proposal.

Councilperson Steiner had no report.

Councilperson Woolaver, liaison for the Zoning Board, attended the September meeting wherein shed placement applications were discussed.

Councilperson Frank, liaison to the Library Board of Trustees, attended the meeting wherein they discussed further plans for the 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the library and transition of the library. A campaign letter will be sent out as a fundraising measure. Councilperson Frank is spearheading a Hometown Hero Banner Project along the hamlet of Rush, as seen in Honeoye Falls, Avon and Lima. Ed Obrien has been contacted regarding managing of the program, funding, and specific details. Memorial Day is the anticipated placement deadline.

Code Enforcement Officer Gerald Kusse had no report.

Highway Superintendent Mark David reported that Keyes Road project is done and 4 to 5 of the town-wide drainage issues are almost finished.

Councilman Riepe asked for clarification of funds reserved and allocated for purchase of trucks and large equipment. Superintendent David responded that that is the proposed plan for the 2014 budget.

Town Clerk Pamela Bucci reported that KVS system, which is the general accounting and payable software has been installed and training of Don Reynolds, Town Clerk Deputy Meribeth Palmer and myself. The abstract generated comprises of more information than was available for the Town Board's review than in the past.

Supervisor Anderson reported that he has attended 2 conferences wherein FEMA is updated maps. Code Enforcement Officer Gerry Kusse, Highway Superintendent Mark David and myself will be meeting. Although it pertains to coastal plain, Lake Ontario, Rush is in the Genesee valley drainage area is included.

Supervisor Anderson attended a NYS Tax Cap webinar which this year is 1.66%. Rush is to have an offset for retirement contributions, however, because Rush's size is small, it is not categorized as an offset in contributions. Additional information will be collected.

Supervisor Anderson, along with Councilperson Frank, Town Clerk Bucci attended the Fall Festival, however, the rain dampened the event. Although a wet day, Recreation Supervisor Patricia Stephens was commended for a well-run event.

## VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Town Hall Shutter Proposal – Supervisor Anderson recommended getting a second installation and cost expense so that the Board could make a worthwhile sound decision. Highway Superintendent David will seek information.

B. Solar Energy Proposal - Supervisor Anderson has received a solar energy proposal and has inquired about the calculations provided. A continued discussion took place.

C. Budget Update – Supervisor Anderson stated that an updated town budget was submitted to the Town Board and few changes were made from previous proposed 2014 budget.

Budget Officer Reynolds stated that a Tentative Budget was previously submitted which reflected budget workshop submissions. A few minor changes were made including a final retirement number. A revision was made including an across the board wage increase of 2%, with the exception of the 5 member town board. The 2% increase is the ballpark that other municipalities are budgeting. Funding of the 2% was explained. The unexpended balance is adequate and a portion can be used in order to fund the 2% increase and hold the taxes constant. The proposed unexpended balance would be adequate to run the town reasonably for approximately 4 months. Input on these variables is requested of the town board members to the Supervisor.

Supervisor Anderson stated that when attending the last Monroe County Supervisor's Meeting, about 14 or 15 in attendance, none were proposing no increase in wages, however, increases fluctuated to a high 3.1%. One of the reasons of the unexpended balance, as illustrated in the newsletter, is anticipation of revenues and expenses.

Supervisor Anderson stated that the anticipated increase in retirement and healthcare was about \$17,000 which was a reduction from last year's increase of \$34,000. Reductions do not go into effect until April and there are still unknown final costs; 10% increase is allotted.

Councilperson Riepe suggested taking 2% out of the entire budget, possibly in wages. Supervisor Anderson replied that 2% is taken out of the unexpended balance leaving a 4 month surplus. It is roughly 4 to 5 months before a town has enough collected tax revenue to operate a town for the year.

Supervisor Anderson noted that the Town Newsletter is scheduled to be in resident mailboxes on time.

Supervisor Anderson stated that pending additional comments for changes by the Town Board by Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, the 2014 Preliminary Budget will be available to the public by October 2<sup>nd</sup>. A public hearing can then be set enabling the public to review the preliminary budget.

Supervisor Anderson offered an opportunity for the Board to ask about or discuss budget items with Budget Officer Reynolds. There was no discussion.

**RESOLUTION #138-2013**

Councilperson Steiner motioned to forward the 2014 proposed Preliminary Budget to the Town Clerk, pending any changes, on October 2, 2013, for posting and setting of the Public Hearing of the Preliminary Budget. Councilperson Frank seconded the motion.

Roll:

Councilperson Riepe	aye	
Councilperson Steiner	aye	
Councilperson Frank	aye	
Councilperson Woolaver	aye	
Supervisor Anderson	aye	carried.

Supervisor Anderson added that the budget can be changed after the public hearing is complete. This is the procedure in order to set a public hearing date. Technically public hearing notices are required 5 days in advance, however, the proposed budget will now be available to the public for a longer period.

VIII: NEW BUSINESS

A. Town of Rush IT Policy – Councilperson Frank reported that IT Governance Self-Assessment, New York State recommends that municipalities have IT Policies. Councilperson Frank has written and provided the Town Board a policy for review. Finance Director Reynolds has been consulted on specifics and Town Clerk Bucci will review the policy as well. Finance Director Reynolds added that state auditors are consistently finding fault with other municipalities who do not have a policy.

B. Grass Cutting Resolution – Supervisor Anderson has consulted with Code Enforcement Officer Kusse and Highway Superintendent David in order to cut grass at 235 Fishell Road. Under normal circumstances, homes that are not occupied and under a bank's maintenance can be contacted for mowing purposes. This parcel does not meet those circumstances and will be scheduled for auction.

Discussion took place regarding the neighbor's concern and code violations.

Attorney John Mancuso recommended a simple resolution.

**RESOLUTION #139-2013**

Councilperson Frank motioned to authorize the Rush Highway Parks Department to providing mowing services at 235 Fishell Road, Rush, New York for \$150.00. Councilperson Woolaver seconded the motion.

Roll:

Councilperson Riepe	aye
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Councilperson Steiner	aye	
Councilperson Frank	aye	
Councilperson Woolaver	aye	
Supervisor Anderson	aye	carried.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Supervisor Anderson at 7:45 PM and approved by common consent of all councilpersons present.

Respectively submitted,

Pamela J. Bucci  
Town Clerk